



# *Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society*

P.O. Box 546  
Farmville, Virginia 23901

October 2015

## **"Civil War Artifacts"**

**Gerald Spates**

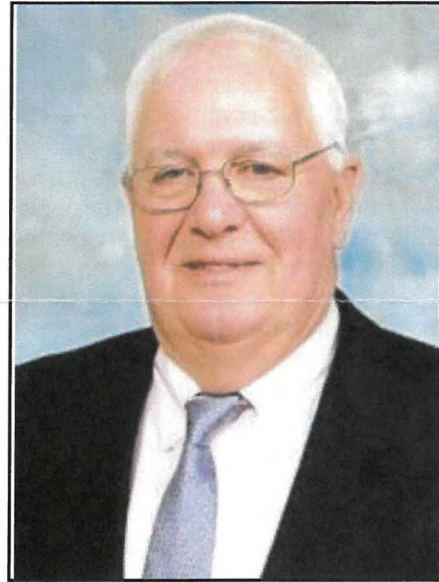
**Tuesday, October 20, 2015**

**7:00 pm**

**Historic Farmville Train Station**

**Guests always Welcomed**

**Board meets at 6:00 pm**



**Gerald Spates**

the Farmville Community for the last forty years. The town has grown and expanded under his leadership.

### *New Member*

Donna Redd --- Boston, Massachusetts

### *Upcoming Programs:*

*November 19, 2015: Annual Business Meeting - no program*

*January 19, 2015: "Show and Tell"*

*February 22, 2016: David Speers, State Geologist*

### *Donations Wanted...*

The Farmville-Prince Edward Historical Society is looking for items or memorabilia that relate to Farmville or Prince Edward County history. When you are cleaning out your basements or attics, remember that the historical society would like to have any items that relate to the Town of Farmville or Prince Edward County.

On Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at the Historic Farmville Train Station, Gerald Spates, Farmville Town Manager, will share some pieces from his collection of Civil War artifacts. He possesses an extensive collection of Civil-War-era weaponry as well as personal items that were used during this time.

Gerry Spates was born in San Francisco and later moved to Maryland. Shortly after graduation from high school, he was drafted into the US Army. After completing both basic and advanced training, he attended Officers Training School and served six and a half years in the Army Corps of Engineers. He spent thirteen months in Vietnam as an adviser to several Vietnamese public works departments. Gerry came to Farmville in 1973 for a job with the Piedmont Planning Commission. In January 1975, he became Town Manager of Farmville and has served

## *This Day in 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, 116th 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 opens 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 (1845) and future Confederate Brig. Gen. Roger Pryor 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

## *Fall in Farmville*



Where is this beautiful tree located? Can you find it?