

FARMVILLE - PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Monthly Newsletter

NO APRIL MEETING!

Due to the ongoing concerns with the COVID-19 pandemic and the government mandated quarantine we will not be meeting this month.

Update from our President Jimmy Hurt

A few years ago the FPEHS presented a program on The Old Farmville Airport which included some information regarding The Farmville Aeronautical School. Just recently more information has come to us on the aeronautical school and one of its students. This new information tells us The Farmville Aeronautical School was established at the Farmville High School on First Avenue in Farmville as a government training program. Due to a fire in 1936 at the high school which destroyed the high school, The Farmville Aeronautical School was relocated to The Old Farmville Airport in west Farmville. Students erected a new airport building which continued to serve

the new school. Included in our previous program we featured several photos of a 1942 Class Ring from the aeronautical school. The photos reveal the initials "WJV" on the inside of the ring.



Recently received data that included a list of many of the aeronautical students names. From this list we have been able to contact a family in Virginia that we believe once owned the ring. At a future FPEHS meeting we plan to bring to you the story of The Lost & Found Farmville Aeronautical School Class Ring.

IT HAPPENED IN APRIL...

- 4-2-1905 The first black Baptist Church freed itself of indebtedness
- 4-3-1944 Gov. Darden attends banquet honoring the local company of Virginia State Guard
- 4-6-1865 Confederate forces are defeated in several battles along Saylor's Creek
- 4-6-1865 Gen. Robert E. Lee spends the night at Farmville's Randolph House hotel
- 4-7-1865 High Bridge partially burned; skirmish at Worsham; Federals occupy Hampden-Sydney; battles at Cumberland Church and Plank Road, Farmville occupied
- 4-7-1865 Gen. Grant, staying at Randolph House hotel, sends a note to Lee encouraging surrender
- 4-8-1865 U.S. Army consolidates at Prospect depot en route to Appomattox Court House
- 4-9-1865 Army of Northern Virginia surrenders to Gen. Grant at Appomattox Court House
- 4-10-1865 Gen. Grant spends night near Prospect United Methodist Church
- 4-12-1861 Regional Congressman Roger Pryor helps to open fire on Fort Sumter
- 4-12-1917 Farmville Guard dispatched to St. Paul, Virginia, to guard bridges and tunnels
- 4-13-1803 Initial meeting of board of Buffalo Circulating Library
- 4-13-1920 Mrs. Martha E. Forrester holds first meeting of her Council of Negro Women
- 4-14-1938 Asa Dickinson Watkins, sheriff, judge, commonwealth attorney, died
- 4-14-1974 Coronary Intensive Care Unit opens at Southside Community Hospital
- 4-15-1895 Thornton-Pickett Camp of United Confederate Veterans organized
- 4-15-1933 Roy Clark born nearby in Meherrin
- 4-16-1865 Memorial service for President Lincoln is held in Farmville Presbyterian Church
- 4-17-1924 B. M. Cox, sheriff, postmaster, Normal School business manager, died
- 4-21-1861 County representative J. T. Thornton votes for Virginia secession (vote: 88-55)
- 4-21-1936 Farmville High School burns
- 4-22-1866 Henry Watkins Allen dies in exile in Mexico City
- 4-22-1892 Birth of civil rights leader, Dr. Vernon Johns, near Darlington Heights
- 4-23-1919 Carter Glass trophy train came to Farmville displaying captured World War I weapons and material
- 4-23-1951 450 Moton High School students stage strike, protesting inadequate facilities
- 4-24-2001 The Rotunda and Ruffner East and West destroyed by fire; Grainger Hall destroyed beyond repair
- 4-25-1946 Thomas Hardy Graham VFW Post organized.
- 4-26-1924 Taylor Manufacturing Company located end of Buffalo Street burned
- 4-27-1951 Farmville Herald dismisses Moton student strike as a "lack of discipline"
- 4-29-1820 Henry Watkins Allen, Brigadier General, CSA, and governor of Louisiana born near Farmville
- 4-29-1895 Philanthropist Lewis Ginter offers Richmond site for relocating Union Seminary
- 4-29-1903 Farmville N&W Passenger Station opened
- 4-30-1904 Colonel Richard A. Booker, Captain of Farmville Guard, tobacconist and proprietor of Randolph House, died