



Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society

P.O. Box 546

Farmville, Virginia 23901

August, 2012

“The Floods of Farmville”

Presented by

Jimmy Hurt, Billy Poulston, and Bob Flippen

**Tuesday, August 21, 2012
7:00 p.m.**

Farmville Train Station

Guests Always Welcomed

Board Meets at 6:00 p.m.

“The Floods of Farmville”

This month’s program will be led by society members Jimmy Hurt (*Dollar Bill’s*), Billy Poulston (*Poulston Appliance*), and local historian Bob Flippen. It will feature many photos of the floods that have taken place in Farmville. It will include a power point presentation featuring pictures taken by local citizens and the Farmville Herald, including a few aerial photos. The main feature is a six minute video movie shot by Wayne Meshejian on June 22, 1972.



East 3rd St. – A&P, Dr. Moore’s, Economy Mkt. - 1972

Some of the items to be discussed will be: road damages, closures, bridges; water plant closed with no town water; losses to businesses, stores, and restaurants from having no electricity. We will also discuss the Flood Recovery and

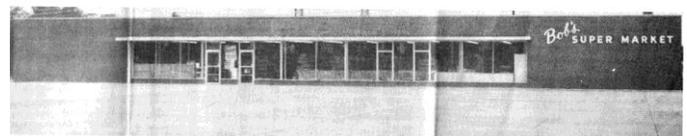
the quick, cooperative efforts of the community. The 1972 flood had long lasting effects, such as buildings built on higher grounds, elevated lots (i.e.: DMV, new library), businesses relocated, and building of the Farmville 460/15 bypass 4 years later. It also changed the growth pattern of Farmville. The growth to the west of town slowed or stopped, with more development to the south end of town.



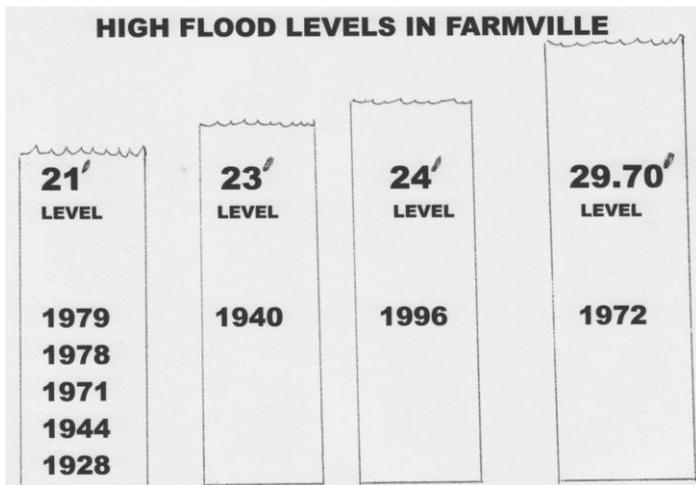
Farmville Fire Dept. on South St. - 1972

In 1972 it was a different town, and a different era:

Gas was 33 cents a gallon at Bill McChristian’s Gulf station. Tom Bloomfield was Town Manager. The Rescue Squad was in the Little Oil Co. building, with their new place next to Deluxe Cleaners completed a few months after the flood. Newman Chevrolet was on 2nd and South Streets. Davis Pontiac was beside Bob’s Supermarket. Montgomery Ward and Collins Funeral Home were behind First National Bank. Hardees was on W. 3rd St, and Pizza Hut was under construction.



Bob’s Supermarket – West 3rd St. – 1972



Since 1926, when records started, there have been 108 reports of water levels at or over the 12 foot mark which includes 74 reports of 16 foot (flood stage) and over.



West 3rd St. at Buffalo River – 1972



Water Treatment Plant on West 3rd St – 1940

New Members:

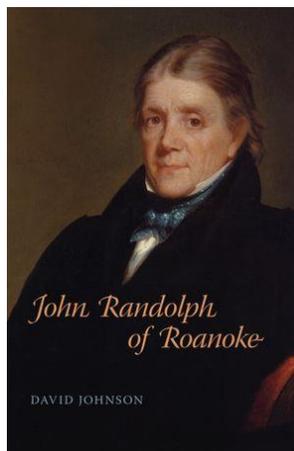
John D. Miller – Farmville
 James D., Martha K., and James Settle – Forest
 Caroline Stowers - Richmond

This Day in August in Prince Edward County History

- 8-1-1922** Death of prominent Prince Edward tobacco merchant Walter Grey Dunnington, owner of Poplar Hill
- 8-2-1897** Civil rights activist W. E. B. DuBois studies Prince Edward County's black population for U.S. Labor Commission report
- 8-4-1851** Francis Carr and Christian Ehrman contracted with the Southside Railroad to build the High Bridge original wooden superstructure.
- 8-4-1899** Edward Wiltse, jeweler and silversmith, died
- 8-4-1922** J. C. Brickert seeks location at Third and Randolph streets to locate Farmville's first service station
- 8-5-1942** First daylight air raid test
- 8-8-1907** Prince Edward Hotel opened
- 8-8-1952** Farmville Drive-in opened on Route 15 just south of Farmville
- 8-10-1993** By-laws adopted for Rural Education Foundation, creating the Fuqua School that replaced Prince Edward Academy
- 8-14-1902** Work commences to build Norfolk & Western station
- 8-14-1945** County-wide nighttime celebrations for end of World War II
- 8-17-1947** WFLO went on the air
- 8-18-1913** Henry Lindsey elected Fire Chief
- 8-19-1962** Saylor's Creek Battlefield Park dedicated
- 8-20-1969** Hurricane Camille brings flooding to Farmville
- 8-24-1884** Farmville Lithia Springs incorporate
- 8-26-1867** Prince Edward resident and nationally-recognized educator Robert Rousa Moton born in Amelia County
- 8-27-1894** Gov. O'Ferrall arrives for visit to Farmville
- 8-27-1909** Farmville Silver Band's first open air concert
- 8-30-1895** The Confederate Monument Association organized
- 8-30-1905** Partial eclipse of the sun witnessed

Upcoming Program

September 18, 2012 – Program by David E. Johnson, from Midlothian, on “*John Randolph of Roanoke*”



One of the most eccentric and accomplished politicians in all of American history, John Randolph (1773-1833) led a life marked by controversy. The long-serving Virginia congressman and architect of southern conservatism grabbed headlines with his prescient comments, public brawls, and clashes with every president from John Adams to Andrew Jackson. The first biography of Randolph in nearly a century, *John Randolph of Roanoke* provides

a full account of the powerful Virginia planter's hard-charging life and his impact on the formation of conservative politics.

In this rich biography, David Johnson draws upon an impressive array of primary sources--Randolph's letters, speeches, and writings--previously unavailable to scholars. *John Randolph of Roanoke* tells the story of a young nation and the unique philosophy of a southern lawmaker who defended America's agrarian tradition and reveled in his own controversy.