



# Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society

P.O. Box 546

Farmville, Virginia 23901

October, 2012

## **“A Conversation with Patrick Henry”**

**Presented by**

**William A. Young**

**Tuesday, October 16, 2012**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Hampden Sydney College – Parents  
and Friends Lounge, Venable Hall**

**Guests Always Welcomed**

**No Board Meeting**

October 16, 2012, 7:00 p.m. –



“A Conversation with Patrick Henry”, an interpretation of Patrick Henry in period dress by William A. Young. To be held at the Parents and Friends Lounge, Venable Hall, Hampden-Sydney College. Co-sponsored by the Atkinson Museum, H-SC. Bill has performed in 21 states and London, England. He is a retired trial lawyer and works as a

historical interpreter for the National Park Service at Jamestown, VA. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia and the University of Richmond Law School.

When Patrick Henry was a boy, no one dreamed that history would know him as the “Lion of Liberty.” He hated books and spent his time hunting and fishing. By the time he was 23, he had failed twice as a storekeeper and once as a tobacco farmer, but had a wife and two children to support. Then he became a lawyer, and there was no stopping him.

Henry became the best trial lawyer in Virginia and the greatest orator in the colonies. His success in the Parson’s Cause case made him a local celebrity. His speech against the hated British Stamp Act brought him national fame. He was a firebrand who called King George a “tyrant.” Henry was a man of the people who boldly said what other people were thinking.

Bill Young portrays Henry in the last year of his life as he reflects on his childhood, two marriages, religious convictions, love of children, various careers, and key contributions to the formation of the United States. The talk also includes excerpts from Henry’s best known speeches.

Bill’s costume is copied from a portrait of Henry and includes a scarlet cloak like Henry wore when he was Virginia’s first elected governor. The people insisted that Henry wear the same type cloak that all of the royal governors before him had worn. The cloak showed that the power of the king had become the power of the people.

Listen to Patrick Henry as he gives the call to arms and as his “Liberty or Death” speech becomes a rallying cry for the colonies. His words still stir the blood and ring as true today as they did in 1775. When you hear Bill Young as Patrick Henry, you will understand why history calls Henry the “Lion of Liberty.”

### **DIRECTIONS – from Farmville**

Go south on US-15 S to Kingsville Exxon

Turn right on State Rt. 133, go 0.2 mi.

Turn right on Rt. 692 College Road, go 1.2 mi.

Turn right on Via Sacra. Venable Hall/Parents & Friends Lounge is on the left, across from Johns Auditorium.

Address is: 77 Via Sacra, Farmville, VA 23901

Parking behind Museum and Venable Hall and on College Rd. **The Atkinson Museum will be open early.**



circa 1917 quilt donated to FPEHS to be displayed at the Farmville Visitor’s Center

## Upcoming Programs:

November 20, 2012, 7:00 p.m. – Annual Business meeting, Farmville Train Station.

December, 2012 – no meeting

January 16, 2013, 7:00 p.m. – Show and Tell. Bring something of interest to share with group.

February 19, 2013, 7:00 p.m. – *Railroads and the Civil War* with Howard Gregory.

March 19, 2013, 7:00 p.m. – *Mama, I Am yet Still Alive: A Composite Diary of 1863 in the Confederacy* by Jeff Toalson

April 16, 2013, 7:00 p.m. – Jimmy Hurt will be doing a program on the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Historic

Farmville Train Station. Anyone with information about the Train Station contact Jimmy Hurt at 434-392-8831.

## October in Prince Edward County History

- 10-1-1928** President Eggleston restores spelling “Sydney” in college’s name to match 1783 Charter
- 10-2-1892** Colored Baptist Church dedicated
- 10-3-1933** County citizens vote in favor (461 - 436) of retaining Prohibition
- 10-4-1798** First sale of lots in newly surveyed town of Farmville; purchasers agreed to build within 7 years
- 10-8-1890** John O. Collins, local inventor, receives gold medal from Paris World’s Fair for his railroad car coupler
- 10-9-1898** Dr. John Atkinson Cunningham, second president of the State Female Normal school, dies in Farmville
- 10-10-1910** Buck Fuqua, black restaurateur, died
- 10-11-1900** Confederate Monument unveiled, honoring county’s eight military companies
- 10-11-1918** Farmville native, Wiltshire C. Davis, 116<sup>th</sup> Infantry, receives distinguished Service Cross and the Croix de Guerre for bravery in battle exhibited near Verdun.
- 10-11-1979** Pepsi Cola commercial filmed at the Farmville train station.
- 10-12-1909** Remains of Gov. Beverly Randolph re-interred at West View cemetery
- 10-15-1902** O. T. Wicker, postmaster, mayor, councilman, died
- 10-15-1954** Hurricane Hazel comes through Farmville
- 10-15-1909** Andrew Reid Venable, Inspector General for J.E.B. Stuart, commission merchant, died
- 10-16-1859** John Brown’s Harper’s Ferry raid produces many enlistments for Prince Edward militia
- 10-19-1781** British surrender at Yorktown assures free county government
- 10-20-1871** Cornerstone laid for Prince Edward Courthouse in Farmville
- 10-20-1884** State Female Normal School opened with 110 students
- 10-20-1925** Hotel Weyanoke opens
- 10-21-1948** Farmville Sesquicentennial celebrated
- 10-21-1998** Farmville epicenter for an earthquake 1:57 a.m., 3.3 Richter scale
- 10-23-1897** Kappa Delta Sorority organized at the Normal School
- 10-24-1845** S.W. Paulette, Farmville’s “old Reb,” born
- 10-24-1946** Dabney S. Lancaster inaugurated president of State Teachers College
- 10-27-1859** Hampden-Sydney alumnus and future Confederate Brig. Gen. Roger Proyer is elected U.S. Congressman from this district
- 10-27-1901** Fire destroyed the dog pound of Farmville
- 10-29-1907** Several citizens witnessed the falling of a dazzling meteor

**DUES** – all existing member dues that are due through December 2012 will be \$10 individual/\$20 family.

Beginning January 2013, all members dues will be due as we change to a calendar year collection schedule January – December.

\$15.00 individual/\$25.00 family.