

September
2025

Get Together with LVHS for a
History Tour in Richmond: Monday, October 20



- **Historic Hollywood Cemetery** Narrated Trolley Tour
- **Virginia Museum of History & Culture:**
Guided highlights tours of the current special exhibits:
“Give Me Liberty: Virginia & The Forging of a Nation” and
“Un/Bound: Free Black Virginians, 1619-1865”
And free time to explore the other VMHC exhibit galleries

- **Lunch** included
- **Transportation on your own**

Participants will be responsible for driving themselves to/from Richmond with stops at 3 locations in the city (museum, cemetery, and lunch restaurant), and for possible tolls or parking fees (we will advise on minimizing or avoiding). Carpooling from LVHS is encouraged. Please let us know if you can take passengers.

- **Depart 7:45 AM - Return 6:30 PM** (times based from Lancaster)

\$100 LVHS Members (and up to 1 guest)

\$115 Non-Members or additional guests

Covers admissions/tours, lunch, and gratuities.

Limited to 24 attendees ~ Register by September 26

804-462-7280 (voicemail anytime) or history@LancasterVaHistory.org

We will process registrations in the order received and contact you about required pre-payment. No refunds for cancellations by attendees after Sept 26.

This trip requires walking/standing for 1-2 hours in the Museum.

Trolley tour in cemetery is seated for 2 hours with no restroom available.

(Read more on next page)

Saturday, October 4:

**Public Dedication Events for new Historical Highway Markers
addressing Segregation, Black Education, and Civil Rights**

Brookvale High School

11:00 AM dedication program indoors, followed by 12:30 unveiling outdoors at 36 Primary School Circle, Lancaster. Sponsored by Save Brookvale History Committee.

Stewart Sisters v. The Steamer Sue

12:00 Noon dedication program at New Jerusalem Baptist Church, 3695 Kings Mill Rd, Kinsale, followed by unveiling on Rt 202 east of NWP Oil. Sponsored by Middle Peninsula African-American Genealogical and Historical Society.

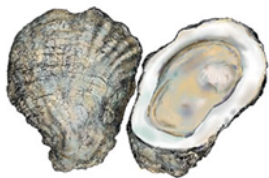
TOUR INFORMATION—continued

GIVE ME LIBERTY. Virginia was the oldest, largest, wealthiest, and most populous of Britain's American colonies. Virginians—through their ideas, influence, and efforts—helped forge a new American nation. Commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, this exhibit highlights Virginia's leading role in the American Revolution. It explores the continental and global forces as well as the actions of both iconic and ordinary people that brought about a model of democratic government that changed the world. Along with artifacts, immersive multimedia scenes bring significant moments in history to life such as the electrifying atmosphere at St. John's Church where Patrick Henry delivered his famous speech and an early tavern and print house where many lively conversations occurred.

UN/BOUND: FREE BLACK VIRGINIANS 1619-1865. Bringing together artifacts and rich stories from across the Commonwealth, this exhibit tells the stories of free Black Virginians from the arrival of the first captive Africans in 1619 to the abolition of slavery in 1865, and it is one of the first museum exhibitions to cover the subject in depth. Through powerful artifacts, first-person accounts, and more than 200 years of stories, visitors will discover how Virginia's people of color achieved their freedom, established communities, and persevered within a legal system that recognized them as free but not equal.

HOLLYWOOD CEMETERY, established in 1847, is the burial site of 2 U.S. presidents, 6 Virginia governors; 2 Supreme Court justices; a Confederate president, Stonewall Jackson's arm, and 18,000 Confederate soldiers; prominent authors; suffragists; and many other notable individuals among the more than 80,000 graves. In 1866, Hollywood Cemetery hosted the first celebration of Confederate Memorial Day which shaped the later national Memorial Day holiday. Designed by landscape architect John Notman, it is a place of serenity, tremendous beauty, poignant funerary art, and spectacular views of both the river and the city. We'll hear interesting stories about the site, the architecture, and the "residents."

10th Annual Shuckin' on the Lancaster Green



OYSTER ROAST



SAT. NOVEMBER 8, 2025

1:00 - 4:00 PM (serving to 3:30)

Outdoors on Museum Grounds, Route 3, Lancaster Court House

No pets, no smoking, no take-out. Fundraiser for Lancaster Virginia Historical Society.

TICKETS GO ON SALE SEPTEMBER 24

\$65 All-Inclusive. Price increases to \$70 After Oct 18

Steamed & Raw Oysters - Lancaster Stew - Chili/Slaw Hot Dogs - Beer - Wine

Live Music by "Toby & Larry" Soft Rock/Country Acoustic Guitar

\$5 Raffle Tickets also available for 50/50 Drawing

with up to \$1000 prize!

**Tickets & Info: 804-462-7280 or
online LancasterVaHistory.org**



Fall 2025 Genealogy Classes: *Build your Family History Research Skills!*

Presenter: Sharon B. Hodges, Professional Genealogist

Sponsored by and for the benefit of the Lancaster Virginia Historical Society.

In-person or Zoom Webinar. Each class is a stand-alone program, 2 hours + Q&A.

Location: Lancaster Community Library, Kilmarnock. *See dates, details, and fees below.*

Advance Registration and Pre-Payment Required

Deadline: 4:00 PM the day before each program.

Includes exclusive printed handouts and access to a Zoom recording of the chosen class.

Classes begin promptly at 1:00 PM (doors open 20 minutes ahead).

FEE PER CLASS: \$25 LVHS Members / \$30 Non-Members

More Info/Registration: 804-462-7280 LancasterVaHistory.org

#1 Avoiding Pitfalls – Do It Right the First Time

THU OCTOBER 2, 1:00-3:30. \$30 (\$25 LVHS)

Perfect for beginners or as a refresher course!

Are you just getting started with genealogy, or have you been researching for a while and wondering if you're missing something important? This session will help you build strong research habits from the beginning, Or clean up a few that may be holding you back. We'll cover common beginner mistakes, how to evaluate conflicting evidence, and why those online family trees and websites aren't always what they seem. If time allows, we'll dig into census records together in a hands-on mini workshop—you may be surprised at how much you've been overlooking. Whether you're starting fresh or want to sharpen your skills, this class will help you avoid the detours and get your family history research on the right track. Start smart and research with confidence!

#2 Digging in the Dirt – All About Land Records

THU OCTOBER 23, 1:00-3:30. \$30 (\$25 LVHS)

There's something powerful about connecting to your ancestors through the land where they lived, worked, raised families, and perhaps now rest in peace. Land records can reveal more than just property ownership, including names of spouses, extended family members, neighbors, and stories of migration and community. We'll uncover:

- The difference between state-land states and federal-land states (and why it matters)
- What land records can reveal about your ancestors
- Dower rights and how women were represented in land transactions
- Bounty land and military service connections
- Where to find land records and how to use them effectively.

Whether you're a beginner or have years of research under your belt, you'll leave with tools and tips to dig even deeper into your family's past—literally and figuratively!

#3 Have You Tried These? – Lesser-Known and Under-Used Records

THU OCTOBER 30, 1:00-3:30. \$30 (\$25 LVHS)

Think you've looked *everywhere* for your ancestors? Think again. Beyond the usual census, wills, and vital records lies a treasure trove of lesser-known sources that can uncover surprising details and breathe new life into your research. These records don't just confirm facts—they tell stories. We'll explore some often-overlooked resources including: voting and school records; business ledgers and store accounts; processioning records, road orders, and colonial papers; personal diaries and letters; and academic theses. These gems can help you add color and context to your ancestors' lives and break through brick walls in your research. If you're curious to move beyond the basics, this class is for you!

#4 Dead Men Do Tell Tales – Estate Records and Cemeteries

THU NOVEMBER 6, 1:00-3:30. \$30 (\$25 LVHS)

They may be gone, but they still have stories to tell. Estate records are often rich with family connections—where there's an inheritance, there are usually relatives. Wills, inventories, guardianships, and probate files can uncover names, relationships, property, and surprising personal details. You'll learn about different types of estate records and where to find them; the roles of women in probate; and how legal language can reveal more than you might expect. But the trail doesn't stop there. Cemeteries are more than final resting places—they're outdoor archives of history, art, and symbolism. Burial customs reflect the values and traditions of the time and place, while carvings and symbols often carry clues about religious beliefs, fraternal organizations, occupations, and ethnic backgrounds. Come learn how the dead speak to us through clues in the documents and monuments they've left behind!

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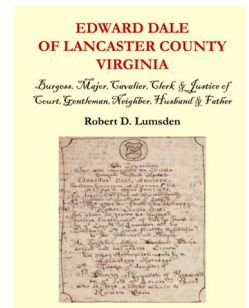
Annual Membership Meeting

History Talk, Board Elections, and Volunteer Awards

Tuesday, October 28, 4:00-6:00 PM

Guest Speaker: **Robert D. Lumsden**, author of
Edward Dale of Lancaster County Virginia:
Burgess, Major, Cavalier, Clerk of Court, Justice of Court,
Gentleman, Neighbor, Husband, and Father

At Lancaster Community Library, 16 Town Centre Dr, Kilmarnock.
More information and board election details will be mailed to Members.



Book for sale at event, in the LVHS Shop (Wed, Thu, Fri 10-4), and online at LancasterVahistory.org



Save the Date ~ Holiday Greenery Centerpiece Sale
Fri Dec 12 and Sat Dec 13