



Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society

P.O. Box 546

Farmville, Virginia 23901

July, 2009

Crossing the Dan

"Lord Cornwallis had to catch General Nathanael Greene before he could cross the Dan River in Virginia to re-enforce his troops. The Dan River was the finish line."

Presented by John Noel

Tuesday, July 21, 2009

7:00 p.m.

PE Co Agricultural Center
Hwy 15 South to 100 Dominion Drive
Beside Water Tower, next to Lowe's

Board Meets at 6:00 p.m.

"Luring the British troops far from their supply base in Charleston, South Carolina, the Colonials raced with Cornwallis in hot pursuit to the Dan River. Greene's troops crossed in pre-positioned ferries and boats only hours ahead of the British light cavalry. Without boats, the stranded and frustrated British retreated to Hillisborough, North Carolina.

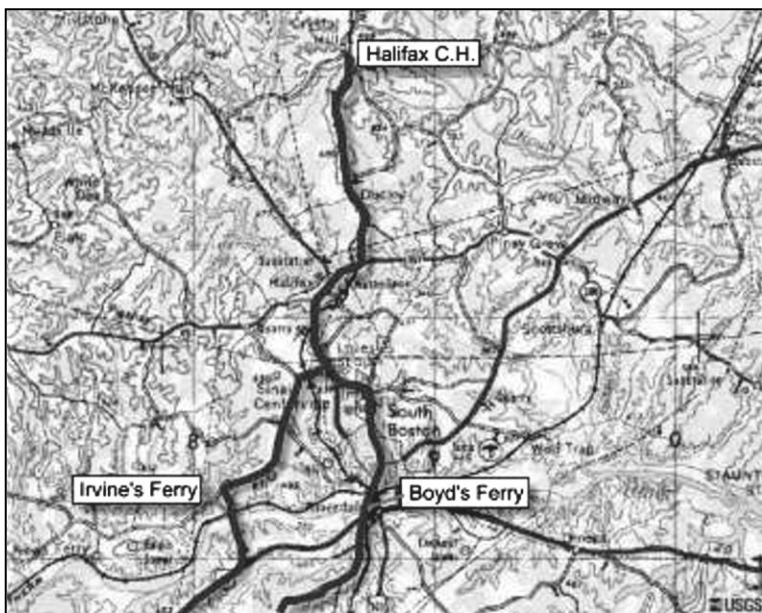
"Green used the next few days in Halifax County, Virginia, to gather new troops, needed supplies, and horses in preparation for a planned, direct encounter with the Redcoats."

-- www.prizery.com/ExhibitPlanningOverview.htm



"Lord Cornwallis had to catch General Nathanael Greene (right) before he could cross the Dan River in Virginia to re-enforce this troops. The Dan River was the finish line.

"The action was a brilliant strategic maneuver ending at Irvine's and Boyd's ferries in Halifax, Virginia, (map below) on February 13 – 14, 1781. The British lost the race as well as any hope to control the southern theater. Cornwallis had been outgeneraled in being attracted too far in an unsuccessful pursuit.



John Noel, featured speaker, has local ties

John Noel lives in Charlotte County in the Bethlehem Church area with my wife Carol and two daughters, Sarah, and Elizabeth. He will be starting his eighth year at Randolph-Henry High School teaching Dual Enrollment U.S. History and Political Science as an adjunct instructor for SVCC. Before teaching at Randolph-Henry High, John worked at PEA/Fuqua and Amelia County Middle School. He holds a BA in history from Longwood and a MA in military history from American Military University and is currently enrolled in a graduate program in political science at AMU.

Map of Greene's Crossing of the Dan

This Day in July in Prince Edward County History

- 7-1-1900 Leslie Fogus joins Farmville police.
- 7-1-1934 Craddock-Terry commences manufacturing shoes.
- 7-1-2000 Longwood College assumes new designation as Longwood University
- 7-2-1896 Solomon Marable hanged for the murder of Mrs. Pollard
- 7-3-1902 The first automobile makes its appearance in Farmville; it was driven by Mr. A.F. Herman of Richmond, on his way to Lynchburg
- 7-4-1776 George Walton (born near Farmville, ca 1741) signs Declaration of Independence as delegate from Georgia
- 7-6-1901 Lightning strikes the Presbyterian Church steeple causing fire and \$300 in damage
- 7-7-1901 Bottling house at Lithia Springs burned
- 7-10-1927 Amandus Cox, livery stable operator, died
- 7-10-1928 First traffic light installed at Third and Main streets
- 7-11-1861 "Hampden-Sydney Boys" military company surrenders after battle of Rich Mountain in present-day West Virginia
- 7-12-1864 Birth of Henry R. McIlwaine at Hampden-Sydney (Virginia State Librarian, 1907-1934)
- 7-13-1781 Notorious British calvaryman, Colonel Banastre Tarleton, raids area around Prince Edward Court House village
- 7-16-1832 Hampden-Sydney literary society requests that Bible be taught as a college course
- 7-17-1825 James T. Gray, Farmville tobacconist, born
- 7-17-1843 First class meets at Farmville Female Seminary, which was founded in 1839
- 7-18-1955 A three-judge Federal Court rules the Prince Edward County will have to desegregate its public schools
- 7-22-1903 Southside Telephone Company chartered
- 7-23-1864 Dr. J.R. Spencer born
- 7-23-1836 The Mineralogical Society of Virginia formed in Worsham
- 7-26-1940 Farmville is the nation's hot spot. Thermometer tops 135° and then explodes!
- 7-27-1896 The Pythians reorganize their lodge here.



Beulah African Methodist Episcopal Church 115 South Main Street

In 1868, a number of black members of the Farmville Methodist Church decided to establish a church connected with the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The original frame building burned in 1900. The present brick structure was built in 1901.

Mark August and September calendars

On August 18, George Peers, former sheriff and county clerk for Appomattox County, will provide a look at the Court House village area on those fateful days in April, 1865. Peers will be portrayed by veteran, living history interpreter and Appomattox Court House National Historical Park Historian, Patrick Schroeder.

On September 27, the Virginia Historic Highway marker for Israel Hill will be dedicated. Among the speakers will be Dr. Melvin Ely, author of *Israel on the Appomattox*. More details will be announced later.

