



NEWSLETTER OF THE

Virginia Conservation Association

Promoting the Care and Preservation of Cultural Materials
www.virginiaconservationassociation.org

P. O. Box 7023, Richmond, VA 23221

May, 2016 Volume 25, No. 5

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear VCA members,

As we conclude our 2016 year I want to thank all of the Board members that I have had the pleasure to work with this year. We have made some changes to the Board and really tried to listen to the membership and help the organization grow and change. Our programs as usual have been wonderful and I think the programs chairs are already at work lining up exciting programs for next year.

I am excited and sad to say that I won't be able to continue as President of the VCA for the 2017 year. I have accepted the position of Collections Manager for the Preservation Society of Newport, RI. I have enjoyed being a part of the VCA for the past 10 years and look forward to continuing to hear about all of the exciting programs in the future. I will be at the last VCA members meeting of the year and look forward to seeing everyone there. If you are ever in Rhode Island please give me a call!

Best, *Kathy Garrett-Cox, President*

URGENT NEED FOR PUBLICATIONS CO-CHAIR

This position has recently been vacated and has a one-year term remaining. The newsletter is published 5 times during the year. If you can help, please consider volunteering:

Marla Curtis, curtisfineart@gmail.com or
Carey Howlett, fchowlett@mac.com

VCA STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED

The VCA Board has voted to offer two \$250 scholarships each year to encourage students to further their professional development.

Applicants will need to submit a brief written proposal to the Board describing the activity, workshop, symposium or conference. The chosen applicant would also be required to write an article for the VCA newsletter following the event that would inform the membership about that workshop, symposium, etc.

The Board will receive proposals for this coming year beginning this summer.

Don't be bashful get those proposals in!

Mail to: VCA Student Scholarship, P. O. Box 7023, Richmond, VA 23221

VCA Members' Meeting

Thursday, May 19

5:30 P.M.-Refreshments
6:15 P.M. – Program Followed
By Members' Meeting

Conservation of
The Messiah
By Benjamin West

Presented By
Scott Nolley, Owner
Fine Art Conservation of Virginia



Muscarelle Museum of Art
College of William & Mary
603 Jamestown Road
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Directions: Muscarelle.org

[http://www.signupgenius.com/
go/10c094ca4ac2da7fd0-may19](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094ca4ac2da7fd0-may19)

(See Page 2 For More Information)

True Love Forever: Preserving the Legacy of Norman "Sailor Jerry" Collins

Conservation of the stencils,
rubbings and sketches of this
iconic WWII tattoo artist

Presented By
Samantha Sheesley
Paper Conservator, VMFA
March 21, 2016
Cabell Library Lecture Hall



VCU hosted the VCA in its new Lecture Hall and provided refreshments for our program that was open to the public.

Samantha's presentation included information about how this collection of tattoo art came to The Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia and her role in preparing it to travel around the world.



Dave Brumfield talks about his father's tattoos (shown on screen) done by Sailor Jerry.



Members Meeting March 21, 2016 VCU Cabell Library Lecture Hall

Business Meeting:

- Nominating Committee introduced:
Deborah Evetts
Suzanne Collins
Carey Howlett
- Fred Wallace working with a Task Force.
- Bylaws changes -
Eliminating Board positions:
 - ◇ Bylaws Chair responsibilities to be absorbed by Vice President.
 - ◇ Disaster Response Chair responsibilities to be absorbed by President. The President will form a D.R. committee as needed.
- Kathy Garrett-Cox put this proposal to the membership for a vote. Dianne Roland agreed to motion; Bill Ivey seconded the motion.
- Members present agreed, no one opposed. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.
- May meeting will be held at the Muscarelle Museum at William & Mary. Scott Nolley will talk about the treatment on a painting by Benjamin West.
- There will be a field trip to Monticello on April 21st. Signup sheet was passed around for people who are interested and want more information.
- Education chair reported on the workshop held at Virginia House on conservation and preservation techniques for small house museums. It went well, and there were more people interested than there was room and requests for more of the same.
- Treasurer's report was given.
- Membership meeting: "Preserving the Legacy of Norman 'Sailor Jerry' Collins" presented by Samantha Sheesley, Paper Conservator at the Virginia Museum of Fine Art.

Current Treasury Balance:

\$5189.85

~Nancy Beck, VCA Treasurer

*Minutes of the Board Meeting
April 12, 2016
James City County Library*

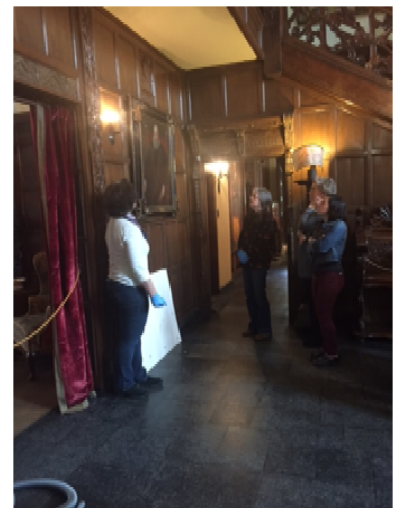
Attendees: Kathy Garrett-Cox, Dotty Robinson, David Shakibnia, Bill Ivey, Marla Curtis, Kate Ridgway, Keri Ragland, Nancy Beck, Karri Richardson, and Dianne Roland

- Marla gave update on **Nominating Committee**.
- There was a discussion on **website** management about keeping on a Web Master or hiring a company to manage the website, one that can handle the growth and changes including PayPal, etc. Decided we wait until next year, after nominations.
- **Treasurer's report**, issue with PayPal and how to handle fees to use it. Discussed charging people who choose to use it, or having it come out of the VCA budget. Need to make sure VCA is getting charged as a non-profit.
- Discussed using the money we have for hosting more educational programs and getting speakers and programs that can be of interest and use for outreach.
- **Education** chair spoke of interest in more practical programs on collections care for the smaller house museums in our area and membership. For example: Digital photography, Identification of types of photography
- Discussed setting up a **scholarship** for students to apply for to use towards attending workshops, seminars, etc. Board approved setting up \$250 each to go for two scholarships and open that up to the student members this year. To be put in newsletter and website.
- **May meeting** at the Muscarelle, discussed getting it catered. Do something special, extra nice.
- **Outreach** sent in report that there has been contact with Science Pub based on the popularity of the program with Samantha Sheesley. They are not committing to any future programs with us, but they will be willing to post our programs especially if it will be a scientific one.
- Kathy Garrett-Cox will be leaving the VCA and Richmond. Accepted offer to be Collections Manager for Rhode Island mansions. Leaves next month.
- Andrew and Catherine Baxter will be moving to Florida soon. Discussed having a casual event to say good-bye to Kathy and Andrew. Details to be sent out, as soon as possible.



**Preventative Conservation Workshop
Virginia House, February 24, 2016**

The workshop was aimed towards the general public and those interested in conservation and preservation techniques as both an educational and outreach experience. The event was instructed by Mary Scott Andrews, Sandy Jensen and Kate Ridgway and was extremely successful with 14 individuals registered. It provided hands-on, in situ experience and attracted a variety of individuals from different local (and afar!) organizations. The group learned about caring for furniture, textiles, paintings, books, frames and variety of other conservation issues. Instructors also covered basic IPM and preventative maintenance management. Keri received positive feedback from the group, including suggestions for topics that we should offer in the future. Overall, this was a very successful program and could be considered as a workshop to offer in consecutive years.



VCA Field Trip Monticello-April 21, 2016



VCA Members and their guests were treated to a day of behind the scenes talks and tours of Jefferson's Monticello. Here the group stopped long enough to pose in the third floor dome room.

Thanks go to the staff and volunteers who made this such an enjoyable Spring day on the mountain!

*Melanie Lower, Curatorial Assistant
Gardiner Hallock, Acting Robert H.
Smith Director Of Restoration
Diane Ehrenpreis, Asst. Curator of
Decorative Arts*

And of course thanks to our fellow VCA member Bob Self and friend Scott Nolley for their presentations and Mary Andrews for keeping us on schedule.



Scott explains the encapsulation of the Valade copy of the Benjamin Franklin portrait and the installation of the removable monitoring system



Bob Self takes the group through some of the steps involved in the restoration of the 2nd floor nursery

The stone stable that is being restored would have housed Jefferson's carriage used for his "necessary" daily ride.



Gardiner Hallock talks about the projects taking place on Mulberry Row



One of several reconstructed cabins that housed Monticello's slaves. This one was used by members of the Hemmings family.