



1922-2013

Friends of the  
Thomas Balch  
Library, Inc.

E-Mail:

[info@balchfriends.org](mailto:info@balchfriends.org)

Website:

[www.balchfriends.org](http://www.balchfriends.org)

**Board of Directors**

Ronald A. Rust  
*President*

Sarah Huntington  
*Vice President*

Jeff Bolyard  
*Treasurer*

Harriett M. Condon  
*Secretary*

Phil Lo Presti  
*IT Committee Chair*

Derrick Clarke  
Donald Cooper  
Ann Daye

Gary Dickens  
Richard Gillespie  
Lewis Leigh, Jr

James P. Lucier  
Dan Morrow  
Sharon Parker

William Ray  
Patty Rogers-Renner  
Suzi Worsham

**Advisory Commission**

James H. Hershman  
*Chairman*

James A. Morgan, III  
*Vice Chairman*

Eileen Axeman  
Francis R. Fera

James P. Roberts  
Joan G. Rokus  
Lou Etta Watkins

*Representative  
Board of Supervisors*  
Ken Reid  
*Councilmanic*

*Leesburg Town Council*  
Fernando Martinez

**Library Director**  
Alexandra S. Gressitt

**Editor**  
Janet Manthos

# The Thomas Balch Chronicle

The Newsletter of Friends of the Thomas Balch Library of the Town of Leesburg, Virginia  
208 West Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia 20176

*A Library for History and Genealogy*

Volume 17 Issue 4

Winter 2013

## Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission's Twenty-first Annual Loudoun History Awards Presented to Four Individuals, November 10, 2013

Established in 1993 to recognize the contribution of local historian John E. Divine in preserving Loudoun County History, today the awards highlight divers aspects of the county's history, and honor individuals who have made significant contributions to preserving Loudoun's past through collections of county documents and memorabilia, preservation of history landmarks, visual art, writing and long-term involvement in local history organizations.

This year's presentation saw a Special Recognition of the Honorable Joe T. May for his many contributions as a Legislator to preserving and enhancing historical resources in the Commonwealth of Virginia. A number of Town dignitaries, including Kristin C. Umstatt, Mayor of the Town of Leesburg; John A. Wells, Town Manager, Marty Martinez, Town of Leesburg Council Representative and Ken Reid, Loudoun Board of supervisors Representative were present to acknowledge May's long time public service.

Receiving the Loudoun History Awards for 2013

were Elizabeth R. Frain, nominated and presented by Patricia Duncan, for her contributions in research, preservation and documentation of Loudoun County history; Georgia Ravitz and Peter Bassar were honored for their many contributions to the conservation of land, historic preservation and the history of Loudoun County. They were nominated by Jane Covington. Phyllis A Cook-Taylor, nominated and presented author and historian Kevin Dulany Grigsby's award for his many contributions to research, preservation, and documentation of the memory of African Americans in Loudoun County's history.



PHOTOS: JAMES P. ROBERTS

**2013 History Awardees Georgia Ravitz, Peter Bassar, Elizabeth R. Frain, Kevin Dulany Grigsby.**

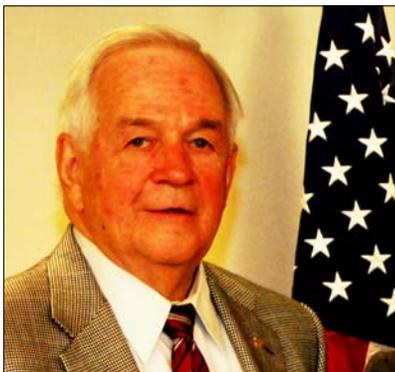


PHOTO: JAMES P. ROBERTS

The commission was pleased to recognize the Honorable Joe T. May, for his many contributions as a legislator to preserving and enhancing historical resources in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Daniel Morrow, made the presentation

The Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission acknowledges photographer Jim Hanna, for providing autographed copies of the image of Thomas Balch Library for each honoree.

It's never too early to begin thinking about persons you know who would qualify to this prestigious honor. Nominations are most often solicited in late summer, but are welcomed at any time. To learn more about the nominations process, contact the Library and request their handsome brochure, that contains full information.

**Keep your FTBL membership current; Your newsletter mailing label shows the date for your renewal. And you'll find a membership application form on page six, so you can enroll your family and friends.**

## ***Murder Planned for FTBL Annual Meeting, January 25!***

The annual meeting of Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc. will take place at the Library on Sunday, January 25, 2014 at 2:00 pm. The program is free. The public is invited to attend, and urged to become members of the Friends in support of the Library and its activities.

The afternoon promises to be an exciting one, full of murder, salacious forays and revenge. The speaker will be Friends board member, Daniel S. Morrow, author of the new book *Murder in Lexington: VMI, Honor and Justice in Antebellum Virginia*. The case involved the beautiful belle Mary Everly Anderson, whose spurned lover attacked the suitor who took his place.

The book is described as "a circus of inept and brilliant trial lawyers dragging members of the most prominent families through an all-too-public discussion of seduction, courtship, honor and self-defense."

Mr. Morrow's talk appears to have a little something for everyone, no matter what one's historical interest. So be sure to put this January 25 event on your calendars.

## ***Congratulations Are In Order***

Our very special good wishes to Mary and John Fishback, both of whom we consider a part of the Thomas Balch Library Family. They recently were honored with Heritage Hero awards by Mosby Heritage Area Association, the awards presented each year to individuals or groups who have given significantly to the preservation and conservation of the natural and cultural resources in its service area.

Since 2004, John has served as the first Loudoun County's historic records manager and oversees the organization and conservation of county and court records dating back to Loudoun's founding in 1757. John also conducts a number of tours of the Court records for Thomas Balch Library's patrons and guests.

Mary Fishback became interested in Thomas Balch Library's source materials in genealogy and general local history. In 1974, she established the Loudoun Genealogy Club, and later the Thomas Balch Cemetery Committee. She is the compiler and author of five pictorial volumes of Loudoun County's various towns, places and people. She is a volunteer for the George Marshall House, Journey Through Hallowed Ground, Loudoun Library Foundation and the Loudoun County Civil War Roundtable.

She has been awarded the Thomas Balch Advisory Commission History Award for her efforts to preserve the library as a viable history and genealogy library. Mary was further honored by the Commission with their Thomas Balch Library Commission Honor Award for her 25 years of service in the historical community.



## ***Black History Committee of TBL On the Move***

In 2000, the Black History Committee was established to collect, preserve, and share with the public, information on Loudoun County's African American history. With the help of a generous donation, additional grants and private donations, this Committee has undertaken myriad tasks and has accomplished many projects since its inception. Currently, the committee is developing plans for 2014.

The group is pleased and encouraged with the addition of six new members, all of whom are hard at work to make the coming year exciting and valuable to our patrons, and particularly to our community. You'll meet them in the next issue.

Member Derrick Clark is working on updating the website (this is a work in progress). Phyllis Cook-Taylor, with the help of TBL Director Alexandra Gressitt and Elizabeth Preston, posted BHC publications on the Thomas Balch Library website and facebook page.

This editor looks forward to more good news and information about the Committee's progress.

### ***Did you know?***

Members of the BHC are available to make presentations about local AA History at schools and other organizations. For more information, contact Thomas Balch Library.

## ***From Ninety-plus Years Ago!*** ***\*From the Loudoun Mirror, Jan. 26, 1921:***

### ***Library Building Will Be Erected***

The fund for purchasing the site for the erection of the Thomas Balch Memorial Library building has been completed, and the committee is arranging for the purchase of the Chichester lot on Market Street in Leesburg for that purpose. As the time limit for purchase expires with this month, there has been some anxiety, but the amount has been raised through the persistent effort of the Ladies Committee and the Chamber of Commerce, and at an early date, it is hoped to have the building started. For this building there is a fund of about \$16,000, principal and interest, known as the Thomas Balch Memorial Fund, to be used for the erection of a library building for Leesburg, provided a site was provided, and as this has now been done, Leesburg is to be congratulated upon the successful conclusion of an issue that has been the cause of some concern.

The lot chosen for the site is a most desirable one, and the \$4,000 necessary for its purchase was raised as follows:

Chamber or Commerce	\$1,000.
Ladies Committee	2,000.
Heirs of Thos. Balch	1,000.

The latter donation was made to enable the committee to purchase the entire lot at the cost mentioned, instead of half of it at a cost of \$3,000.

\* Reprinted from the May 1999 issue of *The Thomas Balch Chronicle*. Back issues of the *Chronicle* are archived and available for reading at the Library.

**Be sure to keep your FTBL membership current!  
Check your mailing label for renewal date.**

## The Lees of Stratford Hall and Leesburg By James P. Lucier

If a geologist were to describe the American Revolution in terms of an earthquake, he would place the epicenter in a 20-mile wide circle centered on Stratford Hall, that noble house on the tidal Potomac in Westmoreland County. Historians might pick some other place, but truly it is here where the tectonic plates of political conviction began to shift and vents of hot gas were emitted from the earth.

Stratford Hall was the seat of the Lee family, built by the patriarch Thomas Lee in 1734, who presided over 16,000 acres and held a position equivalent to governor of Virginia. Within the 20-mile circle were the birthplace of George Washington at Wakefield, the birthplace of James Madison at Belle Grove near Port Conway, and the birthplace of James Monroe at Monroe Hall near the present-day town of Colonial Beach. The Lees were to have an important impact on the founding of Leesburg in Loudoun County, as well as their neighbors in Westmoreland.

In 1765 the British Parliament passed the Stamp Act, imposing a tax on virtually every public communication and legal document. Rather than pay the tax, the local courts shut down. Richard Henry Lee, one of the eight sons of Thomas Lee decided to do something about it. Calling together 115 freeholders at Leedstown, 12 miles south of Stratford Hall, he prepared a declaration of boycott, now known as "The Westmoreland Resolves."

Although some observers today bemoan our supposedly extravagant political rhetoric, the operative clauses of the Westmoreland Resolves make the tone of today's discourse pale by comparison:

*As the Stamp Act does absolutely direct the property of the people to be taken from them without their consent expressed by their representatives and as in many cases it deprives the British American Subject of his right to trial by jury; we do determine, at every hazard, and paying no regard to danger or to death, we will exert every faculty, to prevent the execution of the said Stamp Act in any instance whatsoever within this Colony. And every abandoned wretch, who shall be so lost to virtue and public good, as wickedly to contribute to the introduction or fixture of the Stamp Act in this Colony, by using stamp paper, or by any other means, we will, with the utmost expedition, convince all such profligates that immediate danger and disgrace shall attend their prostitute purposes.*

Among the 115 signers were four of the Lee brothers the present at Stratford Hall (including Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee), four of the Washington brothers, and one Spence Monroe, the father of young James Monroe.

Nine years later, the same Richard Henry Lee in Philadelphia was the author of the July 2 resolution of Congress declaring *that these united Colonies are, and ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance from the British crown, and that all political connection between America and State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved...* On July 4 the petition of rights that we more familiarly call the Declaration of Independence was issued and included the signatures of Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee, the only pair of brothers to sign. Later the two would be the only two brothers to sign the Articles of Confederation.



Stratford Hall, Westmorland County, Virginia

Thomas Lee had eight brilliant sons, and each one played a critical role in the founding of the nation. However, some also played key roles in the founding of Leesburg. Indeed Leesburg, Virginia, virtually became a spin-off of the Lee family. Thomas Lee died when Francis Lightfoot Lee was 16, leaving his son 7000 acres in Fairfax County. In 1757, the western part of Fairfax was severed and named Loudoun County. Lightfoot's home, long gone, was on the parcel of land now occupied by Dulles Airport. (The Lightfoot property is not

to be confused with Sully, the property of his cousin Richard Bland Lee.) In 1758 the freeholders of Loudoun County elected Lightfoot Lee to the House of Burgesses, where three of his brothers were already members. At the time the wilderness crossroads where the county court was being erected was called "Georgetown."

Lightfoot Lee introduced a bill to name the new community "Leesburg." As Eugene Scheel has pointed out, it is not likely that he was naming the town after himself. More likely he was naming it after his father, Thomas Lee, one of the most distinguished citizens of Virginia, who had died eight years previously.

In 1769 Francis Lightfoot Lee married Rebecca Tayloe and moved to Menokin in Richmond County, where he passed the rest of his life in quiet contentment. The couple had no children, and as a result his Loudoun property was willed to his nephew, Ludwell Lee, the son of Richard Henry Lee.

Ludwell Lee, who had been aide-de-camp to Lafayette during the Revolutionary War, married his first cousin, Flora Lee, who had inherited the tract of land now known as Belmont from her grandfather, Thomas Lee. As a result Ludwell Lee decided to sell the property he inherited from his uncle, Lightfoot Lee, and in 1799 used the money to build the grand Federal-style manor house at Belmont, situated east of Leesburg on one of the higher elevations in eastern Loudoun County.

Belmont became one of the social centers of Loudoun County and was host at various times to the old Westmoreland neighbors, including James Monroe, living nearby at Oak Hill, at another time James Madison, and during Lafayette's farewell tour in 1825, the Marquis himself, after having been feted at Oak Hill and at grand illuminations in the town of Leesburg. The next day, along with John Quincy Adams, then President, and Monroe they all repaired to Temple Hall, north of Leesburg, for the christening of the two daughters of Temple Thomson Mason, the nephew of George Mason.

In 1862 the last of the Lees born at Stratford Hall, Robert E. Lee, would bring his troops into Loudoun after the victory of Second Manassas for recuperation and forage while he conferred with his top generals before moving on to Maryland. Leesburg would become the epicenter of so much of the War, a veritable crossroads traversed with opposing armies marching back and forth. Loudoun would change hands six times as the armies clashed in the long night of the struggle. The Lees of Stratford Hall could then rest, for their job was done.

## **Newly processed manuscript collections – August through October 2013**

*Goose Creek Burying Grounds, 1957, 2013, undated (M088)*

A 2013 survey of the burial ground conducted as an Eagle Scout project.

*Pioneer America Society Photograph Collection (VC0025)*

A series of photographs by an organization dedicated to cultural and natural preservation.

*Sam Legard Photograph Collection (VC0037)*

A large group of aerial photographs of Loudoun County by a local pilot, photographer, and insurance agent.

## **Newly catalogued books – August through October 2013**

*A Budgeting Guide for Local Government*, Robert L. Bland

*Timothy Matlack, scribe of the Declaration of Independence*, Chris Coehlo

*Falaise roll: recording prominent companions of William, Duke of Normandy at the conquest of England*,

M. Jackson Crispin & Macary Leonce

*Comfort Found in Good Old Books*, George Hamlin Fitch

*Free Trade and Sailors' Rights in the War of 1812*, Paul A. Gilje

*Cry Liberty: The Great Stono River Slave Rebellion of 1739*, Peter Charles Hoffer

*Generations: The WPA Ex-Slave Narrative Genealogical Resource Database, Vol. 1*, James M. Rose

*Photography and the American Civil War*, Jeff L. Rosenheim

*Soldier Dead: How We Recover, Identify, Bury, and Honor Our Military Fallen*, Michael Sledge

*The Huguenots: Their Settlements, Churches, and Industries in England and Ireland*, Samuel Smiles.

*Pirate Hunting: The Fight Against Pirates, Privateers, and Sea Raiders from Antiquity to the Present*,

Benerson Little

*"A Government of Our Own": The Making of the Confederacy*, William C. Davis

*Utmost Gallantry: the U.S. and Royal Navies at Sea in the War of 1812*, Kevin D. McCranie

*"Given to drinking and whoring": White Maryland Runaways, 1720-1762*, Joseph Lee Boyle, comp.

*Memoir Concerning the French Settlements and French Settlers in the Colony of Rhode Island*,

Elisha R. Potter

*Twilight at Conner Prairie: the creation, betrayal, and rescue of a museum*, Berkley W. Duck III

*"Light Horse Harry" Lee in the War for Independence*, Jim Piccuch & John Beakes

*Early Pennsylvania Land Records: minutes of the Board of Property of the Province of Pennsylvania*, William Henry Egle, ed.

*Baltimore County, Maryland trader and ordinary licenses, 1830-1832*, Michal A. Ports *Catoctin furnace: portrait of an iron-making village*, Elizabeth Yourtree Anderson *Mariners of the American Revolution: with an appendix of American ships captured by the British during the Revolutionary War*,

Marion & Jack Kaminkow

*Reminiscences of Forts Sumter and Moultrie in 1860-'61*, Abner Doubleday

*"A body incorporate": The Evolution of City-County Separation in Virginia*, Chester W. Bain

*A Register of Military Events in Virginia 1861-1865*, the Virginia Civil War Commission

*Why the Turkey Didn't Fly*, Paul Aron

*A Tour Guide and History of Col. John S. Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County, Virginia*,

Donald C. Hakenson & Charles V. Mauro

*County Derry: Genealogy and Family History Resources from the Archives of the Irish Genealogical Foundation*,

Irish Genealogical Foundation

## **Newly added Digital Collections, August through October 2013:**

*Accessible Archives*- its collections and coverage were developed by dedicated instructors and students of American history. *Accessible Archives* databases contain rich, comprehensive material found in leading historic periodicals and books. Eyewitness accounts of historical events, vivid descriptions of daily life, editorial observations, commerce as seen through advertisements, and genealogical records are available in a user-friendly online environment.

---

***Be sure to renew your Friends' membership.***

***Check your label for your date for renewal***

***Please use the form on Page 6 to enlist your friends to become members.***

## ***News from the Library Director:***

The Thomas Balch Library is a cultural center for Leesburg, drawing visitors from across the county, the surrounding region, the state, the nation, and from places far away. Its legacy is not just one of history, but also of community – a sense of place. For those with deep roots in Loudoun County it is a source of on-going pride and fond memories. For those newer to the community it is a resource to learn about the past and come to an understanding of their new sense of place. For both it is a resource from which to meld diverse ideas and create a vision for the future.

It has been just ten years since I walked into Thomas Balch Library as its second director under the ownership of the Town of Leesburg. Such milestones are times to reflect on accomplishments and with the support of the Friends they have been many. In an address to the Friends at their 2004 annual meeting I outlined some of the challenges and goals that lay ahead of us as we modernized and professionalized the library. These could not be accomplished without the support of the Friends and Black History Committee, the community, elected or appointed officials, or fellow staff members. The goals included addressing physical plant issues, collection development and management, marketing and outreach, and fundraising and the establishment of an endowment.

In very many ways both small and large the Friends have helped us reach our goals and attain a higher level of visibility within the special collections library community. Although too many to list, just a few examples are sufficient to highlight the Friends many contributions to the success of the library. Support from the Friends has included seed money to establish a professional collection for staff development, funds to acquire materials for the research collection, electronic resources including a laptop and video camera, additional chairs for the meeting room, funds for marketing the library, creation of an advertising banner, seed money for the library to initiate its subscription to JSTOR, a digital resource, and ongoing funding of the digital subscriptions: *America's Genealogy Bank* and *America's Newspapers*. Not least, the Friends have underwritten the lecture series and classes offered at Thomas Balch Library enabling it to become an outstanding cultural focal point in Leesburg and Loudoun County.

Over the course of the last ten years efforts have been afoot to create an endowed foundation for the ongoing support of the library. With a generous bequest from a former volunteer, Virginia L. Bowie, this vision became a real possibility. During the last couple of years many people have worked hard to make it a reality. Town officials - elected and appointed (TBL Commission), the legislature, library and town staff, the Friends with their outstanding annual fundraising event, and Black History Committee, and members of the community have worked cooperatively to achieve this goal. On November 26, Town Council voted unanimously to create the Foundation to endow the library. With the establishment of the foundation, Thomas Balch Library truly enters a new era. I look forward to working with each of you as we develop the foundation.

Since the last newsletter there have been several staffing changes. Alyssa Fisher, a part time reference librarian accepted a full time grant funded position with the Loudoun County Circuit Court. Ben Tayloe started November 12 as the new (albeit part time) coordinator of reference services. His background includes a BA from James Madison and an MA from Fairfield University. His most recent experience, where he continues to work part time, has been with the Shenandoah County Library processing and cataloguing their archival holdings. He has also worked at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park, the Braswell Gallery, and for ten years worked in marketing with Nortel Networks Corporation. Gabrielle Sanchez, also part time, will start on December 4 and will be assisting with the photographic collection, manuscripts and reference. Her background includes a BA in history from Bryn Mawr College with a year spent at the University of Edinburg and an MA in History and an MLS from Indiana University. Prior experience includes serving as archivist at the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen in NY, as manuscripts librarian and archivist at The New-York Historical Society, and as project archivist at the George Washington University, DC. Her most recent experience was as archivist for the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress. Please welcome these new members of our staff.

As always it will be a pleasure to welcome you when visiting the Library or when attending programs and exhibits.

*Alexandra S. Gressitt, Library Director*

## ***Exhibits for Winter 2013 to Spring 2014***

### **Margaret Mercer Room**

December	Loudoun Symphony - Kathy Zeigle
January	World War II Memorabilia - John Wynck
February	Frederick Douglass Elementary School - More Than a School, It's a Community - Sarah Howard-O'Brien

### **Lower Level Meeting Room**

December	Loudoun Contours: Aerial Views of Our Heritage - Jim Hanna
January- March	Scenes from Northern Virginia - Ofelia Knapp

## New & Renewing FTBL Members

Gail Adams  
Jinsie Bingham  
Jane Bogle  
Mildred Bowers  
D.M. & Patricia Duncan  
Tracy & Rich Gillespie  
Rebecca Groff  
Lori Kimball  
Christine Lanphere  
Bob & Judy Lyon  
Michaela McIntyre  
Donna Norton  
Susan Parks  
Betty Ruby  
Ann Schneider  
Ann Thomas  
E.B. White III

**Join Us!**

**Friends of the  
Thomas Balch Library, Inc.  
invite you to join us!**

Yes! I wish to join the Friends and play an important part in supporting the collections and programs of Thomas Balch Library.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Senior/Student	\$	15.00
Family	\$	25.00
Patron	\$	50.00
Sustaining/ Business	\$	100.00
Benefactor	\$	250.00
Legacy Society	\$	500.00+

FRIENDS OF THE THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY, INC

PO Box 2184 Leesburg, VA 20177

Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc. is tax exempt under 501(c)3

## A First Hand Report by Pam Gottfried

When I started work at Thomas Balch Library, I looked forward to learning more about the place I had recently moved –Lovettsville— and the library helped with that. But since I was born and raised in New York, I didn't expect that the library would hold any information about my family Well, I was wrong.

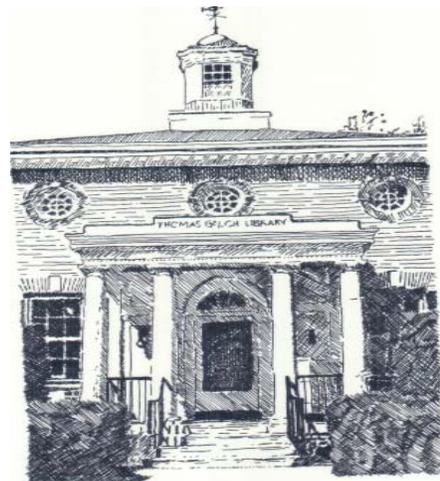
The Ancestry.com that you see advertised on television is free here, at least Ancestry's library version is, and there's information there, for the picking. I found that my husband's grandfather lived in the Bronx and earned \$500 during the whole of 1939, working in a broom factory. (Well, it was the tail end of the Depression.) I found the ship's passenger list showing my great-grandfather came here from Switzerland, not Germany as I had thought.

TBL also has less-well known resources on line that came into play in my family research. My grandfather was brought up by his grandparents in New York. What happened to his mother? As revealed in the newspaper index: She remarried when my grandfather was a teenager and moved to Massachusetts with new husband, Louis, the barber. The library has a link to cases heard by the Old Bailey in London. I checked it out – it turns out my great-grandfather testified before them in 1900 as a witness in an assault case.

The library's books and journals contributed to my knowledge, too. *Anotaynu*, the library's Jewish genealogy journal, had a short article about the Gottfried family – I hit the jackpot! In addition, I found a huge book containing maps of Europe during World War II that contributed to my understanding of my father's war service.

Finally, my husband's family research had been stymied because he didn't know the name of his great grandfather. But one of our librarians showed me how to write away to the Social Security Office, enclosing a fee, and to get a copy of his grandfather's application for a Social Security Card – which listed the names of his parents.

The Thomas Balch Library is a trove of information for aficionados of history and all things Virginia, but it doesn't stop there. What hidden facts about your family are here, waiting to be uncovered?



## There are Books for Sale at TBL!

### Correction:

Please be advised: Thomas Balch Library does not accept credit card payment for books, as noted in the Fall issue of this newsletter. We regret the error.

Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc. does accept MasterCard and Visa payments for its publications, as shown on the order form on the right hand side of this page.

Once again, to give you an idea of the wide selection of books, videos and CDs available for sale at Thomas Balch Library, we found the following sample of volumes in the revolving kiosk, just inside the Janney reading room. Be sure to check these, and others available.

### Towns and Villages

In addition to the Eugene Scheel five volume *Loudoun Discovered* series, and others published by Friends of the Thomas Balch Library (see order form, page 7) many publications authored by local writers are available for sale at Thomas Balch Library.

Another delightful resource featuring Loudoun County is Mary Fishback's five volume pictorial series that includes *Loudoun County: 250 Years of Towns and Villages*, an overview of all the towns in Loudoun County, with old homes as the focus; *Loudoun County People and Places*; *A Family Album*; *Leesburg*; and *Northern Virginia's Equestrian Heritage*. These books contain wonderful photographs of faces and locations, not often seen elsewhere.

Books concentrating on specific areas include: *A Story of Round Hill*, by Ann Whitehead Thomas; *Howardsville*, *The Journey of an African American Community* by Kevin Dulany Grigsby; *Leesburg*, by Annie McDonald; and a real photographic treat: *Leesburg, Va., My Hometown Through My Lens* by David Frye; *Purcellville* by Meredith Thomas; *Mount Gilead History & Heritage* by William Ray; and *Lovettsville German Settlement*. to mention a few.

For a complete change of pace, you might peruse the shelf holding **Old Fashioned Recipes**. Here you will find the Purcellville Preservation Association's first fundraiser *The Spice of Life Cookbook*, a great compilation of recipes and remembrances of days gone by. Another charming volume is the Friends' published *A Taste of Loudoun, Our Favorite Recipes, 1903-1951*, gathered by the Home Interest Club Cookbook-Centennial edition.

Is your interest **Loudoun Transportation**? You will find a number of books available here, including *Washington & Old Dominion Railroad*; *Down at the Station*; and *Rails to the Blue Ridge*. Should your transport be your own vehicle, you might find these of interest: *The Great Valley Road of Virginia*, by XXX; *Along Virginia's Route 15*; even a book entitled *Miscellaneous Roads*.

If your perambulation is on is your own two feet, not to be missed in this category is *Loudoun by Foot-Darn Good Walks in Western Loudoun* produced by Western Loudoun Heritage Photography Project. A true gem.

FRIENDS OF  
THOMAS  
BALCH

LIBRARY, INC.

P.O. BOX 2184  
LEESBURG, VA  
20177

TELEPHONE

703-737-2166

FAX:

703-737-7150

WWW.

BALCHFRIENDS.

ORG

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Loudoun Discovered: Communities, Corners & Crossroads

- Volume 1 *Eastern Loudoun: Goin' Down the Country*
  - Volume 2 *Leesburg and the Old Carolina Road*
  - Volume 3 *The Hunt Country and Middleburg*
  - Volume 4 *Quaker Country and the Loudoun Valley*
  - Volume 5 *Waterford, the German Settlement and Between the Hills*
- each volume: \$ 20.00

Set of all 5 volumes plus Eugene Scheel's  
*New Historical Map of Loudoun County* \$100.00

Individual copies of the *Historical Map* \$ 10.00

*The Essence of A People:*  
*Portraits of African Americans Who Made a*  
*Difference in Loudoun County, Virginia* \$ 15.00

*The Essence of A People II: African Americans Who Made*  
*Their World Anew in Loudoun County, Virginia and Beyond* \$ 15.00

*Loudoun County's African American Communities*  
*A Tour Map and Guide* \$ 5.00

*A Taste of Loudoun County:*  
*Our Favorite Recipes 1903-1951*  
*Home Interest Club Cookbook - Centennial Edition* \$ 10.00

*A Story of Round Hill, Loudoun County, Virginia*  
by Ann W. Thomas \$ 20.00

*In the Watchfires: The Loudoun County*  
*Emancipation Association, 1890-1971*  
by Elaine E. Thompson \$ 20.00

*George Washington Carver: Scientist, Artist, & Musician*  
by Lemoine D. Pierce \$ 10.00

*Journey Through Time*  
by Black History Committee of Friends of the  
Thomas Balch Library \$ 5.00

*"The Imperious Laird": John Campbell,*  
*Fourth Earl of Loudoun*  
by Douglas W. Foard, Ph.D. \$ 15.00

*Billy Pierce: Dance Master, Son of Purcellville*  
by Lemoine D. Pierce \$ 15.00

*Loudoun 1757: On the Border of Mayhem Loudoun*  
*County 250th Anniversary Lecture Series* \$ 15.00

*Leesburg 250th Anniversary Lecture Series (2008)*  
Hosted by Thomas Balch Library, includes booklet & 2 DVDs \$ 15.00

*Thank  
You*

Sub-total \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping & Handling \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL DUE \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Friends of Thomas Balch Library, Inc.  
We also accept Visa and MasterCard

Is it time to renew your FTBL membership? Check you mailing label for the date -- and stay current with us.



The Thomas Balch  
**Chronicle**

Friends of the  
Thomas Balch Library  
P. O. Box 2184  
Leesburg, VA 20177

***FTBL Annual Meeting***  
***2:00 PM January 25, 2014***  
***Thomas Balch Library***  
***All Are Invited. Join Us!***

### Calendar of Events at Thomas Balch Library

Be on the lookout for the Winter/Spring issue of *The Balch Column*, now under construction, for a complete listing of upcoming TBL Sponsored Programs

Sunday, 8 Dec.–2PM **Blowtorch: Robert Kremer, Vietnam and American Cold War Strategy** – Frank Leith Jones.

Sunday, 25 Dec.–2PM **Eighteenth FTBL Annual Meeting**

The 18th Annual Meeting of Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc. will take place at the Library on Sunday, January 25, 2014 at 2:00 pm. The program is free. The public is invited to attend and urged to become members of the Friends in support of the Library and its activities.

The afternoon promises to be an exciting one, full of murder, salacious forays and revenge. The speaker will be Friends board member, Daniel S. Morrow, author of the new book *Murder in Lexington: VMI, Honor and Justice in Antebellum Virginia*. Don't miss it!

### Other Activities at Thomas Balch Library

**Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission** sponsors the annual Loudoun History Awards and an award for excellence in historical research at the annual Loudoun County Public School Social Science Fair. It meets at the Library the second Wednesday of each month at 7 PM. The public is always welcome.

**Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc.**, a 501(c)3 corporation organized to provide support for Thomas Balch Library, meets at the Library every other month. The public is always welcome. For more information call 703/737-2166 or visit [www.balchfriends.org](http://www.balchfriends.org).

**Black History Committee of Friends of Thomas Balch Library, Inc.**, meets at the Library the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 PM. The public is always welcome. For information visit: [www.balchfriends.org](http://www.balchfriends.org).

**Loudoun County Civil War Round Table** meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM except January and February. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in Loudoun County's history during the American Civil War.

Programs sponsored by Thomas Balch Library are held in the downstairs meeting room and are free unless otherwise noted. Due to limited seating we recommend registering in advance by calling 703/737-7195. For updated news on events visit our website at: [www.leesburgva.gov/ThomasBalchLibrary/publications](http://www.leesburgva.gov/ThomasBalchLibrary/publications) or follow us on Facebook.