

# Virginia



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## CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

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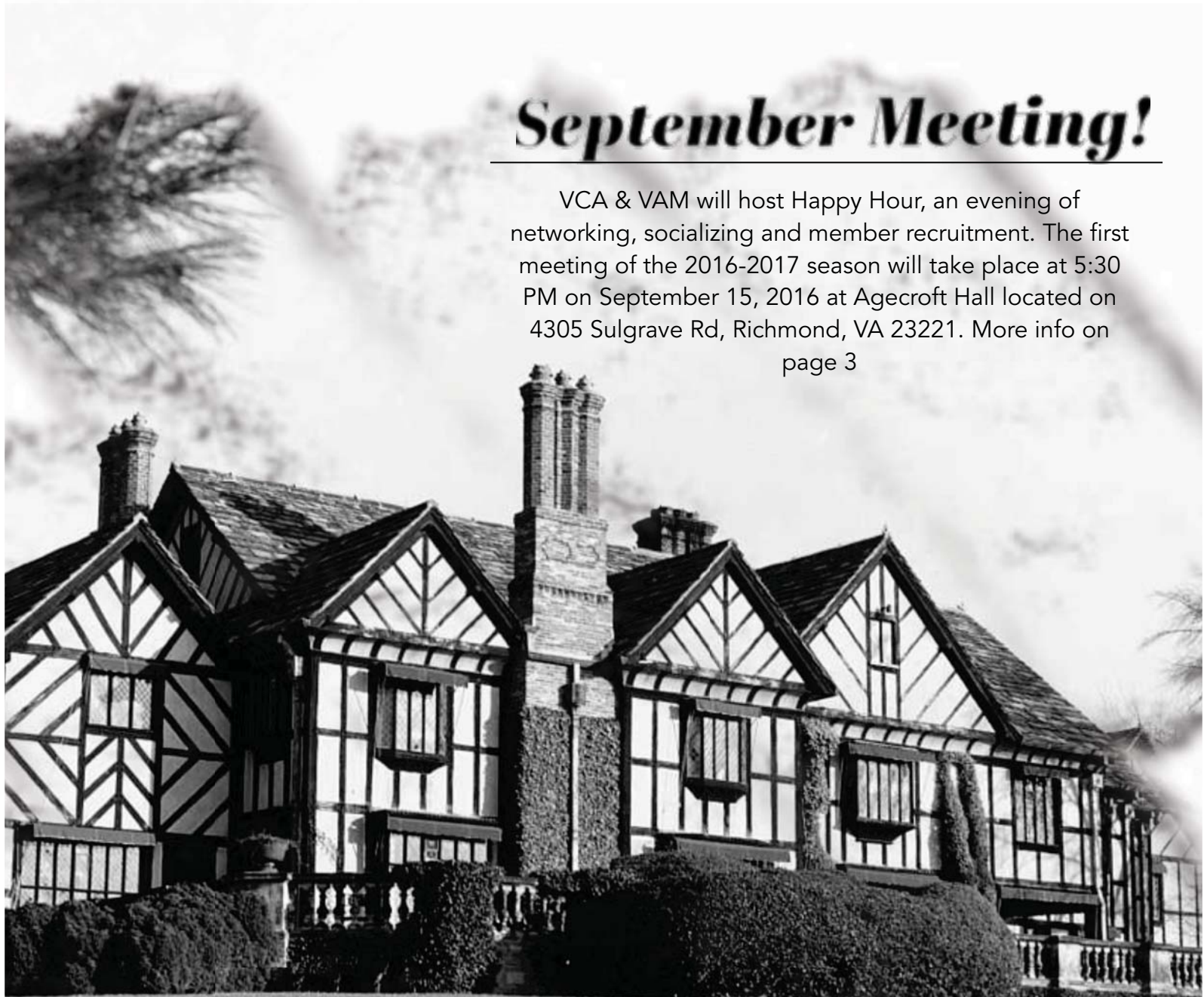
September 2016 Issue Vol. 26, No. 1

The Virginia Conservation Association promotes the care and preservation of cultural materials. The VCA offers education and training for those involved in conservation and provides a forum for discussion of pertinent issues and new developments in the field.

### *September Meeting!*

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VCA & VAM will host Happy Hour, an evening of networking, socializing and member recruitment. The first meeting of the 2016-2017 season will take place at 5:30 PM on September 15, 2016 at Agcroft Hall located on 4305 Sulgrave Rd, Richmond, VA 23221. More info on page 3



As I flip through the VCA Directory, idly glancing at the names of people, some of whom I have known for years (sharing the distinctive honor of being the first members in 1989), some new acquaintances, and some I cannot recall a face to match with the name, I am astounded by the diversity of expertise and variety of backgrounds of our members. At the same time, I feel a common bond that is the size (er, glue) that links us all together, through not only our interest in, but our dedication to, the world of art conservation. We are an eclectic body of amateurs and professionals, who love to connect, explore, learn, teach, share, and criticize and applaud each other.

That said, I am filled with anticipation for our first Happy Hour/Member Recruitment Meeting in September, during which we will engage in a Partnered Social with the Virginia Association of Museums group, headquartered in Richmond. In the beautiful surroundings of Agecroft Hall, the members and guests of various connected and like groups will enjoy refreshments, get to know each other, and network with colleagues and friends, both old and new. I encourage you to rearrange your busy schedules, and make a commitment to the Virginia Conservation Association by attending this meeting, renewing your membership, and bringing along as many interested people as you can, so that they may know the benefits of becoming a VCA member for a mere \$30.00 (\$15 for students!) a year!

As your new President, (yikes! How did that happen?) I am excited about our upcoming year of presentations, tours, and fellowship opportunities, and I look forward to seeing every one of you at all of the VCA's events.

***-Nancy Beck, VCA President***

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### **Have you been looking for a way to get more involved with VCA?**

Think about joining one of our committees! The chairs cannot do it all alone and would love a few additional members to help with their committee work. If you are interested in one of the committees you can now indicate that on your membership form or contact the committee chair.

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Please share any articles, photos, upcoming conferences, workshops, internships, etc. that you think would be of interest. The next newsletter deadline is Monday, Oct. 17th. Email [taylorihealy@gmail.com](mailto:taylorihealy@gmail.com)



**SEPTEMBER  
PROGRAM  
ANNOUNCEMENT**

**VCA Happy Hour  
Thursday, September 15  
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Agecroft Hall, 4305  
Sulgrave Road, Richmond**

Join the VCA in collaboration with Virginia Association of Museums (VAM) and learn about conservation needs at area museums at this month's Happy Hour, an informal evening of networking, socializing and member recruitment that will kick off the 2016-2017 season. See your old friends and make new ones. Bring a friend or colleague with interests about conservation in Virginia. Find out about the VCA's mentoring program for new conservators or students interested in careers in conservation.

Agecroft will be offering guided tour(s) of the house museum. VCA members are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. More information and RSVP's will be available via the VCA's forthcoming *Sign-Up Genius* email invitation.

Parking is available in Agecroft Hall's parking lot, just outside the entrance.

**2016-2017 VCA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Officers

President	Nancy Beck
Vice President	Carol Boyers Givens
Secretary	Dianne Roland
Treasurer	Christi Barranger

Committee Chairs

Education	Keri Ragland
Membership	Dotty Robinson
Outreach	Patricia Selinger
Programs	Karri Richardson
	Maeve Bristow
Publications	Taylor Healy
Refreshments	David Shakibnia
Web Management	Carey Howlett

**MEETING MINUTES**

May 19, 2016

Muscarella Museum of Art

After the interesting presentation by Scott Nolley on the conservation of Benjamin West's "The Messiah", President Kathy Garrett-Cox called the business meeting to order and thanked the Muscarelle's staff for welcoming the VCA for our meeting and program. The program was also open to museum staff and volunteers.

Treasurer Nancy Beck reported that the current balance is \$4,993.29. The proposed 2016-2017 budget was published in the May newsletter and there were copies available for review. A motion was made to accept the budget, seconded, and passed with no objections.

The slate of new officers and chairmen was presented to the members. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded to accept the slate as presented. This passed with no objections.





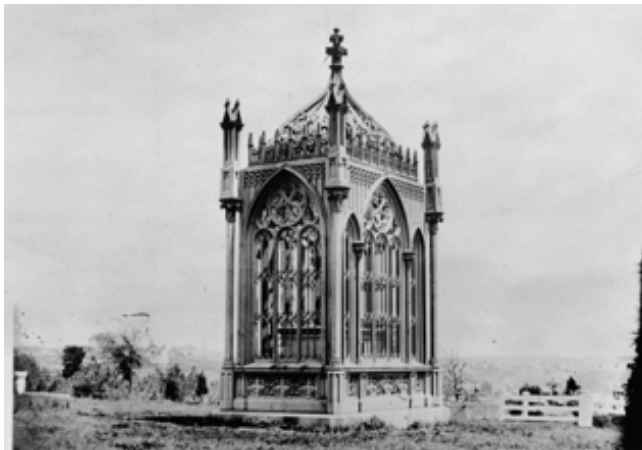
## FAREWELL

A small, but quality, group took advantage of a long overdue sunny day this past May to say "so long", but not good-bye, to our past President Kathy Garrett-Cox. A great view, good food, and lively conversation were enjoyed by all at Legend Brewing Company. Newport, Rhode Island's good fortune is the VCA's misfortune – Kathy – we miss you and best wishes!



## THE MESSIAH

The May 2016 VCA meeting featured Scott Nolley's presentation on his work with Benjamin West's *The Messiah* at William and Mary's Muscarelle Museum of Art. Muscarelle docents offered up-close-and-personal viewing of *The Messiah*. After the Members' Meeting was adjourned, members were able to visit the galleries.



## RESTORATION

Department of General services announced the repair project in September 2015 for President Monroe's elaborate tomb in Hollywood Cemetery. The project involved the deconstruction and restoration of the canopy. The endeavor was intended to recast, repair and return the cast iron to its original, lighter color. Private conservator Andrew Baxter is working on the project and hopes to finish and present his work this coming spring.



## ENDANGERED ARTIFACTS

*Virginia's Top 10 Endangered Artifacts* program focuses on promoting awareness of collections cares through public voting, that took place in August. The program benefited over 100 organizations and their artifacts. Previous nominees have been conserved or are currently undergoing treatment. Nominees for 2016 included Robert E. Lee's 3-Piece Wool Suit and the earliest stereo-daguerreotype. VCA Outreach Chair, Patricia Selinger worked with VAM to rank this year's candidates.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Maymont is happy to announce that the VCA's own Education chair, Keri Ragland, Conservation Technician at the Maymont Mansion since 2013, has been promoted to Collections Manager. Keri has also served as Collections Assistant at the Department of Historic Resources and has assisted private conservators and restoration specialists in the Richmond area. She is presently completing an M.A. in Preservation at Goucher College and has a B. A. in Art History from VCU with a minor in Chemistry.

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## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The VCA Board has voted to offer two \$250 scholarships each year encouraging 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 is currently receiving applications, so get those proposals in!

Send proposals to:

**VCA Student Scholarship  
PO Box 7023,  
Richmond, VA 23221**

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## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Maymont Foundation seeks applicants for the Conservation Technician position to assist with routine monitoring and maintenance of the historic house museum environment and collections. They will also assist with cataloguing,

registration, and other curatorial tasks. The position requires previous object handling experience in a museum environment and familiarity with preventative conservation practices and techniques. Preferred candidates will hold a bachelor's degree in Art History, Museum Studies, Historic Preservation or a similar field. Requirements include: a careful respect of and sensitivity to the special needs of various materials, historical artifacts and works of art; excellent manual dexterity, flexibility, physical stamina (able to lift 40 lbs. and climb 12' ladder); able to work both independently and as part of the museum team. 29 hours per week. EOE.

**To apply:  
Send resume and cover  
letter to  
[employment@maymont.org](mailto:employment@maymont.org)**





## CONFERENCE

As part of their Continuing education program, Colonial Williamsburg presents: *From Foundations to Finishes*, a building arts conference addressing 18th century building technology, replication of building practices and production of period appropriate materials. Speakers will demonstrate their experience beginning with research and leading to their production of materials. The program features leading architectural researchers, conservators and craftsmen and attendees can opt for interactive workshops with the featured speakers in order to better understand 18th century woodworking, paint-making and masonry.

**For info and registration visit [cvent.com/events](http://cvent.com/events)**



## SYMPOSIUM

The Wilton House Museum will be hosting *You and I are... Earth*, an exhibition symposium centered around the contemporary ceramic artwork of internationally recognized artist, Michelle Erickson. It will take place on Saturday, October 1 from 9 am to 3 pm. In addition to in-depth tours, the event will investigate themes explored in the current exhibition and include lectures from conservators, writers and curators. The day will also include a demonstration of the artist's process for creating her ceramics.

**For more information and registration go to [wiltonhousemuseum.org/symposium](http://wiltonhousemuseum.org/symposium).**



## CONFERENCE

Preservation Virginia will be hosting its 31st Annual Virginia Preservation Conference: a two-day event gathering architects, builders, conservators, government and local officials to discuss expanded definitions of this year's theme: Heritage Tourism in Virginia. Discussions include positive impacts and the value of historic tourism. The conference will take place Sunday and Monday October 16-17 in Charlottesville, Va. Preservation Virginia undertook three economic impact studies illustrating the return on investments in historic preservation, and the third and final phase will be released before the conference.

**For info visit [preservationvirginia.org/](http://preservationvirginia.org/)**



**Join / Renew Today!**

# The Virginia Conservation Association 2016-17 Membership Application & Dues Payment

Name (as you would like it to appear in the Directory): \*Required Fields

First\* \_\_\_\_\_ Last\* \_\_\_\_\_

Address:\* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City\* \_\_\_\_\_ State\* \_\_\_\_\_ Zip\* \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Institutional Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \*( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \* \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to serve on the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

- |   |   |                                    |
|---|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservator                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator                | <input type="checkbox"/> Curator   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Technician      | <input type="checkbox"/> Collection Manager/Registrar | <input type="checkbox"/> Appraiser |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Postgraduate (Intern/Fellow) | <input type="checkbox"/> Framer/Preparator            | <input type="checkbox"/> Collector |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Librarian                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter |
| Other (Specify) _____                                 |   |                                    |

Areas of Conservation Expertise:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Objects | <input type="checkbox"/> Furniture              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture           | <input type="checkbox"/> Objects                | <input type="checkbox"/> Textiles              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books & Paper          | <input type="checkbox"/> Paintings              | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnographic Objects   | <input type="checkbox"/> Photographic Materials | _____  |

Are you willing to be a Disaster Response Volunteer in the event of an emergency?   
Are you willing to serve as a Mentor?  Would you like to have a mentor?

**Practicing Conservators / Consultant Conservators Only:**

Would you like your contact information included in our website VCA Services Directory?

The Virginia Conservation Association is open to all interested individuals. To become a member, complete this form and return it with your dues payment of \$30.00 (Regular) or \$15.00 (Student: enclose copy of valid ID). Application and dues payment must be received by the first meeting in September for inclusion in the VCA Directory.

**NOTE:** If you are renewing after the first meeting in September, please apply a \$5.00 late fee to your payment.

To join online, visit [www.virginiaconservationassociation.org](http://www.virginiaconservationassociation.org). Dues are \$31.00 if using PayPal.

If you wish to pay by check (\$30), please mail your completed application and check made payable to the VCA to:

The Virginia Conservation Association  
P. O. Box 7023  
Richmond, VA 23221

Send

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