



News of the  
Chesapeake Bay Company  
of the Jamestown Society

A Newsletter for Members and Prospective Members

Chesapeake Bay Company of the Jamestown Society, POB 118, Coles Point, VA 22442 Website: <http://JamestowneChesapeakeBayCompany.com>

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### Bowsprit: Third Issue

The name *Bowsprit* was chosen because the bowsprit is the part of a ship that always arrives first. To learn more about bowsprits, visit the Wikipedia page on them [here](#)

Members receiving mailed versions of *Bowsprit*, please note that underlined words indicate hyperlinks for computer users. If you wish to visit hyperlinked sites, you may visit the web site and access this issue of *Bowsprit* online from your local library.

Comments on *Bowsprit* may be addressed to S. G. Rager, webmaster [here](#). Comments may also be mailed to S. G. Rager, POB 118, Coles Point VA 22442. If you have an e-mail address which has changed, please let us know.

### Fall Meeting: Sept. 29!

#### Save the date!

Saturday, September 29, 2007 is the date for our **Fall Meeting** at **Historic Christ Church near Irvington**.

More details will be forthcoming over the summer, but please mark your calendars now. Plan to bring a guest!

### June 10 Field Trip to Henricus



Views of Henricus from DiscoverRichmond website

On Sunday afternoon, June 10, at 2:30 PM, members will gather at Henricus Historical Park, a Chesterfield County park whose focus is the Cite of Henricus. Henricus, established in 1611 by Sir Thomas Dale, is just a few miles southeast of the current day city of Richmond. At the time, it was one of the developments lying farthest west from the early capital at Jamestown.

Nearby, **Pocahontas** is believed to have met and married **John Rolfe**. They lived together across the James at Varina Farms Plantation where their son Thomas was born.

Henricus was the site of the attempt to establish the very first college in the colony. The **University of Henricus**, chartered in 1618, did not succeed; by the time of the 1622 massacre, there existed only a school for Indians on the site. A college in Virginia did not appear until the College of William and Mary in 1693. The **school for Indians** was intended to teach trades to the native children. Churches in England raised 32,000 pounds sterling to help support the school, which they believed would train the Indians as Christian missionaries to their own people.

In 1616, there were 60 people there. During **1622's massacre**, the town was burned and an unknown number of colonists were killed. A year later, an exploration found it totally **abandoned**.

Remnants of Henricus were able to be **seen 100 years later**. In 1747, William Stith wrote that "the ruins of this Town are still plainly traced and distinguished upon the Land of the late Col. William Randolph, of Tuckahoe." Enough bricks remained to show outlines of the houses at the time of the Civil War. Since then, Union forces cut a canal to straighten out the James River. (continued on Page 2)

**Ancestor Sketches:  
Four Are Now Online.  
Where's yours?**

Four Ancestor Sketches have been prepared by members of the Chesapeake Bay Company and are online on the website.

Charles W. H. Warner submitted a Sketch on his ancestor, **Robert Beverley**. Anne Hagerty Warner has a Sketch on her ancestor, **Henry Fleete**. Susan Godman Rager has prepared Sketches on her ancestor, **Robert Beheathland**, and on a supplemental ancestor, **Sir George Yeardley, Governor**.

The format for the Ancestor Sketch includes not only biographical information on the person, but also a list of sources, and the lineage from the ancestor down to either parents or grandparents of the Company member.

You'll see a link to the Ancestor Sketches on the Table of Contents on the website. You're invited not only to read and enjoy the Sketches already there, but to submit your own. Use the Sketches already prepared as a guideline for length and content. They may be submitted via e-mail as an attachment, or may be typed and mailed. Please note your reference sources.

**Diane Meredith Scott** has agreed to review and edit the Sketches. Please submit them to Susan Rager who will record the submission and pass them along to Diane. The address for US mail is POB 118, Coles Point, VA 22442. Email through the website.

**June 10 Field Trip to Henricus** (continued from Page 1)

Unlike Jamestown, which remained relatively unscathed in the centuries since the early English settlers lived there, the actual site of Henricus was not known for many years; it was **rediscovered** and has been partially restored. Henricus Historical Park is within the 810-acre Dutch Gap Conservation Area.

Captain Ralph Hamor, in a **1614 account**, describes Henricus thusly: "There is in this towne, 3 streets of well framed howses, a handsom Church, and the foundation of a more stately one laid, of Brick, in length, an hundred foote, and fifty foot wide, beside Store houses, watch houses, and such like: there are also, as ornaments belonging to this Town, upon the verge of this River, five faire Block houses."

A pamphlet by the **Virginia Company**, intended to attract new settlers to Virginia, perhaps exaggerates how enthusiastically the men built at Henricus: "Being thus invited here, they pitch, the spade men fell to digging, the brick men burnt their bricks, the company cut down wood, the Carpenters fell to squaring out, the Sawyers to sawing, the Souldier to fortifying, and every man to somewhat. And to answer the first objection for holesome lodging, here they have built competent and decent houses, the first storie all of bricks, that every man may have his lodging and dwelling place apart by himselfe." This is generally acknowledged to be a **rosy account**, as the excavations which have taken place do not verify such grand homes, and the descriptions do not match the housing being constructed in this very early time in Virginia.

Reconstructions at Henricus include an Indian village, the Citie of Henricus, and the John Rolfe Farm. **Mount Malady** (intended to allow the ill to recover), and **Rock Hall**, home of Pocahontas for a time, are included in the reconstructions.

The park is open until 5 PM, so there'll be **time to explore** the 32-acre site. Admission is \$6 per person, \$4 per child (children under age 2 are free). Senior citizens and AAA members receive a \$1 discount off regular admission.

There are no food facilities within Henricus Historical Park; however it is located near many facilities. Members and guests are asked to **dress comfortably, wear walking shoes**, and bring with them, if they choose, items in the food and drink category permitted by the Park.

**Travel time** from Warsaw, VA (a central location to most of our Company members) is estimated to be about **1 hour 37 minutes** (it's **73.8 miles from Warsaw** to Henricus).

**Please let Susan Rager know** if you are planning to attend on June 10 at 2:30. A **map** in .pdf format is online at <http://JamestowneChesapeakeBayCompany.com> under "Links to Jamestowne Resources". Also on the website you will find a printable .pdf file of these **directions**. Plan now to attend! **Bring family and guests!**



Start **Warsaw Virginia**  
End **Henricus Park Rd Chester, VA 23836**  
Travel **73.8 mi (about 1 hour 37 mins)**



Drive: 73.8 mi (about 1 hour 37 mins)

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Head west on <b>US-360/VA-3-BR</b> toward <b>VA-3-BR</b><br>Continue to follow <b>US-360</b> | 6.7 mi<br>10 mins  |
| ← 2. Turn left at <b>US-17/US-360</b>   | 2.4 mi<br>5 mins   |
| → 3. Slight right at <b>US-360 W</b>  | 35.9 mi<br>49 mins |
| 4. Merge onto <b>I-295 S</b> via the ramp to <b>I-64 E/Norfolk/Rocky Mt NC</b>                  | 21.6 mi<br>20 mins |
| 5. Take exit <b>15B</b> to merge onto <b>E Hundred Rd/VA-10 W</b> toward <b>Chester</b>         | 3.6 mi<br>6 mins   |
| → 6. Turn right at <b>Old Stage Rd</b>  | 2.0 mi<br>3 mins   |
| → 7. Turn right at <b>Coxendale Rd</b>  | 0.7 mi<br>1 min    |
| → 8. Turn right at <b>Henricus Park Rd</b>  | 0.9 mi<br>2 mins   |

## Website News

The Chesapeake Bay Company website is updated quite regularly, usually several times a month. Recent additions include:

(1) 400th Anniversary weekend news with lots of photos, as detailed in the article to your right;

(2) "Welcome to the Next 400 Years," a page which contains a brochure which you can print on your own home printer, back and front, and give to interested friends who may be interested in joining the Chesapeake Bay Company;

(3) The Jamestown Stamp, which was introduced on May 11 at Jamestown;

(4) Four Ancestor Sketches, as mentioned above in this newsletter;

(5) Links to new articles and web resources: George Mason Univ. History News Network article on Jamestown; Jamestown Fashions; First Legislative Assembly; Jamestown vs. Plymouth; What Happened to the Three Ships?

By Sunday, May 27, the website will contain more detailed information about the June 10 Field Trip to Henricus Historical Park, as well as the May issue of *Bowsprit*.

Please let Susan Rager know if you see links to interesting Jamestown resources. The idea behind our Links page is to consolidate the best of them so you can find them when you want to, all in one place. Visit at <http://JamestowneChesapeakeBayCompany.com>. The US mail address for the Chesapeake Bay Company is P. O. Box 118, Coles Point, Virginia 22442



First day covers of the new Jamestown stamp were given to all May 12 banquet attendees through the generosity of Auditor General Joyce Bockemuehl, who provided gave them as a gift to all attending.

## 400th Anniversary Celebration: Jamestown, May 12, 2007

*Note: There is an entire (and lengthy) page with photos devoted just to the events of May 12 on the website. Please visit to see photographs. The text of the page is excerpted here for those without computers:*

On **May 12, 2007**, Jamestown Society members assembled at the Kingsmill Marriott beginning at 6 AM to board buses which the Society had chartered to take **500 of its members** onto Jamestown Island for a **morning program** shared with the Order of First Families of Virginia and the Descendants of the Order of Ancient Planters. Upon arrival, we entered the **new Visitor Center** (completed in January 2007) and crossed to the Island on the newly constructed bridge.

The sun had risen just shortly before the buses left the Marriott, and clouds were clearing. Gathering at the program stage, the group was seated in a grassy area not far from the James. The **three lineage societies joined** in a program to commemorate the 400th Anniversary of the First Permanent English Settlement in North America. Representatives of each society participated in the program, which featured "**John Rolfe**," a skilled actor who greeted us as though we were newly arrived to the 1600s settlement, and provided an orientation for us as to what we might expect to encounter in our new lives in Virginia. At one point during "Rolfe's" talk, the three replica ships from Jamestown Settlement could be seen on the James River, one of **the rare times when all three ships are sailing at once**.

Carter B. S. Furr, Lt. Governor of the Jamestown Society, W. Harrison Schroeder, Governor of the Jamestown Society, and Charles D. "Dan" McGuire, Chairman of the 2007 Committee, were among those who spoke.

Following the program, members were free to visit the Memorial Church, the Archaearium, the archaeological digs underway and other sites on the Island. Since **members and guests were permitted access before the public was**, it was uncongested and easy to imagine that today's setting is not that different from what settlers encountered in May 1607 upon their arrival.

All buses were boarded by 11 AM for the return trip to the Kingsmill Marriott, where members and their guests assembled for a **reception at noon**, followed by **luncheon** at 1 PM. The speaker for the luncheon was **Dr. James Horn**, author of *A Land as God Made It: Jamestown and the Birth of America*. Dr. Horn is the O'Neill Director of the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library at The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and lecturer at the College of William & Mary, who earlier wrote *Adapting to a New World: English Society in the Seventeenth-Century Chesapeake*. W. Harrison Schroeder, Governor of the Jamestown Society, presided over the meeting, and introduced those at the head table, including national officers.

The luncheon adjourned around 3 PM, and members and guests reconvened at **6 PM for a second reception**. The **formal banquet** began at 7 PM with a color guard from nearby Fort Eustis and a procession of those who would be seated at the head table. Greetings from the President of the United States, who declined to be present, were read by Governor Harrison Schroeder. Brigadier General Danny McGuire, chairman of the 2007 Committee for the Jamestown Society, introduced the **Honorable John Marsh**, former Secretary of the Army in the administration of President Reagan, who was the evening's speaker.

*Note: If you attended the May 12 events and have photos you would like to share, please send them as an e-mail attachment to [webmaster@JamestowneChesapeakeBayCompany.com](mailto:webmaster@JamestowneChesapeakeBayCompany.com) or mail them to POB 118, Coles Point, VA 22442.*