



# Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society

P.O. Box 546  
Farmville, Virginia 23901

April 2015

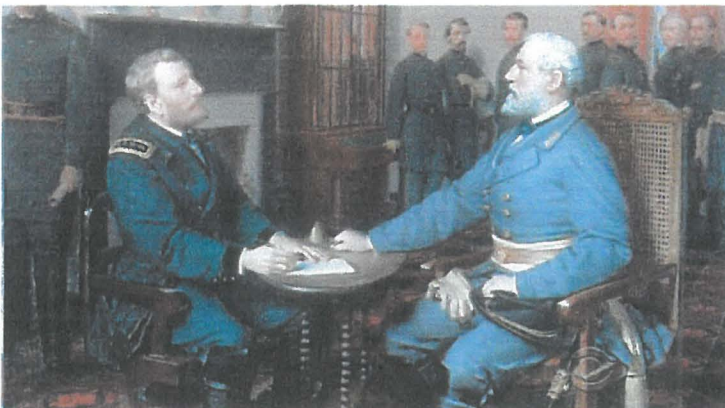
## **"Myths about Lee's Surrender" Patrick A. Schroeder**

**Tuesday, April 21, 2015  
7 p.m.  
Farmville Train Station**

**Guests Always Welcomed**

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

Patrick Schroeder of Appomattox Court House National Park is the speaker at the April meeting of the Farmville-Prince Edward Historical Society. "Myths about Lee's Surrender" is the topic of his presentation. Patrick, a Civil War Author and Historian, was born at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He attended Stuarts Draft High School in Augusta County. He graduated *Cum Laude* with a B.S. in Historical Park Administration from Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, West Virginia. He has an M.A. in Civil War History from Virginia Tech. From 1986 to 1993, and 1998 to 2001, Patrick worked as a seasonal living history interpreter at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park. In 1993, he wrote *Thirty Myths About Lee's Surrender*. In the



*Lee and Grant in the McLean House at Appomattox*

introduction to this booklet, he wrote: "People have a tendency to exaggerate or romanticize facts, embellishing actuality into mythical proportions. Just like the schoolroom game, if you tell a story to one person and they in turn pass it on to another person, by the time it reaches the last person it is no longer the same. History is much like this game... very seldom do two people see the same event exactly alike. The historian has to become a detective and sift through all the sources to come to a conclusion about the reality of the event."

From 1994 to 1999, Patrick worked at Red Hill, the Patrick Henry National Memorial. He has been the Historian at Appomattox since 2002. Recently, he was a presenter at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil War Seminar

at Longwood University. Patrick has written, edited, and/or contributed to more than 25 Civil War titles and articles, including *More Myths About Lee's Surrender*; *The Confederate Cemetery at Appomattox*; *Images of America: Appomattox County*; *Pennsylvania Bucktails*; and *We Came To Fight: A History*



Patrick Schroeder

*of the 5<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteer Infantry.*

In an effort to protect sites relevant to the Appomattox Campaign, Schroeder has set up the "Appomattox Fund" with the Civil War Preservation Trust, to save land important to the climactic events of April 1865.

Patrick was on the *CBS Evening News* on April 9, 2015, the 150th anniversary of the surrender.

## **Membership Fees Due For 2015**

All membership fees are now due 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 for an individual member or \$25 family membership. Please make checks payable to Farmville-Prince Edward Historical Society.

## **This Day in April in Prince Edward County History**

- 4-2-1905 The first black Baptist Church freed itself of indebtedness
- 4-3-1944 Gov. Darden attends banquet honoring the local company of Virginia State Guard
- 4-4-1902 "The Gladiator" opens at the Opera House
- 4-6-1865 Confederate forces are defeated in several battles along Sailor's Creek
- 4-7-1865 High Bridge partially burned; skirmish at Worsham; Federals occupy Hampden-Sydney; battles at Cumberland Church and Plank Road, Farmville occupied
- 4-7-1865 Gen. U. S. Grant, staying at Randolph House hotel, sends a note to Lee encouraging surrender
- 4-8-1865 U.S. Army segments consolidate at Prospect depot en route to Appomattox Court House
- 4-8-1896 Odd Fellows Lodge organized
- 4-9-1865 Army of Northern Virginia surrenders to Gen. Grant at Appomattox Court House
- 4-10-1865 Gen. Grant spends night near Prospect United Methodist Church
- 4-10-1922 First motorized fire truck acquired
- 4-12-1861 Regional Congressman Roger Pryor helps to open fire on Fort Sumter
- 4-12-1892 Farmville Populist Party organized
- 4-12-1917 Farmville Guard dispatched to St. Paul, Virginia, to guard bridges and tunnels
- 4-13-1803 Initial meeting of board of Buffalo Circulating Library
- 4-13-1920 Mrs. Martha E. Forrester holds first meeting of her Council of Negro Women
- 4-14-1938 Asa Dickinson Watkins, sheriff, judge, commonwealth attorney, died
- 4-14-1974 Coronary Intensive Care Unit opens at Southside Community Hospital
- 4-15-1895 Thornton-Pickett Camp of United Confederate Veterans organized
- 4-15-1933 Roy Clark born nearby in Meherrin
- 4-15-1987 Farmville-Prince Edward Community Library opens; formed by merger of Reading Room and Public Library
- 4-16-1865 Memorial service for President Lincoln is held in Farmville Presbyterian Church
- 4-17-1924 B. M. Cox, sheriff, postmaster, Normal School business manager, died
- 4-21-1861 County representative J. T. Thornton votes for Virginia secession (vote: 88-55)
- 4-21-1936 Farmville High School burns
- 4-22-1866 Henry Watkins Allen dies in exile in Mexico City
- 4-22-1892 Birth of civil rights leader, Dr. Vernon Johns, near Darlington Heights
- 4-22-1901 Constitutionality of the Dispensary argued before Judge George Hundley
- 4-23-1919 Carter Glass trophy train came to Farmville displaying captured World War I weapons and material
- 4-23-1951 450 Moton High School students stage strike, protesting inadequate facilities
- 4-24-2001 The Rotunda and Ruffner East and West destroyed by fire; Grainger Hall destroyed beyond repair
- 4-25-1946 Thomas Hardy Graham VFW Post organized
- 4-25-1953 Robert Morris Chapter Order of the Eastern Star initiated
- 4-26-1924 Taylor Manufacturing Company located end of Buffalo Street burned
- 4-27-1905 Lodge No. 200 Odd Fellows organized here
- 4-27-1951 Farmville Herald dismisses Moton student strike as a "lack of discipline"
- 4-29-1820 Henry Watkins Allen, Brigadier General, CSA, and governor of Louisiana born near Farmville
- 4-29-1895 Philanthropist Lewis Ginter offers Richmond site for relocating Union Seminary
- 4-29-1901 All saloons in Farmville closed by liquor Dispensary law
- 4-29-1903 Farmville N&W Passenger Station opened
- 4-29-1916 Farmville Dispensary closes
- 4-30-1904 Colonel Richard A. Booker, Captain of Farmville Guard, tobacconist and proprietor of Randolph House, died

## **Upcoming Programs:**

**May 19, 2015: Jim Godburn, "The Battle of Sailor's Creek"**

**June 16, 2015: Faye Tuck Weatherford, "David Bruce (1793-1838), Tobacconist of Farmville"**