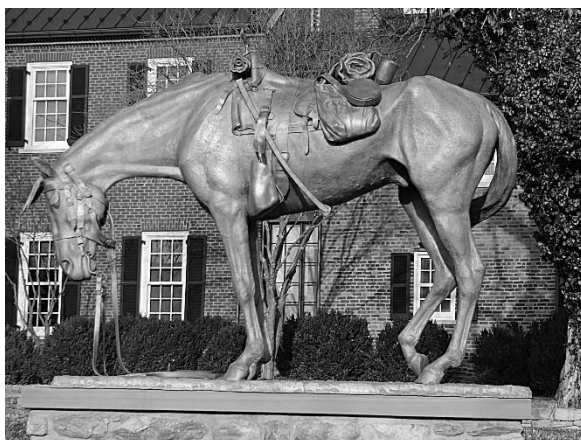


The Bulletin of Loudoun County History

2019 Edition

Formerly the Bulletin of the Loudoun County Historical Society

All rights reserved by DFV (Diversity Fairs of Virginia),
a 501(c)(3), including the right of reproduction in whole or
in part in any form.



*Horse at National Sporting Library and Museum,
Middleburg*

The Bulletin of Loudoun County History, 2019 Edition

Larry Roeder, Editor in Chief

Donna Bohanon, Editorial Committee Member

Lori Kimball, Editorial Committee Member

Edward Spannaus, Editorial Committee Member

Published by DFV through the services of Amazon.

Address: Bulletin of Loudoun County History, 26128 Talamore
Drive, South Riding, Virginia. 20152.

Email: DFVcontact@gmail.com.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF

**October 8, 2019
South Riding, Loudoun County, Virginia**

Dear Readers:

We are pleased to present the first issue of the revised Bulletin of Loudoun County History. We do this with excitement, humility and love for our county, and with respect to the editors who preceded us. But why should you read it?

The point of the Bulletin is to tell the stories of our past, regardless of race or culture. They all deserve to be told and remembered. We are therefore determined to do that task with honest scholarship and ask that you read the articles, buy our issues and even write for us, like so many others who have been associated with the Bulletin in the past. We also ask for suggestions and criticisms, so that we can grow and improve.

Our periodical was formed by the Loudoun County Historical Society, created in June 1954. Luminaries like General George C. Marshall, a man of global stature, was associated with it. So was David Findley, the first Director of the National Gallery of Art and one of the founders of the "Monuments Men," immortalized by George Clooney in the Hollywood movie. Those heroes of historical preservation saved thousands of priceless stolen objects of art from the Nazis. Another luminary associated with the Society and Bulletin was Asa Moore Janney of our little village of Lincoln, a giant in the Quaker community, people of enormous importance to the political, educational and cultural evolution of Loudoun. In fact, over the years since 1954, many citizens of prominence with a deep love of the county and an understanding of its regional significance linked themselves to the Bulletin. We invite you as well.

As an example of stories needing to be remembered, after the British burned the White House during the War of 1812, the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were saved by being stored in Leesburg. During the Civil War, as government troops advanced on Loudoun, the court records were moved to Rustburg in Campbell County, near Lynchburg. As a

result, African Americans today can more easily trace their lineage, as can all citizens of Loudoun. In other words, Loudoun is a leader in historic preservation and better at it than many other counties.

At the time of the American Revolution, our population was only about 11,000, including about 2,000 enslaved. Today, nearly half a million live here, making us the third most populous county in Virginia. We also have the highest per capita income. We are also more diverse, some residents being the descendants of the enslaved laborers who built our monumental structures like Oatlands, featured in an article by Lori Hinterleiter Kimball in this issue. We also have a growing Muslim population, and many Asian Americans and Hispanic Americans, as well as other minorities with roots in our soil going back generations. There are also many residents who descend from the heroes who battled for our freedom in the Revolution; some of whom are buried right here, which is why our county has a strong Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) presence. Many also descend from those who fought bravely for the Blue and the Gray, in World War One and all other American conflicts. We also have in our county's soil the graves of the enslaved, which are in dire need of documentation and protection.

In addition, we have had many artists and most remarkably white and African American teachers who struggled under meager wages to teach our children in cramped one room schools so that every child had an opportunity to prosper. Some of them are described in this issue, like John C. Walker, who taught Sunday school in Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, the oldest African American Methodist congregation in Virginia. He would also instruct in the public schools for over 55 years and was elected as the leader of the teachers. In addition, he started a nascent high school program in Leesburg for Black children in 1920.

By way of the Bulletin's history, five issues were put out between 1958 and 1975. 1977 ended the first phase of the society. The second phase began in 1995 with meetings and the reprinting of some older bulletin articles in a hard-bound volume. The society was then operating under the wing of the Westmoreland Davis Memorial Foundation. After a pause in 2001, eight issues were printed from 2004 through 2012, then in 2018, the trustees turned over the periodical to Diversity Fairs of Virginia, a 501(c)(3)

Bulletin of Loudoun County History, 2019 Edition

organization. We are determined to honor the wonderful work of past editors and expand the readership by considering the interests of a fast changing, increasingly diverse population.

The Bulletin is non-partisan and offers no political ideology or mission of its own other than to advocate for the preservation of history and the value of diversity. We do suggest that the county government one day fund a comprehensive County Archive in Leesburg for all government records and important private donations.

Although we are not a membership society, we urge anyone to collaborate by attending discussion groups, donating funds, or joining our Facebook page. Please also recommend stories. In that vein, we also encourage High School seniors to consider publishing their first article in our periodical. We will pay for the best article in our next issue.

Readers can also write to the Bulletin of Loudoun County History at 26128 Talamore Drive, South Riding, Va. 20152 or by send an email to DFVcontact@gmail.com.

Larry Roeder, MS
Editor in Chief



***Research Volunteers,
Courtesy Edwin Washington Project***

LETTER FROM CHILDS F. BURDEN

October 6, 2019

Dear Readers:

I want to commend Larry Roeder and his Diversity Fairs of Virginia team for taking on the task of keeping a revamped and reinvigorated Bulletin of Loudoun County History alive. We are now a county of 400,000 residents - an astounding growth rate from the 25,000 residents when The Loudoun County Historical Society was formed in 1954. It is clear to me that our 400,000 residents want to know and appreciate our county's rich history and heritage dating back to Loudoun's founding in 1757.

I will look forward to the next issue of the Bulletin of Loudoun County History and I ask that you spread the word that THE BULLETIN IS BACK!

In closing, I want to thank Lewis Leigh, Jr. and Taylor Chamberlin for their enormous help in keeping the Loudoun County Historical Society limping along these past six years. The three of us are excited that the mission will continue into the future under a new name and a new highly qualified team. We will do everything possible to support their noble efforts. I know that you will as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Childs Burden
Trustee
and former President, the Loudoun County Historical Society

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introductory Section	
Letter from the Editor in Chief	2
Letter from Childs F. Burden	5
About the Articles	7
Dedication to Mary Fishback and Others	9
How to Purchase Copies	10
Submission Guidelines	10
Style Manual	11
Author Biographies	12
Special Projects Section	
<i>The John Rust Papers</i>	14
<i>The Edwin Washington Project</i>	15
The Articles	
Carter's Goose Creek Tract , by Wynne C. Saffer and Lori Hinterleiter Kimball.	16
A Study in Civil Rights: The Delegates of the 1883 Mass Meeting, by Donna Bohanon.	27
The Readjusters: The Black-White Alliance that Once Governed Virginia, by Edward Spannaus.	45
The Readjuster Movement in Loudoun, 1877-1885 , by Wynne C. Saffer.	64
The County School Fair Movement , by Larry Roeder	85

Photos: Cover Photo: Pond on Talamore Drive. **Frontpiece Photo:** Horse statue in front of National Sporting Library & Museum in Middleburg. **Photo for About The Articles:** Ruin on Route 15. All are by Larry Roeder.

Note: DFV is a member of CIVICUS and the Country School Association of America.

ABOUT THE ARTICLES



Visiting a Ruin on Route 15 to study 19th century brick styles.

There are five main articles in the 2019 issue, plus information on two important historic preservation efforts, the Edwin Washington Project and the John Rust Papers.

Carter's Goose Creek Tract, by Wynne C. Saffer and Lori Hinterleiter Kimball, is essential reading for anyone new to Loudoun or interested in the historic Route 15. The tract was once home to President James Monroe, and by 1850 the largest enslaver in Loudoun County, Elizabeth O. Carter. Home to a major north-south route, and public schools, and mansions, its roots are in a large land grant from Thomas, 6th Lord Fairfax, referred to as Robert Carter's Goose Creek Tract. Robert "Councillor" Carter III (February 1727/28 – March 10, 1804) began the largest release of enslaved people in North America before the Civil War, manumitting 500 slaves in his lifetime. Kimball and Saffer will add to the story in the next issue.

The next three articles deal with various aspects of the Readjuster Movement. This was a short-lived, biracial reformist political party formed in 1879 to "to break the power of wealth and established privilege" among the planter elite of white men in the state and to promote public education." It also wanted to readjust state

debts accrued before the Civil War and eliminate the poll taxes, which disenfranchised Blacks and poor whites. The leader was railroad tycoon and former Confederate General William Mahone. Two of the articles by William Saffer and Edward Spannaus describe the origins and economic social aspects of the movement, as well as its unique inter-racial coalition and the unfortunate demise of African American rights when the coalition collapsed. The third article in this group by Donna Bohanon (which will be continued in the next issue) describes a little-researched, interesting story about the delegation of African American men that in 1883, impatient with promises made but not kept, petitioned the local Readjuster appointed Judge for recognition of their civil rights..



***Typical County School Fair Crafts Display
From 1914, Courtesy, Campbell County
Historical Society***

The fifth article in the issue is by Larry Roeder and describes the County School Fair movement. At the turn of the 20th century, the United States faced potential famine because of the inability of farms to keep up with population growth. The U.S.

Department of Agriculture, with the help of women's clubs and Black and White scholars, developed a program to teach school children how to grow vegetables and fruit more effectively than before, wanting to craft a new generation of farmers; but the system of fairs which evolved out of the program also fostered academics, crafts and sports, and in the 1920's was the largest social event in Loudoun County. The article explains the origins of the movement in Campbell County, near Lynchburg and provides details on each of the white and African American fairs in Loudoun, including the names of award-winning schools and students. The article takes pains to provide many names in hopes that readers will look for their ancestors' records and artifacts and help us flesh out this phase of education.

DEDICATION TO MARY FISHBACK AND OTHERS

The editors dedicate this issue to all of the past editors and to the trustees of the Loudoun County Historical Society who agreed to turn over the Bulletin to us. The trustees are Childs Burden, Lewis Leigh, Jr. and Taylor Chamberlin. We are deeply honored, especially because of their obvious dedication to history.



*Mary with a typical friendly look.
Courtesy the Balch Library*

We also dedicate this issue to Mary Fishback, who passed in 2019. Mary was known to anyone in the county with an interest in history. She met most of her admirers as a reference librarian at the Balch Library, with a smile and an encyclopedic knowledge of the holdings, only exceeded by her professional and tireless dedication to helping anyone with a question. With Wynne Saffer and others, she created the Balch Library's Cemetery Committee, which mapped cemeteries as a collection for the first time, visiting each. The effort also focused on

Black cemeteries, too often neglected. That effort continues today by others who stand on their shoulders.

Mary was also a President of the Loudoun County Historical Society. One of her great achievements in that realm was the creation of the 2011 Civil War Sesquicentennial issue. Finally, we all knew Mary as a warm human being, which may be her most important achievement, smiling and offering a wacky humor whenever she saw someone in stress, which made finding a good full photo difficult for us, as almost every shot we discovered was of someone hugging her with thanks.

Thank you, Mary, from all of us. We continue to love you and respect your legacy.

PURCHASING COPIES

Readers can now easily buy copies direct from Amazon. No subscription is required. The price is \$15 per copy, which covers our expenses and supports our research efforts.

Donors wanting to make a separate tax-deductible contribution to DFV should mail a check to Diversity Fairs of Virginia at 26128 Talamore Drive, South Riding, Va. 20152.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Authors are encouraged to submit unpublished manuscripts on a Loudoun County person, place or historical event. Portions of early diaries and letters are encouraged, also articles on topics not covered before, or which advocate for the preservation of buildings, documents and artifacts.

We also encourage High School seniors to submit material, and we will pay for the best article. This is done to foster an understanding of history at an early age, in hopes that today's students will continue to study the past in order to understand the present and prepare for the future.

Authors are responsible for accuracy, and should offer full source citations for key facts, quotations, findings or conclusions. When using photographs, figures and other illustrations, they will need captions and source citations. Articles should also be accompanied by a short abstract, as well as a bio on the author(s).

The Thomas Balch Library, local churches, the Archives of the Circuit Court in Leesburg, the Loudoun Museum, the Edwin Washington Project, the Lovettsville Historical Society and other Loudoun-based history clubs or associations are excellent sources of material. Don't forget the attic. As seen with our special projects, a lot of important history has been found in old wooden chests and dusty, little-use areas of private homes.

Please send submissions to Editor in Chief, Larry Roeder at dfvcontact@gmail.com, or write to the Bulletin of Loudoun County History, 26128 Talamore Drive, South Riding, Va. 20152.

STYLE MANUAL

- Articles should be of modest length, though longer pieces are considered, sometimes as serials.
- Documents must be submitted in word for windows, not pdf.
- Please submit using Arial 12 for text. We will resize for the final print.
- We generally use the Chicago Style Manual; but are flexible in some instances.
- Photographs should be in .jpg or .tiff format and in as high a resolution as possible. They will be converted to Black and White. Each must be credited.
- We do not use footnotes, only endnotes for bibliographic and informational notes. This is experimental. Comments are welcome.
- Future issues will have an index. Authors should provide a list of names and terms to index. Editors might add to this.
- Insert bibliographic citations in endnotes, which can also include explanatory information. For example

Text: African Americans wanting formal secondary schooling had to raise tuition funds and travel to private schools, which were often associated with churches, such as the Manassas Industrial Institute in Prince William County, or a pair of public high schools in Washington, D.C.: Dunbar and Armstrong Technical High School.

Endnote: Geneva Brown graduated from Dunbar and instructed at Guinea Colored in Lovettsville during AY 1920/1921. See EWP Archives: Term report for Guinea Colored in 3.3.3: Yr. 1920-1921.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

Donna Bohanon is a native of Washington DC and has lived in Loudoun County for the past 23 years. She is a former U.S. Department of State official and is currently the Chair of the Black History Committee of the Friends of the Thomas Balch Library. She is also on the Friends Board of Directors and the Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission in addition to serving on the Loudoun County Heritage Commission.

Lori Hinterleiter Kimball is a historical researcher whose projects cover various topics in Loudoun's history. She was on the boards of several local non-profits, is a member of the Black History Committee of the Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, and serves on the county's Heritage Commission. Lori was the Director of Programming and Education at Oatlands and is now the Executive Director at the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum.

Larry Roeder was raised abroad by U.S. diplomats, exposing him to wars and the need for cultural and racial understanding. He has been a U.S. soldier and diplomat, an executive for a British non-profit, an editor for Springer Science+Business, Chair for Research of the Black History Committee and a consultant/author on civil rights and foreign affairs. He is also Principal Investigator of the Edwin Washington Project and President of DFV.

Wynne C. Saffer is a lifelong Loudoun resident who has conducted numerous local research projects, including mapping the county's land ownership in 1860, extensive cemetery research and helping the Edwin Washington Project map the White and Colored Willard schools. He has written several books about Loudoun's history, including *Loudoun Votes 1867- 1966: A Civil War Legacy*, and *Mount Zion Cemetery, Aldie, Virginia*. Saffer is a recipient of the Thomas Balch Library's Loudoun History Award.

Edward Spannaus is a retired journalist who got his start in social and political activism as a student volunteer in the Mississippi Freedom Summer of 1964. After graduating from the University of Iowa in 1965, he obtained a M.S. from the Columbia University School of Social Work, concentrating in Community Organization. He now serves as an at-large Commissioner on the Loudoun County Heritage Commission, and is active in the Lovettsville Historical Society, and several other civic organizations.

SPECIAL PROJECTS



Two volunteers find the ruins of a lost schoolhouse in a forest. Courtesy Edwin Washington Project

In addition to producing the Bulletin, the majority of DfV's work involves expeditions to find lost properties and sponsoring academic research into Loudoun's History and discussion. Your purchase of this issue and your donations go directly into supporting those important efforts. All donations are deductible.

All of our volunteers work for free, but travel to academic centers, visit local sites and conduct interviews. We also rent space for discussions. We also want to reward high school students who conduct professional research. All of this costs money. We need your help.

Two important research efforts are (1) the John Rust Papers and (2) the Edwin Washington Project. The John Rust Papers are also part of what we call the **Lost Letters Program**, developed to protect and describe forgotten documents found in attics and chests. For example, we preserved a 1928 letter found in a desk in a store. It was written by a new teacher. We also studied a blood-stained ledger of Mortimer Virts, who made coffins for Loudoun's African American and white residents. The ledger was discovered in an attic, about to be burned. We have also scanned and documented many church records for the Prosperity Baptist Church, started by Black evangelist Jennie Dean in Conklin, near South Riding.

THE JOHN RUST PAPERS – a special project



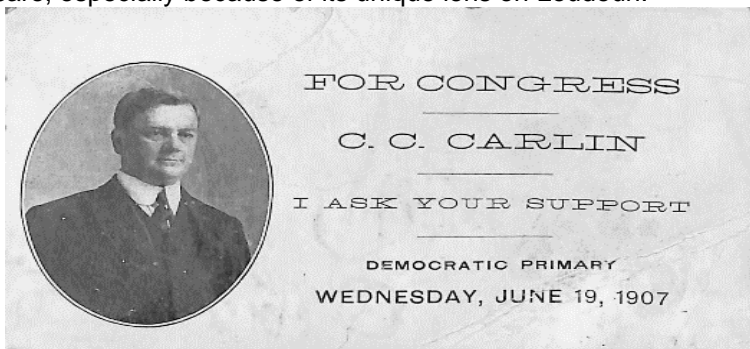
Possibly John Rust, found in the Papers.

In 2017, we were given a moldy chest inside which were over a thousand pages dating back to an 1832 deed. The material belonged to John Clay Rust, born in 1852, a 19th Century, early 20th Century Justice of the Peace, politician and packrat.

Our first task was fumigation, because insects were inside the box. We also killed off mold and fungus, which took three

months. The papers are extremely fragile, so each is handled to prevent turning to dust. Each is also scanned, placed in protective mylar envelopes and catalogued. Images are then distributed to volunteers in order to do research.

The papers are certain to generate many interesting research articles covering early public schools, the management of county roads, results of local elections and estate management. There are also arrest warrants and position papers by local politicians, as well as ordinary receipts and personal letters. This is truly a local treasure and is being treated with the greatest professional care, especially because of its unique lens on Loudoun.



Found in the Papers

THE EDWIN WASHINGTON PROJECT – a special project

At the request of Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS), we are studying the experiences of African-Americans in Loudoun's schools from the Civil War's close to 1968, when segregation ended. Experts at the Country School Association of America have described the effort as the largest of its kind in the United States. Volunteers study thousands of papers, some so fragile that face masks are worn to avoid illness.

We interview survivors of segregation, study old school houses and visit archives like VSU near Richmond, NAACP records at Howard and philanthropic fund reports kept at Atlanta University. So that our research is balanced, we also examine both African-American and White schools. Honest comparison is essential.

We work entirely at our own expense, or as assisted by private donors. Some volunteers have advanced degrees, others are simply neighbors wanting to help. All are trained by our staff.

Our moral imperative is to be professional and honor the heroic struggle by Loudoun's African-Americans for a proper education, a legacy of which any citizen should be in awe. We are also named after the first African-American youth we have documented



having negotiated the right to go to school and keep his job, Edwin Washington. He worked where the Circuit Court Archives now sits in Leesburg.

We are very grateful for the support of the LCPS Records Office, Superintendent Dr Eric Williams, Public Information Officer Wayde Byard, Pastor Carlos Lawson of the Prosperity Baptist Church and elected officials like Delegates John Bell and David Reid, Leesburg Mayor Kelly Burk and Chair of the School Board Jeff Morse as well as Supervisors, Koran Saines, Kristen Umstattd, and Board of supervisors Chair

Phyllis Randall..

See www.edwinwashingtonproject.org.