



## Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society

P.O. Box 546

Farmville, Virginia 23901

October 2014

### ***"Farmville Blueway"***

***by Damien Fehrer***

**Tuesday, October 21, 2014**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Farmville Train Station**

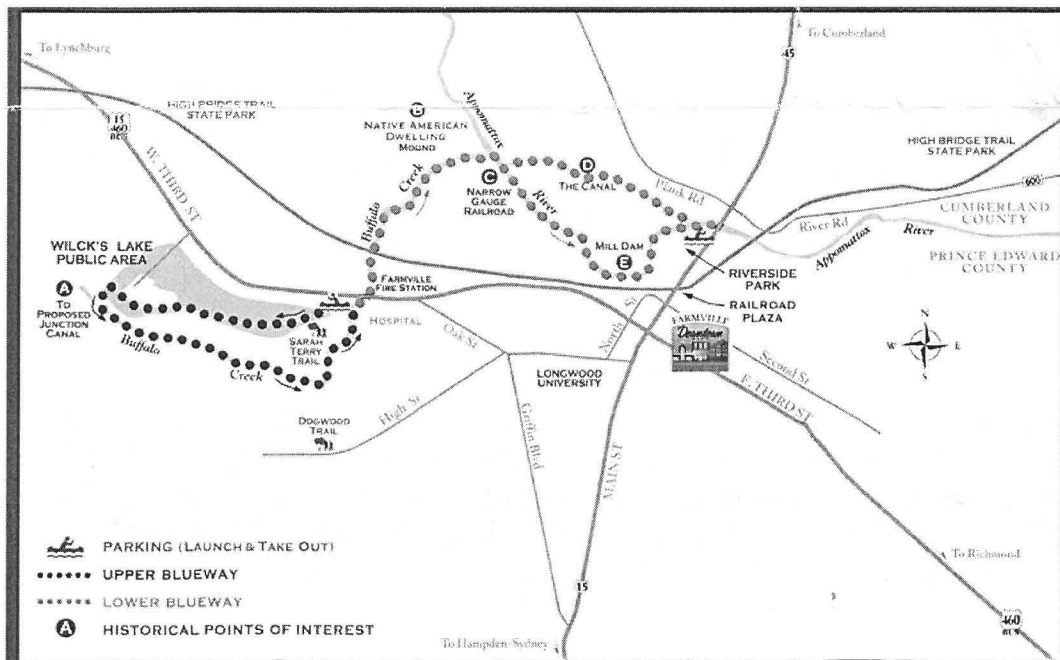
***Guests Always Welcomed***

**Board Meets at 6:00 p.m.**

Damien Fehrer grew up on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He has been paddling canoes and kayaks with family and friends since he was old enough to hold a paddle. Since those early adventures, he has paddled rivers, lakes, bays, and the ocean across the eastern United States from South Carolina to New York. In 1997 he took his mother on a whitewater rafting adventure in Alaska. Damien has been a member of the Friends of the Appomattox River since 2004. He was the President of FAR from 2007 to 2011 and has served as Chair of the Farmville Blueway Committee since 2012.



Mr. Fehrer's parents encouraged their family to get involved with community organizations and do something to make the world a better place. Damien strives to meet that goal by working with groups like the Friends of the Appomattox River to protect and promote important areas like the Appomattox River watershed. The Farmville Blueway is part of that watershed. It offers the community, and visitors, the opportunity to explore its twists and turns, learn about its historic features, and study its natural ones.



Mr. Fehrer will provide a program that explores the **Farmville Blueway** from a natural and historic perspective. The Farmville Blueway includes portions of Buffalo Creek and the Appomattox River and is approximately 4 miles of water trails. Making these streams easily accessible will serve the public interest and add vitality to our community by making an area rich in natural and human

history available for all to discover. The blueway designation will create a healthy future for the river while providing recreational and educational opportunities for the community. It will also allow our community to reap economic and social benefits from the river while maintaining their natural, historic, and scenic value.

The rich history of the Farmville Blueway corridor tells an important story. Along this route, Native Americans built a dwelling mound, self-employed former slaves found freedom working the river in bateaux, and the Farmville and Powhatan narrow gauge railroad built a bridge crossing the Appomattox. Remnants of the Prince Edward Mill Dam give witness to generations of river-centered lives. Today the river is an underutilized resource waiting to instruct and uplift those fortunate enough to visit it.

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

November 18, 2014, 6:00 p.m. – Annual Business

Meeting – no program

January 20, 2015 – “Show & Tell”

### **New Members:**

Julie Hosler & Family – Keysville

Warren and Linda Rofo – Farmville

Susan Gensel – Canton, GA

Stephen and Frances Barber – Farmville

**Donations** – the Farmville-Prince Edward Historical Society gladly accepts donations of historical artifacts, both from this locality and items of other importance. See Billy Poulston, historian, or any officer or member of the Board of Directors, to donate.

### **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

### **Membership Fees for 2015 due January 2015**

All membership fees will be due in January for the calendar year January – December 2015. You may pay your 2015 fee at our monthly meeting or send to PO Box 546, Farmville, VA 23901 – \$15.00 individual/\$25.00 family.