

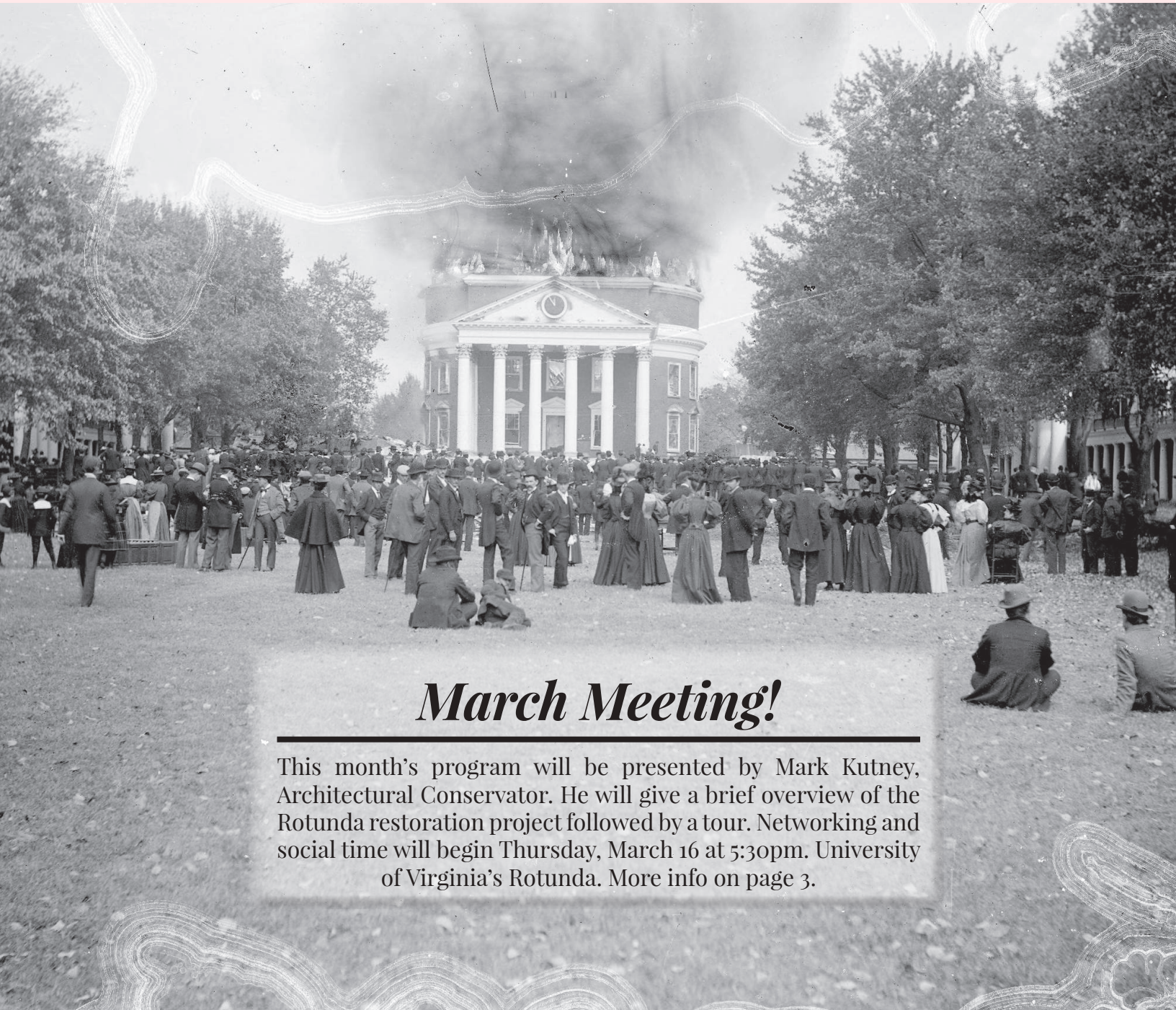
Virginia



CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

March 2017 Issue Vol. 26, No. 4

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.



March Meeting!

This month's program will be presented by Mark Kutney, Architectural Conservator. He will give a brief overview of the Rotunda restoration project followed by a tour. Networking and social time will begin Thursday, March 16 at 5:30pm. University of Virginia's Rotunda. More info on page 3.

Letter from the President



NANCY BECK, VCA PRESIDENT

As we come to the realization that winter is almost over, our thoughts turn to renewal and change. Spring heralds new life and an opportunity for growth. In this vein, the Board of Directors of the VCA would like to inform the membership of the reporting of the VCA Task Force on Membership Development and Retention. The task force, consisting of Frederick Wallace, Beth Fulton, Mark Lewis and Carey Howlett, presented their initial summary of Responses to Interviews/ Surveys of current and past VCA members to the Board on February 2, 2017.

Based on the findings and our discussion of these results, we are planning on taking immediate action on three of the recommendations that were put forward.

One concern we hope to address during this membership year is the revival of our Annual Social Party. Many members commiserated about the absence of the Winter Party and therefore we are planning a May fete to immediately follow the Business portion of our membership meeting in Church Hill. Plans are still not solidified as to venue (it will be in or near St. John's Church) and whether we will have a covered-dish sharing of food or a catered affair, so don't be shy about voicing your opinions to any Board member!

Another requested opportunity is one for growth and development in the way of more technical or educational programs, including workshops aimed at professional development for our members. For this to happen,

we need greater input and responsiveness from everyone along with the willingness to serve on the Education Committee. A great class, program or workshop does not happen autonomously.

Third, we hope to organize community service conservation projects in the near future, where we can reach a broader audience and not only promote our organization but help to take care of some of the conservation needs of our richly historical Commonwealth.

Again, all of the chances for renewal and opportunities for growth are exciting to plan and talk about but actions speak louder than words – so take action and get involved with the VCA! I look forward to seeing everyone in Charlottesville on March 16th Stratford Hall for our field trip in April.



March Program

*Thursday, March 16th, 5:30-7:30 p.m. The University of Virginia
Rotunda 1826 University Ave, Charlottesville.*

Please join the VCA for a special tour of the restored University of Virginia Rotunda led by Mark Kutney, Architectural Conservator with the Office of the Architect for the University.

We will start with our usual networking/social time with refreshments from 5:30 to 6:00 in a classroom adjacent to the Rotunda. From 6:00 to 6:15, Mark Kutney will give a brief overview of the restoration project. At 6:30, Mark will lead a tour of the Rotunda starting at the top and working our way down to the basement. Once in the basement we will have time for questions and answers. An elevator will be accessible for the tour if needed.

This four-year project restored Jefferson's Rotunda that caught fire in 1895 (pictured on page 1) to some of its original design and enhanced the space to give way for additional study spaces and classrooms. While the Rotunda was closed to the public for two years, archaeological discoveries and custom architectural additions were made. Craftsmen installed a new copper roof over the dome (pictured above).

PLEASE NOTE: The actual tour of the building is limited to 30 VCA members only. We will reserve spaces via Sign-Up Genius only starting on March 1st. The first 30 people to sign up for the tour via Sign-Up Genius will be guaranteed a space. Should there still be

space left as of March 12, we will notify the membership and open the remaining spots to guests of VCA members. Although the tour is limited in size, we encourage all members to come to the networking/social time and to hear Mark Kutney's brief overview of the Rotunda restoration project.

Parking is available at the following locations:
-UVA Bookstore on Emmet St. (pay by the hour).
-University Ave. just east of the Emmet St. intersection (limited free parking on street).
-Elliewood Ave. turn at the Starbucks on University Ave parking (pay by the hour).

We look forward to seeing you in Charlottesville!

PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF NEWPORT COUNTY
GENERATIONS AND DYNASTIES:
RHODE ISLAND FAMILIES AND THEIR LEGACIES
CALL FOR FELLOWS

The Preservation Society of Newport County is now welcoming applications for one-year research fellowships, which will begin on September 1, 2017. Applications for six-month fellowships and sabbaticals will also be considered. Interested scholars are invited to submit proposals that will utilize Newport's historic and cultural resources to examine the topic of "Generations and Dynasties: Rhode Island Families and their Legacies", as it relates to history, culture, design, and/or the arts.

While Rhode Island was founded in the 17th century as a refuge for outsiders, the cosmopolitan trade culture and wealth of Newport soon gave rise to families of immense political, economic, intellectual, artistic, philanthropic and social influence. By the mid-19th century, the network of Newport's influential families extended across the world and the city was transformed by aspiring dynasts and newcomers to the established social network. How did these enduring families/family networks develop? How did they maintain or expand their influence? How did different social, economic and cultural communities within Newport define their leading families? What kinds of political, industrial and aesthetic marks did they leave? How did these historic prominent families interact with and impact each other? What are their legacies today? Topics may include (but are not limited to): history and material culture; architectural history; conservation; decorative arts history; horticultural and landscape history and design; social history; art and literature; preservation policy and theory. Broad interpretations and interdisciplinary approaches to this theme are highly encouraged.

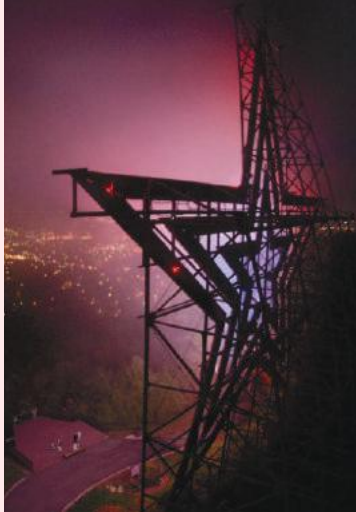
Fellowship requirements: An M.A. or Ph.D. in a relevant academic field such as the history of art, architecture or the decorative arts, landscape design history, historic preservation, material culture, literature, cultural geography, history, and public policy as it relates to cultural heritage. Doctoral candidates conducting dissertation research will also be considered. Proven ability to work independently, organize and manage multiple projects and meet rigorous deadlines is necessary, as are strong research, writing, and public speaking skills.

Fellows receive a stipend of \$24,000, plus \$1,000 travel and research allowance and free housing in our newly renovated Berwind-Stautberg Scholars Center. Residence at the Preservation Society is required. All fellows should be prepared to deliver a public presentation of their project at the conclusion of their fellowship. The deadline for submission of materials is **March 4, 2017**. After reviewing all applications, fellowship finalists will be selected for in-person or telephone interviews.

For more information on the program and application requirements, visit www.newportmansions.org/learn/research-scholarship/fellows-program



Above: In Newport during the Gilded Age
Below: Postcard, "Vanderbilt Gate, Entrance to the Breakers, Bellevue Ave Historical District"



VAM Conference

The Virginia Association of Museums Annual Conference and Exhibit Hall will take place March 18-21 in Roanoke. VAM will be highlighting the unique character of the Blue Ridge region in their conference program and events. For those attending, registration includes admission to off-site workshops and walking tours of Downtown Roanoke and the Taubman Museum of Art. For businesses, this event opens opportunities for companies to raise visibility and meet with current and future clients and shows support for the museum and cultural heritage communities.

For more information on exhibiting booth packages and registration, visit www.vamuseums.org



SYMPOSIUM

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Williamsburg, Virginia, hosts "Printed Fashions: Textiles for Clothing and the Home, 1700-1820", a symposium about painted and printed textiles used for clothing, home furnishings, and bed quilts. The event is on March 26-28 at the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg. The stimulating program includes distinguished guest speakers and a series of juried papers by respected scholars. Textiles tell human stories that sound modern: traders transporting goods from the other side of the world in ships powered by wind and sails; domestic workers trying their best to respond to foreign competition; people making the effort to dress in up-to-date styles despite their limited means; and the importance of chemistry and mechanical expertise in the production of consumer goods.

For more information and registration, visit cvent.com/



VCA Outreach

The University of Virginia has confirmed that "Careers in Art and Historic Conservation" will take place in Campbell Hall, Room 153, on April 19, 5:30-7:30. Four conservators and one intern will discuss their educational journey toward a career in conservation. Carol Givens, Bob Self, Mark Kutney, Eliza Gillian and her intern are slated to speak. VCA Outreach has organized this event annually to introduce students to the conservation community. Conservators describe their education and career paths. Pictured above is objects conservator, Mary Andrews speaking at the 2015 "Careers in Art and Historic Conservation" seminar at VCU Libraries as a part of the nationwide Preservation Week.

Questions can be directed towards VCA Outreach Chair, Patricia Selinger



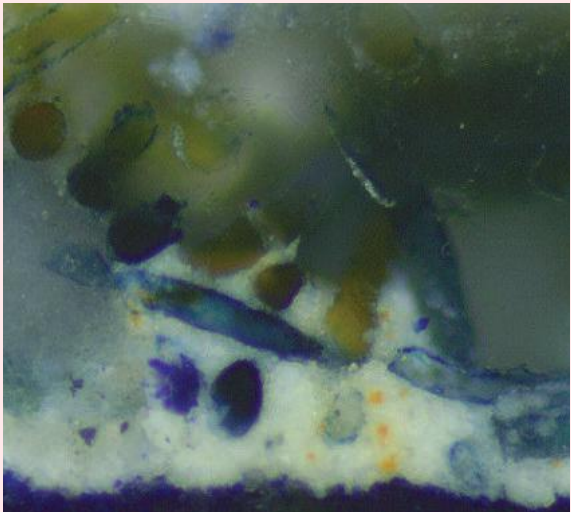
VCA Fieldtrip: Stratford Hall

The Spring field trip is to Stratford Hall, home of the Lees of Virginia and birthplace to Robert E. Lee and will take place on Thursday, April 20th. The event will include talks by VCA member Conservators who have worked on projects at Stratford Hall, and also tours of the property led by the Preservation & Curatorial Staff. A boxed lunch option will be available. More details to follow.



Object Conservation Event

Science Pub RVA presents “Behind the Seen: Science of Art Conservation” featuring the VMFA’s Casey Mallinckrodt. The event is on February 27th 7:00-8:00 pm at Triple Crossing Brewing. Over a sip of some sort, hear about some of the science behind the analysis and conservation of art and cultural heritage objects. Register at sciencepubrva.org.



Architectural Paint Research

The 6th International Architectural Paint Research Conference will be hosted by Columbia University in New York City from March 15 to 17, 2017. Architectural Paint Research (APR) deals with magnitudes of scale, from a single pigment particle, to a painted house, to the decorative tastes of an entire region. Register at apr2017.org/registration.



Conservation Workshop

Archaeological iron is one of the most problematic materials to come out of the ground as it can develop post-excavation corrosion that can destroy artifacts in a relatively short period of time. This workshop will be offered April 18 - 21, 2017 and April 24 - 27, 2017 at Colonial Williamsburg. Access the application form via FAIC’s online portal.



Reasons Why Museum Advocacy in 2017 is More Important than Ever

Actively supporting your museum, gallery, historic site, children's museum, garden, nature or science center and advocating for these spaces brings museum professionals to the table when decisions are being made. Issues including funding, regulations, taxes and other public policy issues affect our institutions on a daily basis. Local government, the General Assembly and Congress make decisions that affect our institutions and organizations. Let's make sure they are doing their part to represent us! Remember, decisions made in Washington and in Richmond potentially affect the workings of your museum for years to come. Reasons why advocating for museums in 2017 is more important than ever

-The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is up for reauthorization for the next six years and to advance many of the Principles for IMLS Reauthorization endorsed by the museum field.

-The new administration has arrived in Washington, so now is the time to introduce yourself and your institution to legislators and their staff members.

-Gathering your colleagues in the field while working toward a common goal and a great way to network on behalf of your museum or organization!

You have a right to advocate on behalf of the work you do and the causes you believe in. Our legislators and elected officials need this information when making difficult funding and policy decisions. Help make sure every VA congressional and legislative district is represented this year! VAM Museum Advocacy day was on January 12, 2017, but AAM's Museum Advocacy Day is fast approaching: February 27-28, 2017.

Member Spotlight

ANDREW BAXTER

Many thanks to VCA President Nancy Beck for attending the AIA Virginia Honors event at the Virginia Museum in November of 2016. I'm also grateful for the piece in last month's Newsletter about the recognition, and for VCA member Laura Cameron placing me into nomination. My friendship and professional involvement with Nancy and Laura has grown with the VCA, as with many other friends and colleagues.

I wanted to share something about my history with this excellent organization. In the late eighties we moved from a suburb of Manhattan to Powhatan. Quite a huge change for sure, and the work transition was not as smooth as anticipated. After a hapless stint waiting tables at the Olive Garden (and mauling the birthday Italiano song numerous times) I saw a classified ad for a position at the VMFA. It mentioned working with conservation, and I thought this is my big chance. Turns out the position was mainly with the security department, and the conservation aspect was notifying the lab if I saw a dead bug inside a frame, or an equally pressing concern. The job did allow me to learn the museum inside out and to meet a lot of art people. Although most seemed a little weirded out by my uniform of raggedy blue blazer, pillbox clip on tie, and black polyester flairs. During my time at the VMFA I was fortunate enough to meet Sandy Jensen, a dear friend and accomplished conservator, who encouraged me to join the VCA. After much trepidation, I did join and found the group to be welcoming, supportive, and unpretentious. After being on the board and serving as membership co-chair I was elected to a two year term as President. It was gratifying to be able to give back to an organization that had contributed so much to my success as a conservator in Virginia and Washington D.C. During my tenure as President we were fortunate enough to have programs such as a behind the scenes tour by the Office of the Curator at The White House, the Special Collections at The Library of Virginia, and an evening hosted by Pam Kiecker Royall and Bill Royall to learn about their outstanding collection and restoration of the Gillette gardens at their Cary St. residence.

I encourage all current and prospective VCA members to enthusiastically contribute your ideas and support to help this fine organization continue to flourish.

VCA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Libbie Mill Library

February 2, 2017

ATTENDEES:

Nancy Beck, Carol Givens, Carey Howlett, Keri Ragland, Dotty Robinson, Karri Richardson, Maeve Bristow, Christy Barranger and Dianne Roland

OFFICER REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Christi Barranger reported the current balance: \$5,207.79. Still having a problem with PayPal. They are not giving us the 501 c. user fee. Carey Howlett will contact them to work that out.

Vice President's Report: Nominations Committee consists of Carol Givens, Bill Ivey and Tom Snyder. They have gotten off to a great start. Several of the offices and committee chairs have already been filled with nominees.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education: Keri Ragland: Still working on receiving suggestions for education programs from the membership. Is planning to have an education program this spring. Details to come.

Outreach: Careers in Conservation Program is set for April 19th at UVA. Nancy Beck says we will proceed with placing an advertisement in VAM's April e-news letter, we will advertise our May meeting and program at St. John's Church. This year the VAM Conference is in Roanoke, VA on March 18th through 21st. Rick Vogt will be attending and volunteered to share his booth with the VCA for pamphlets. Call for volunteers to represent the VCA and answer questions.

Membership: Since last VCA meeting we have 8 new members and 1 member re-new their membership. The total number of members at this time is 81, with 2 complimentary memberships to VAM members. A new printed directory will go out this month. We have received requests for mentors and committee volunteers

Publications: Taylor Healy, deadline for newsletter material is February 13th. Taylor is updating our Facebook page. Send any relevant content to taylorihealy@gmail.com.

Programs: Karri Richardson and Maeve Bristow, March meeting is set for a program on the restoration of the Rotunda at UVA on March 16th. Only 30 people can go on the tour of the Rotunda. Sign Up Genius will be used. Many more can attend the meeting; the tour will be limited to the first thirty who sign up.

Web Management: Carey Howlett wants photos and information to put on the website. Still seeking suggestions for a web host. He is trying to keep the website updated, but doesn't know about making more detailed changes to the website. Carey said he will work with PayPal about making the changes to the fees and how to add the ability to make other types of payments besides membership dues. Carey to ask interns and students to post projects they are working on.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Keri will include a blurb asking for the membership to post educational programs they are interested in seeing the VCA offer.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Task Force Report: Carey passed out a report created from the task force who reached out to current VCA members and previous members. The task force is made up of Frederick Wallace, Mark Lewis and Carey Howlett.

a. Based on membership feedback, the Board discussed outreach to the community by organizing volunteer conservation projects where the membership can participate.

b. A decision was made by the Board to reinstate the invitation to dinner for speakers following the program, and on giving the speaker a free one year membership to the VCA. A motion was made, and carried, to offer the speakers a free one year membership. The Membership Chair will send a thank you note and a certificate for a free one year membership to speakers who are not already members. The Secretary will send thank you notes to speakers who are members. The Programs Chair will make sure that Membership and the Secretary have the necessary contact information for the speakers.

c. The President will write a response to the membership in the form of a letter for the newsletter outlining the changes the Board will make based on the task force's report and recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS: The Secretary will get note cards printed for the Board to use for thank you notes, etc.

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 and see page 11 of the newsletter.

Please share any articles, photos, upcoming conferences, workshops, internships, etc. that you think would be of interest. The next newsletter deadline is February 13, 2017.

Email taylorihealy@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Thanks to all of our new and renewing members. The VCA would like to welcome our newest members:

Terri Blanchette-Time Sorters LLC

Cecile Clover-Art Restoration Services

Jane Hohensee-Jamestown Yorktown Foundation

Allison Kelley-Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Katherine McEnroe-Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Libby McDaniel-VCU Libraries

Myja Thibault-VCU Educator, Carpenter

Emily Wroczynski-Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

The Board continues to discuss ways to encourage new members, and we have begun inviting volunteers from our meeting venues to join us for our programs. March's meeting will be in Charlottesville at the University of Virginia, and I hope that you will invite colleagues and interested friends to join us for this interesting program.

If you know of a person or organization you would like to receive our newsletter or an individual "e-vite" to any of our meetings, please let me know:

membership@virginiaconservationassociation.org

As always, thank you for your continued support of the VCA.

-Dotty Robinson



January Program

The January VCA Members' Meeting opened at 5:30pm with an introduction by Programs Co-chair Maeve Bristow of Dr. Susan Kern, Executive Director, Historic Campus of the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Dr. Kern began her presentation outside with a discussion of the different structures that comprised the Historic Campus, before leading the group into the Wren Building. The 28 attending VCA members and guests were shown through the various rooms including the Gallery on the second floor, the Blue Room, and the Chapel (pictured above) where they learned the history of use and restoration after the building suffered two fires. Updated technology, melding with historic authenticity, was pointed out to the members along the way. The tour ended with a fascinating peek into the basement rooms as the group followed a drain installed by Governor Alexander Spotswood in the early 1800's. Everyone was amazed to see the modern mechanical workings of the building tucked away underground, and felt privileged to have had the opportunity to meet Dr. Kern and hear about her work and hopes for the future of the Historic Campus. Before the reception with social mingling and refreshments, VCA President, Nancy Beck, called the members into a business meeting to allow for the forming of the Nominating Committee. Vice President, Carol Boyers Givens, encouraged all attending to consider serving on the VCA Board and brought forward Bill Ivey and Tom Snyder as members of the ad hoc committee. They were both voted in unanimously by the membership. Membership Chair Dotty Robinson distributed more printed VCA Directories and accepted four new members before the evening ended around 7:30pm.

PLEASE CONSIDER SERVING ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the January meeting, 2 members were elected: Bill Ivey and Tom Snyder to serve on the nominating committee. Nominations for officers to the Board will be solicited from the membership up to 30 days prior to the vote. The vote will take place at the May meeting.

VCA Nominations to the Board of Directors for 2017

Officers:

President *

Vice President *

Secretary

Committees:

Co-Chairperson for Programs

Chairperson for Education

Co- chairs: Publications and Refreshments

Chairperson for Outreach

*Note some duties have changed in the positions.

Refer to the By-laws for descriptions of duties.

Please email me with any nominations at Cbgivens09@gmail.com

VCA STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES (UPDATED DECEMBER 5, 2016)

-The Virginia Conservation Association will offer two annual scholarships of \$250 each to be used towards costs associated with furthering education in the field. Use of funds may include conference or class fees or another related use as approved by the Board. Applicants must be VCA Student Members to apply.

-Applications will be accepted throughout the year and will be approved or declined by the VCA Board during the April and December Board meetings. Successful applicants will be notified within one week of the Board meeting and presented a check within the following 30 days.

-As a condition of the award, recipients will be required to summarize their experience as an article for an issue of the VCA newsletter.

-Applicants are welcome to apply again for consideration in the next year.

Suggestions for applications:

Applications should include a brief, one-page explanation of their proposed use of funds including information on the program, conference, class etc. Applicants should also explain their interest in conservation and how the VCA scholarship will benefit him or her in pursuing a career in conservation or a directly related field. Expenditures are welcomed but not necessary.

Applications can be mailed to the VCA, P.O. Box 7023, Richmond, VA 23221 or e-mailed directly to the current Education Committee Chair.