



# *Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society*

*P.O. Box 546  
Farmville, Virginia 23901*

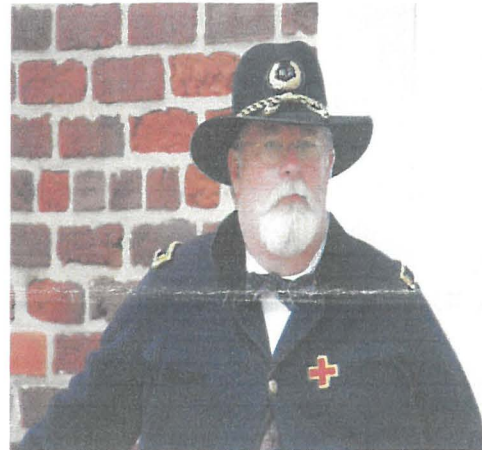
*May, 2015*

## ***“The Hillsman House and The Battle of Sailors Creek” Jim Godburn***

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015  
7 p.m.  
Farmville Train Station**

***Guests Always Welcomed***

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



*Jim Godburn*

Jim Godburn of Sailor's Creek Battlefield Historical State Park is the speaker at the May meeting of the Farmville-Prince Edward Historical Society. Jim is the Educational Specialist at the park. He has fifteen years of experience as a historic interpreter with the National Parks Service, having worked at Petersburg National Battlefield and Appomattox Court House National Battlefield Park. He is a graduate of James Madison University with a degree in History and has been involved in field historical interpretation and reenacting for 40 years. He and his wife Elaine have lived in Farmville for nine years. They have 2 sons, Joe and Andrew.

Sailor's Creek is located in Amelia and Prince Edward Counties and was declared a National

Historic Landmark in 1985. On April 6, Union cavalry under Phil Sheridan effectively cut off three corps of Lee's army, near Marshall's Crossroads while the Union Second and Sixth Corps approached from the east. In three distinct engagements, the Battle of Hillsman's Farm, the Battle of Marshall's Cross Road and the Battle of Lockett's Farm (Double Bridges), the Federals overwhelmed the defending Confederates, capturing 7,700 men and depriving Lee of roughly one-fourth of his army. Among the prisoners were six Confederate generals including Richard S. Ewell, Joseph Kershaw, and Custis Lee, the commanding general's son. To President Jefferson Davis, Lee wrote, "a few more Sailor's Creeks and it will all be over." Lee surrendered three days later.

### **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 the Farmville-Prince Edward Historical Society.



## Memorial Day

Monday, May 25, 2015, is Memorial Day. Memorial Day was first called Decoration Day and it originated after the "War between the States" to commemorate Union and Confederate soldiers that died in the war. Today, Memorial Day is a day for remembering men and women who died in service for their country. The United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Sons of Confederate Veterans will have a memorial service at the Confederate Cemetery on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. The Confederate Cemetery is located on Jackson Street, off of N. Main Street in Farmville. Over 300 soldiers who died in Farmville hospitals were buried here during the Civil War. Although there were simple, wooden markers at the grave sites, these eventually deteriorated so identities were lost. As a final tribute, the United Daughters' of the Confederacy erected a large stone marker with the inscription: Faithful Unto Death, Confederate Heroes, 1861-1865.

## Upcoming Programs:

**June 16, 2015:** Bob Flippen "Farmville-Powhatan Railroad"

## This day in May in Prince Edward County History:

**5-1-1832** Gov. Philip Watkins McKinney born in Buckingham

**5-2-1894** First official proposal by trustees to move Presbyterian seminary from its 70-year existence at Hampden-Sydney

**5-3-1905** Farmville Guard left for Richmond to attend funeral of Major General Fitzhugh Lee

**5-4-1895** Farmville Guard called to Pocahontas to guard working men from violence at the hands of strikers

**5-4-1901** The first "dry" Saturday in Farmville history; no liquor sales

**5-5-1942** World War II sugar rationing begins

**5-5-1996** WFLO tower collapses

**5-6-1776** William Watts and William Booker elected Prince Edward representatives to convention to establish constitution for Commonwealth, to replace colonial rule

**5-6-1965** J.J. Newberry Department Store at Third and Main burned.

**5-7-1846** Town and citizens decide to buy \$100,000 stock to secure railroad service to Farmville; original South Side Railroad proposal would have linked county seats, taking railroad through Worsham

**5-7-1978** Farmville Flea Market opened at new Randolph Warehouse

**5-10-1905** Odd Fellows Lodge instituted

**5-10-1926** Dr. W. E. Anderson died

**5-11-1964** U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy visits Farmville schools

**5-12-1894** *Farmville Herald* begins editorial campaign to keep Union Seminary at Hampden-Sydney

**5-12-1920** Fire department draft horse "Charlie" drops dead after pulling engine to fire on Buffalo Street

**5-14-1937** Patterson's Drug Company buys stock of Canada Drug Company

**5-15-1942** Gasoline rationing began during World War II

**5-17-1954** U.S. Supreme Court rules on *Brown v. Board*, unanimously, striking down "separate-but-equal" public education with Prince Edward case included

**5-20-1834** Birth of Hampden-Sydney president Richard McIlwaine, who represented Prince Edward county in

Virginia Constitutional Convention

**5-23-1901** The Masons meet for the first time in their new Lodge room

**5-24-1777** Thomas Anderson Morton, who operated first store in Farmville on Second Street opposite Morton's tavern, was born

**5-24-1833** Death of area famous Congressman John Randolph of Roanoke

**5-24-1902** Charlotte, Farmville and James River Valley Railroad Company organized

**5-26-1898** Farmville Guard leaves for service in Spanish-American War

**5-26-1918** Farmville Guard leaves for service in World War I

**5-27-1887** J. W. Dunnington, tobacconist, died

**5-28-1832** Charles H. Erambert, lt. Farmville Guard, photographer, born

**5-28-1963** Civil War era locomotive "The General" visits Farmville

**5-29-1736** Birth of Patrick Henry, sometime resident of, and delegate from, Prince Edward

**5-30-1905** First memorial service for Confederate dead held at the cemetery in Cumberland

**5-31-1897** Earthquake and aftershocks rattled window panes

