



Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society

P.O. Box 546

Farmville, Virginia 23901

March, 2011

The April 6, 1865 Battle of High Bridge

Presented by

Michael Lucas

Tuesday, March 15, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Farmville Train Station

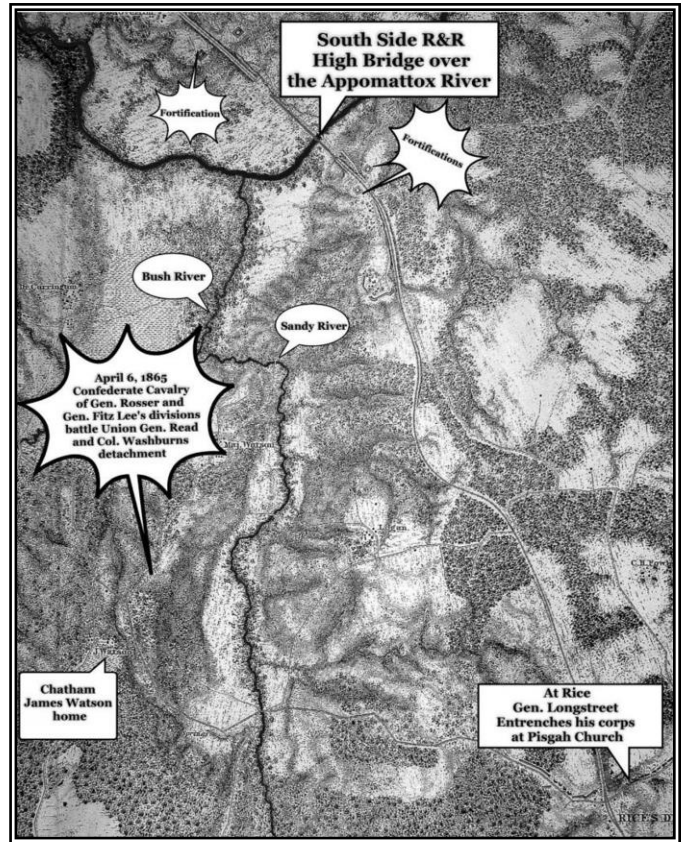
Board Meets at 6:00 p.m.

Lucas will discuss the Battle of High Bridge

Michael Lucas, owner and curator of the High Bridge Battlefield Museum, will speak about the Battle of High Bridge of April 6, 1865. He will touch on the use of the cavalry during the Appomattox Campaign.

Lucas, originally from Charlotte County, has ancestral ties to both Charlotte and Prince Edward counties. Growing up on a small farm, he “gained an appreciation for the labor of agriculture and simpler times of [his] forefathers.” Having an avid interest in the War Between the States since he was four years old, he began his career in history by volunteering and working as a historian and historical interpreter for public and private museums, and state and national museums. He has worked at the Jamestown Settlement, Colonial Williamsburg, and the Richmond, Petersburg and Gettysburg national parks.

Lucas is a US Army veteran, having served in Iraq in 2007-2008, and he still serves our nation.



In 2005, Lucas and his wife purchased a piece of property on the High Bridge Battlefield with the dream of preserving the battle's history by establishing a museum dedicated to that purpose. While deployed with the Virginia Army National Guard in 2007, his family was chosen by Extreme Makeover Home Edition for the completion of the renovation of the battlefield home Chatham and the construction of the current museum structure.

Michael Lucas says, “I have researched the April 6th battle of High Bridge and collected and cataloged artifacts, documents, and resources about the battle and its participants. I am currently editing my manuscript on the battle, which we hope to have published in the near future.

“The High Bridge Battlefield Museum is open to the public by appointment only with an admission of \$5. The fees go toward operational expenses and the preservation of the museum collection. It also includes an optional battlefield tour.”

For further information please visit highbridgebattlefieldmuseum.com. Graphics in this newsletter are from the High Bridge Museum site.

Mark your calendars for April and May programs

The Rev. Dr. William Thompson will speak to the historical society on Tuesday, April 19. about "Prince Edward County, 1820-1870: Slavery, War, Abolition." Be sure to attend to hear his informative and entertaining presentation.

Author Ruth Doumlele will be here on Tuesday, May 17, to discuss her book *The Randolph Woman and Their Men*. She will be doing a book signing along with her presentation.

This Day in Prince Edward County History

- 3-1-1841** Blanche Kelso Bruce, first black U.S. Senator (elected from Mississippi), born in Farmville
- 3-1-1899** Gov. P.W. McKinney died at his home in Farmville
- 3-1-1917** Farmville Guard returned from Mexican Expedition.
- 3-1-1943** World War II canned goods rationing began
- 3-2-1942** World War II defense training classes begin for Prince Edward citizens
- 3-2-1964** Prince Edward Hotel collapses while under renovation
- 3-3-1884** Farmville and Powhatan Railroad chartered (narrow-gauge line to James River)
- 3-4-1903** Tobacco factory known as "Dunlop's" burned, half million pounds of tobacco lost
- 3-4-1913** Farmville Guard marches at Woodrow Wilson's Inaugural
- 3-4-1949** East wing of State Teachers College burned, displacing 46 students
- 3-5-1839** Farmville Female Seminary established by local supporters (official birthdate of Longwood University)
- 3-5-1846** The South Side Rail Road chartered
- 3-6-1935** Birth of Barbara Johns, organizer of 1951 student strike at Moton School
- 3-7-1884** Virginia General Assembly passes law establishing State Female Normal School to train teachers at the already-existing "female seminary"
- 3-7-1886** State Female Normal School incorporated
- 3-7-1921** J.B. Wall purchased *The Farmville Herald*
- 3-8-1938** Farmville Rotary Club organized
- 3-10-1816** Judith Randolph, Farmville's "matriarch" died in Richmond, far from Bizarre plantation
- 3-12-1896** Farmville Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy organized
- 3-12-1956** "Southern Manifesto" introduced in U.S. Congress as regional attempt to offset effects of *Brown v. Board of Education*
- 3-13-1926** Devastating fire on Main Street. Burns 8 buildings in seven hours
- 3-13-1974** Uniroyal began finishing golf balls in the Farmville plant
- 3-15-1781** Peter Francisco and dozens of Prince Edward volunteers support Continental Gen. Greene at Battle of Guilford C. H. in North Carolina
- 3-15-1924** Star Warehouse burned to the ground
- 3-17-1917** Garden Club organized
- 3-19-1872** Last session held in 118-year old county court at Worsham
- 3-20-1775** Patrick Henry's "Liberty or Death" speech in Richmond
- 3-20-1821** Hampden-Sydney trustees begin plans for its signature building New College (Cushing Hall)
- 3-21-1891** Gen. Joseph Eggleston Johnston died in Washington D.C.
- 3-21-1903** All saloons closed under the dispensary act
- 3-22-1807** Former U.S. Vice President Aaron Burr spends night as prisoner at Prince Edward tavern on the way to his trial for treason
- 3-23-1861** The tobacco factory of Peters & Blanton burned
- 3-23-1902** "Billy" the *Herald's* office mocking bird found dead
- 3-24-1975** Amtrak's first stop in town "The Mountaineer" made the pull
- 3-26-1872** First session of carpetbagger-sanctioned county court at relocated judicial site in Farmville
- 3-27-1837** Farmville and Danville Railroad Co. chartered
- 3-28-1954** Fluorine is added to the water supply
- 3-28-1962** Martin Luther King, Jr., visits Farmville in support of reopening the public school system
- 3-29-1897** McDaniel family opens county's first private school for black children
- 3-29-1957** Hampden-Sydney's McIlwaine Hall burns under suspicious circumstances
- 3-31-1938** Farmville Rotary Club chartered