WE’VE RAISED THE ROOF!

Our Legacy of Liberty Preservation Project: Phase 2 is making incredible strides. We had the good fortune in July to receive a $100,000 gift toward our preservation efforts. While the donor wished to remain anonymous, they stated that: “It’s such a good feeling to work with the St. John’s Church Foundation to help raise the roof.” They added enthusiastically, “Anything for the Founding Fathers!” We feel the same way.

In other good news, we received a $100,000 challenge grant from the Cabell Foundation in June. In order to complete the $100,000 challenge, we must raise a matching $100,000 by June 2015. To encourage others to give, our anonymous donor designated $25,000 of their gift toward the $100,000 challenge grant. We are very pleased to report that so far $60,000 has been raised toward the matching grant.

Thanks to our anonymous donor and our other generous supporters we have raised enough money to proceed with replacing the roof of the church, the parish hall and the boiler building. All are leaking.

We have received the required permission by the Commission of Architectural Review of the City of Richmond to replace the leaking roofs with copper roofs. Since St. John’s Church is located within a City Old and Historic District work could not begin without the Commission’s approval. This was an important first step before we could proceed with engaging a contractor.

We have formed a Construction Oversight Committee that will review all contracts and plans and oversee Phase 2 work. This committee is made up of members of the Board of Trustees, foundation staff, the Senior Warden and Rector of St. John’s Church.

We have decided to wait until spring to take advantage of the warmer weather to replace the roofs so we can also paint at the same time. By waiting until spring, we can use our preservation funds more efficiently and use the same scaffold for the painting that will be used for the roof replacement; and by signing the contract now for the roof we can lock in the price of the copper to avoid any possible price increases. The church will be open for worship, tours, reenactments and special events during the roof replacement and painting.

Currently we have raised $308,000 for the Legacy of Liberty Preservation Project: Phase 2.

Thank you!
Anonymous
Garland & Agnes Taylor Gray Foundation
Roller-Bottimore Foundation
William H., John G., & Emma Scott Foundation
Beirne Carter Foundation
Windsor Foundation Trust
Burcham Family Fund

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
Foundation Welcomes New Staff Members

SARAH WHITE is a recent transplant from the Charlottesville area, and holds a BA in English and an MA in American Studies from the University of Virginia. When not wandering the grounds of historic St. John's Church, Sarah can be found performing solo or with her band the Pearls. She has performed with the likes of Merle Haggard, the Dave Matthews Band, Justin Townes Earle, and even Hall & Oates. She is also employed by the Museum of the Confederacy as an interpreter. **Sarah has been hired as our Operations Manager, thanks to a capacity building grant from CultureWorks.**

JOHN DUNLAP comes to us from Albany, Georgia. He received his history degree from Georgia Southern University in May 2013 and has been living in Richmond since September 2013. He is also employed by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. John has been hired to work in the Visitor Center as part of our front desk staff.

Do Your Christmas Shopping in our Visitor Center

Find great presents and shop for a worthy cause!

We have THE perfect gift for the history lover in your life. You'll find a wide selection of books on Patrick Henry and the American Revolution, jewelry, locally made products and more. This year we are featuring sterling silver pendants of St. John's Church and Richmond by Steven's Jewelers.

Get the coffee drinker in your life a colorful Liberty or Death! mug.

Save time! Shop online at: www.historicstjohnschurch.org/shop

A financial statement is available upon written request from the Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
We are pleased to announce the election of Walter W. Craigie, Jr., in recognition of his years of exceptional leadership and service to the Foundation, as the first Trustee Emeritus of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Craigie's role as Trustee Emeritus will allow the Foundation to continue to benefit from his significant leadership skills and his commitment to serving the community through volunteerism. Mr. Craigie served in the executive branch of the Commonwealth of Virginia as Treasurer and Secretary of Finance. Mr. Craigie's non-profit work includes former Chairman and current Trustee Emeritus of the Woodberry Forest School Board of Trustees, a school founded by his great-grandfather; former Trustee and President of St. John's Church Foundation; former Trustee, MCV Foundation; Trustee Emeritus, The Montpelier Foundation; and former Trustee, Collegiate Schools.

Anne Geddy Cross is the President of the Board of Trustees of Preservation Virginia. Mrs. Cross was State Chairman of Historic Garden Week for the Garden Club of Virginia for 2012 and 2013. Mrs. Cross is Chairman of the Garden Club of Virginia's Centennial Committee and has twice served as president of the Hanover County Historical Society.

Delegate Chris Peace, member of the Virginia House of Delegates, represents the 97th district. Mr. Peace serves as the executive director of Historic Polegreen Church Foundation, and established the Road to Revolution State Heritage Trail to honor the life and influence of Virginia's first elected Governor Patrick Henry, in addition to many men and women who played a role in liberating Virginia from Colonial rule and establishing America.

David E. Cottrell is Chairman of Retail Data, LLC, a Markel Ventures Company. Mr. Cottrell was born and raised in Richmond, VA, and began his work career with Procter and Gamble as a sales representative in the Richmond area. Mr. Cottrell founded Cottrell Brokerage Company which led to the formation of Retail Services, Inc. Retail Services merged with PIA Merchandising Company and went public. In 1987 David joined his wife, Christine in founding Retail Data, LLC. Today Retail Data has over 2,000 employees in the US, Canada and Mexico. Mr. Cottrell will begin serving as a Trustee in January 2015.

Reelected Trustees

Clay Hamner is president of Lythos Studios, a Richmond-based advertising agency founded in 1999, specializing in television and radio commercials for local businesses and foundations. Mr. Hamner is a resident of Richmond, graduate of the University of Richmond and descendant of Patrick Henry.

Lynn Anderson is Manager of Parham Park Place Seniors Apartments. Ms. Anderson serves on the Vestry of St. John's Church and is also their Wedding Director. Ms. Anderson is a past member of the Richmond Symphony Chorus and was graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University.

www.historicstjohnschurch.org
PINTS WITH THE PATRIOTS AT TRIPLE CROSSING BREWERY

In September, local brewery Triple Crossing Brewery launched the city's very own Liberty or Death porter and celebrated the day at our Pints with the Patriots event. Patrick Henry was on hand to tap the first pint. Later in the afternoon, Mr. Henry and George Washington performed a portion of their famous speeches from the Second Virginia Convention. We thank Triple Crossing for their generosity, as they donated a portion of their proceeds for the day to St. John's Church Foundation.

The Reverend Laura Inscoe, Rector St. John's Church with Patrick Henry.

Interpreter John Dunlap as "young" Patrick Henry.

(l to r) Frank Vaughn as Thomas Jefferson, Michael Wells as Patrick Henry, Karl Easterly, Kevin Grantz as George Washington.

We welcomed Christopher Webber, author of *Give Me Liberty: Speakers and Speeches that Shaped American History* to St. John's Church on Sunday October 19, 2014, for a talk and book signing. This book holds a collection of the speeches of great American speakers throughout the centuries. Webber gave a fascinating talk, focusing on what exactly liberty is. It is a term open to a broad range of opinion that has evolved over centuries. Citing orators such as Daniel Webster, Frederick Douglas, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King, Webber's insightful new book looks at America's great speeches and their historical context, focusing attention on particular individuals who summed up the issues of their own day, in words that have never been forgotten. Drop by our Visitor Center to pick up your own copy.

Trustee Doug Monroe talks to Chris Webber.

Pulitzer-prize winning author Doris Kearns Goodwin! Mr. Henry was here to greet her.
Tales from Edgar Allan Poe and graveyard tours were held on Saturday, October 25. We welcomed guests to the cemetery who enjoyed speaking with spirits, including Eliza Poe (Edgar’s mother), George Wythe, his murderous nephew, and James McNaught. The event peaked when the church doors were opened to the sounds of creepy organ music followed by spooky tales told by Poe. This is an annual event so if you missed it this year, be sure to watch our calendar of events on our website and plan to join us next October!
The Voice / Fall 2014

Taking it to the Streets: Making History Widely Accessible

Excerpts from a Lecture by Dr. Dan Roberts presented on October 29th at St. John’s Church to Supporters of our “Give Me History!” Educational Program for Underprivileged Richmond-area School Children

DR. DAN ROBERTS is a Professor of Liberal Arts and History as well as the Chairman of the Departhe is the executive producer and host of the award-winning radio series, A Moment in Time which was created to excite and enlighten the public about the past, its relevance to the present, and its impact on the future. A Moment in Time is a captivating historical narrative that is currently broadcast worldwide.

A Moment in Time originates in Richmond, Virginia, on public radio station 88.9 FM-- WCVE and is heard by more than four million listeners each day on over 146 public and commercial radio stations throughout the United States, plus the 400 stations of the Armed Forces Radio Network worldwide.

In our fast-paced culture of information technology, there is an alarming ignorance of the influence of the past on current events.

One study confirmed “four out of five of....college seniors would get no higher than a D on a high-school history test.” – the leaders of America drifting into the future in blissful ignorance.

Cut off from the past, our children may be growing up in an environment where the sordid revelations of talk shows make prime time news. Little time is taken for reasoned reflection and, because of the pace of events and instant coverage of those events, each new crisis takes on a life of its own. Not infrequently, the observer is caught thinking that a problem is so new and bizarre that a solution is impossible. Even worse, in their hubris, some may conclude that a solution is actually possible when it is not, whereupon, treasure and blood may be spilled in vain.

Are we casting up a generation cut off from its past, unable to understand the historic forces breaking against it from all sides? Perhaps. We could wring our hands in desperation, call for vast new government expenditures, or hunker down and pray that some miracle will spare us the ill effects of this creeping callowness.

I would like to offer several suggestions that if applied might help reverse this trend.

First, those of us who are professional historians have a part to play in this prospective historical renaissance. We have a double task. The profession must continue to produce clear and accurate historical work, but we also must be willing to get that work out to a wider audience.

The late Daniel Boorstin, who was a very good historian and Librarian of Congress, said that trying to plan for the future without a sense of the past is like trying to plant cut flowers. We’re raising a lot of cut flowers...and it scares me to death.”

I AM A PUBLIC HISTORIAN. My calling in life is to make academic history accessible. Over the last few years, teachers, parents, legislators, politicians, education administrators, and average citizens have become concerned that our society is losing its ties with the past.

“By the turn of the 20th century, however, historians were insisting on a more exact, even scientific, search for data – and on a more dispassionate analysis. Soon it became clear that historians are not machines into which facts are thrust and from which analysis emerges unsullied by cant, confusion, opinion, or bias. Historians are human beings who all too often struggle without enthusiasm against their own prejudices. The best historical work today involves the meticulous examination of primary documents, periodic reexamination of long-held conclusions, and rigorous debate about interpretation. In the face of declining historical understanding, historians must continue to do the best scholarly work possible.

At the same time they must seek every opportunity to make the results of this effort interesting and arresting to wider audiences. Sweating our scholarly research is just the beginning; at least some additional energy must be applied to making the results effective in education for a mass audience.

Now, laying out your work for wider public scrutiny is risky business. It may reveal it as irrelevant or even worse, boring.

At the same time, producing history that reaches a mass audience is also dangerous professionally. This enterprise often invites the disdain of more traditional historians who see the exercise of...
public history as trivial and themselves as keepers of the holy grail – grumpily fearful lest someone, somewhere, enjoy the study of the past.

Historical fiction if appropriately applied and accurately researched, can advance the cause of education. I made my entry into the study of the past through historical fiction, but my development did not stop there. A couple of very good high school history teachers and a couple of very good college teachers and I was hooked.

My point is that the profession must continue to make its unique scholarly contribution, but must also eschew its pristine academic virtue and be willing to get its feet dirty out where real people live and live in confusion and ignorance. **Historians can provide the necessary corrective and information that will lift the national conversation to a new level of intelligent discourse.**

Second, I believe that society as a whole also must accept responsibility for this slide into ignorance, and must do so by some fundamental policy adjustments. We must insist that history be an integral part of school curricula at all levels. No student should be 12 months away from a course in history.

Business and professional leaders need to take the lead in building support for life-long learning, not just job-related education. Increasingly we are finding that employers recognize that a valuable employee is one that can think globally, sees the big picture, and is able to engage in problem-solving and critical thinking. Gov. Richard Riley, Former Secretary of Education, reminds us that the top 10 jobs in 2010 did not exist in 2004. We are preparing students for jobs that don’t exist yet, to use technologies that are not even in place yet, solving problems that we don’t even recognize as problems. How do you prepare a student today for the 10 to 14 jobs they will have in their working lifetime?

Several years ago I became involved with a wonderful little history program **A Moment in Time** which we originally produced for public radio and which is now on many other outlets.

We have learned several things in the course of this exercise. First, in the late twentieth and early twenty-first century, people learn differently. They get their information in 30-second bursts. They are uncomfortable with long scholarship in the same direction. Short form delivery of high quality information can help people improve their overall knowledge base.

Second, to make an impact on a mass audience, you have to go where they are, not wait for them to come to you. To reach that group with the story of the past will require leveraging expertise and creativity with the power of advertising. **We need to create accurate and compelling historical vehicles for radio and television and the internet, interactive and multimedia tools and exciting historical locations such as St. John’s Church to aid parents, schools, teachers and students as they expand their historical perspective.**

Third, people of all ages, particularly the “baby boom” generation and their children, respond to compelling and effective ways of teaching history. There is a growing and genuine hunger to learn more about the past, yet at the same time there is resistance to traditional methods of “learning it.”

Therefore we have concluded that one of the most effective ways of teaching history, or for that matter science, literature, and the arts, is to convey it as a story. **We must take it to the streets, we must recapture and resurrect the narrative tradition.**

---

**We’ve Raised the Roof! CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE**

After careful consideration, we have increased the Phase 2 budget from $324,000 to $379,862 to take advantage of opportunities during Phase 2 work to address other preservation issues. While the Hendricks Tile roof is being removed from the church, a structural engineer will use this opportunity to study the roof framing to determine if the lighter copper roof will allow for the removal of the 12 visible tie rods located inside the church.

Other issues have come up that require immediate attention and need to be remedied during this phase such as replacing a cracked sewer pipe to the Visitors bathrooms which has caused repeated blockages that have interrupted tourist services. Additionally, during the winter months the treatment proposal for the original sounding board located above the pulpit can be completed. This will give the structural engineer time to work on his report.

We hope you are as thrilled as we are by the progress we are making. Again, we can not thank our donors enough for the help with preserving this National Historic Landmark.

---

**We are certain that there is no better way to learn about the founding of America than by visiting St. John’s Church. Historic St. John’s Church serves as a critical link to the past and as a teaching tool - symbolizing the uniquely American model of freedom, independence and the fierce protection of our individual rights and liberties.**

If you would like to donate to our preservation work, please contact swhting@saintjohns.cc or call 804-649-0263.
We had a very busy and educational summer! Our free summer reenactment series had record attendance which has encouraged us to add select Saturday reenactments to the 2015 summer schedule. Be sure to check our website for those dates. Don’t forget, we are now taking reservations online for reenactment seating—reserve today so you don’t have to wait in line! We are very grateful to the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation for making our free summer reenactments possible.

Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps

We hosted the Plymouth Youth Fife and Drum Corps for a special performance and reenactment in August as part of their Virginia tour. They were a wonderfully talented group—and they thoroughly enjoyed the Second Virginia Convention as well. You can see a video about their visit on our YouTube channel at http://tinyurl.com/youthfife

Colonial Kids Camp

It is always a pleasure to welcome our little delegates from neighborhood development centers to our week-long summer camp. This year we were able to serve elementary children from Peter Paul Development Center and FRIENDS Association. All week long the kids enjoyed colonial crafts, tours, and activities. The highlights of the week included a visit from George Washington and a performance by the campers of the Second Virginia Convention. The camp counselors were comprised of college students all studying to be educators. It's hard to tell who enjoys the week more—the counselors or the campers!
We hear it all the time: a picture is worth a thousand words.” The picture below speaks volumes and begs a question. Where else can a student experience a reenactment of Patrick Henry’s “Liberty or Death” speech in the same place where it occurred, and afterward, ask George Washington a question? The answer is simple; nowhere else than right here at historic St. John’s Church in Richmond, Virginia.

The exchange captured in the photo between a fourth-grader in our “Give Me History!” program and George Washington is a wonderful example of the magical moments that happen here at St. John’s Church; moments when teaching, curiosity, and understanding come together to bring history to life.

Our supporters make these moments possible and make the difference in what we can achieve. With your help we can continue to make a profound impact in the life of a young student or an adult who seeks to understand the founding of America.

With your help we can preserve St. John’s Church, one of the most historically significant buildings remaining in America today.

Our Annual Fund campaign supports the work that we accomplish throughout the year. Your gift provides for:

- Free “Liberty or Death” reenactments each Sunday from Memorial Day to Labor Day for over 5,000 attendees,
- The careful preservation of St. John’s Church, a National Historic Landmark,
- “Give Me History!” - a free educational program that has served over 25,000 underprivileged students in Richmond-area schools since 2009, and
- Daily guided tours and special events for our nearly 40,000 visitors a year.

If our mission and programs are valuable to you, we ask that you please consider a donation to our 2014 Annual Fund. It is important for our donors to know that we do not receive any state, federal, or church funding of any kind. We depend on generous donors like you to help us to preserve historic St. John’s Church and to interpret its rich history.

7th Grader Helps Raise Money for Preservation

Salaar Khan has a bright smile, a can-do attitude and a love of American history. As president of the history club at Moody Middle School, Salaar helped us out. Salaar heard about our preservation needs and fundraising efforts when he and his family attended a reenactment this summer. With the help of his friend Chris Snyder, Salaar took it upon himself to raise money to replace the leaking church roof. The duo worked hard and raised $199 for the Legacy of Liberty Preservation Project from neighbors, family and friends.

We were so touched by Salaar’s efforts that we just had to tell everyone about it. When Salaar brought us the donation, I had the pleasure of meeting not only him but also his father and sister. We thanked Salaar with a t-shirt and a book on Patrick Henry as we hope to encourage this budding historian to carry on with his learning. We know he will go far.

Salaar Khan has a bright smile, a can-do attitude and a love of American history. As president of the history club at Moody Middle School, Salaar helped us out. Salaar heard about our preservation needs and fundraising efforts when he and his family attended a reenactment this summer. With the help of his friend Chris Snyder, Salaar took it upon himself to raise money to replace the leaking church roof. The duo worked hard and raised $199 for the Legacy of Liberty Preservation Project from neighbors, family and friends.

We were so touched by Salaar’s efforts that we just had to tell everyone about it. When Salaar brought us the donation, I had the pleasure of meeting not only him but also his father and sister. We thanked Salaar with a t-shirt and a book on Patrick Henry as we hope to encourage this budding historian to carry on with his learning. We know he will go far.

Sarah Whiting, Executive Director
The Voice   /   Fall 2014

The other two were pruned. We are thrilled to see what a positive difference it has made for viewing both the church and Parish Hall. This maintenance will ensure that the Parish Hall’s new roof will last longer and not deteriorate.

National Trust for Historic Preservation Grant Received for Sounding Board Treatment Study

St. John’s Church Foundation was awarded a $2,850 grant by the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation to pay for the conservation assessment of the colonial-era sounding board above the pulpit at historic St. John’s Church—one of the most important icons of colonial Virginia history.

The assessment, to be completed by conservator F. Carey Howlett, will include a careful treatment plan to evaluate the sounding board and determine the best course of action for conservation and care. The plan will include research, analysis of the construction and materials, microscopic paint analysis to determine the original surface coatings, and microscopic wood analysis to determine the wood composition.

In support of our efforts, Carl Lounsbury, Senior Architectural Historian at Colonial Williamsburg said: “I welcome the idea to undertake a serious assessment of the sounding board’s condition and develop a treatment plan for its conservation. It is one of only three colonial sounding boards in Virginia.”

Help us with the matching grant. We have received $700 toward the $2,850 match. To make a donation contact 804-649-0263 or email Sarah Whiting at swhiting@saintjohns.cc.

“Organizations like St. John’s Church Foundation help to ensure that communities and towns across America retain their unique sense of place,” said Stephanie Meeks, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. “We are honored to provide a grant to St. John’s Church Foundation, which will use the funds to help preserve an important piece of our shared national heritage.”
PROGRAM FAQS

- Accessibility: Historic St. John's Church welcomes all visitors. We are fully wheelchair accessible. We offer handicapped parking on 24th street, directly in front of the elevator, which leads to the church grounds.
- A small parking lot at the corner of 24th and Marshall Streets is available for parking. However, street parking is plentiful.
- Seating is first come, first served. Seat saving will not be permitted. The entire party must be present before seating will take place.
- Doors will close once the church reaches capacity or when the reenactment or special event begins. **No admittance after the reenactment or special event begins.**
- This reenactment is not recommended for children under the age of 6. We ask that parents escort restless children outside so that the audience is not disturbed. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!
- No still or video photography is permitted during reenactments. Actors will be available on the grounds for photos after reenactments.
- No food, beverages, gum, strollers or backpacks are permitted in the church. Bags are subject to search.
See What We Can Do with Your Support

Our thanks go to MeadWestvaco Foundation for their generous grant which allowed us to purchase new wigs and costumes for our actors and interpreters. We are so excited, we flipped our wigs. Video here: http://tinyurl.com/flipourwigs

Want to get a great overview of our mission and work in 5 minutes? Check out our impact video here: http://tinyurl.com/SJCFimpact

If you like what you see, tell your friends and family, come visit and please consider a donation to our annual fund to keep us going. Thanks for your support!