



EGG-CITING TIMES

Newsletter of
Elizabeth Van Lew
Detached Tent # 1, Haymarket, VA
Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865
May 2018



President's Letter

Dear Sisters,

Our June 2 meeting will be our last one until next October. During the summer the Board will meet to plan our meetings for the 2018-2019 year. If anyone has any suggestions for locations and programs please email me.

Our June 2 meeting will begin with a canal tour on the James River and Kanawah Canal (see article about the history of the canal) at 139 Virginia Street. We have reserved a boat for our group and will depart at 11:30. We will meet at 11:00 at the stairs leading down to the kiosk. The tour is approximately 40 minutes. Our captain will tell us how the canal was important to Richmond during the Civil War. Our treasurer has pre-paid the cost, so please mail a \$8.50 check (to Donetta Bantle **to me no later than May 25th**).

After the tour we will take a short walk to the Sine Irish Pub and Restaurant (1327 E. Cary St) for lunch and our meeting. I have sent their group menu plan in the same newsletter email. Make your selection and send it to me along with your canal check. This way things will go quicker. You can pay for your lunch at the restaurant. This way I can give a head count to both the canal people and the restaurant.

Driving directions are also included with parking choices with this email. There are two garages across from the restaurant. The third is about 2 blocks away at the end of Virginia and Canal Streets.

Be sure to bring your Ancestor Minute presentation. We will add names to the drawing for those who are not in there already.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

In F, C, and L
Donetta



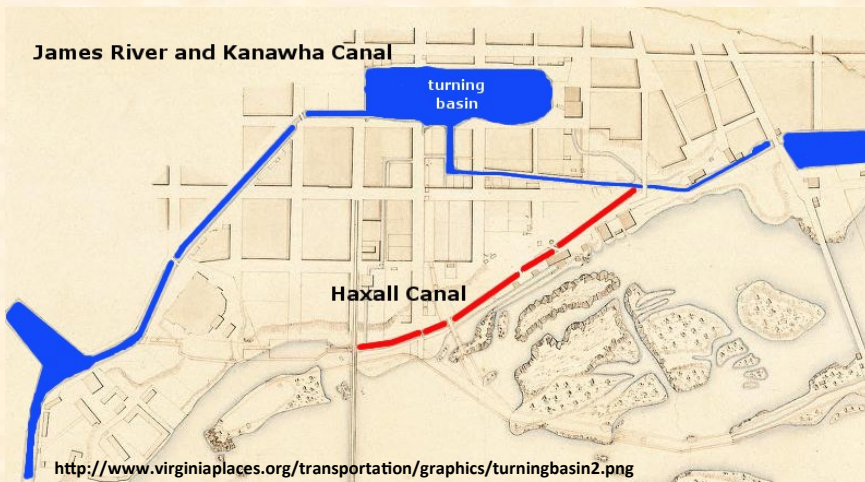
Donetta presents a donation check to Ruth Snead of the Chesterfield Historical Society to help fund the memorial at Point of Rocks. Also in the photo is Scott Williams, who presented a program about Point of Rocks, and Crystal Monroe, who is a descendant of the original owners of the house where Point of Rocks is located.

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James River and Kanawha Canal

In 1784, George Washington appeared before the general assembly to support legislation to create a waterway to bypass the falls in Richmond. In 1785 the James River Company was formed to create a way to ship goods and people inland from Richmond. It was an expensive project which failed several times financially and was frequently damaged by floods. Though largely financed by the Commonwealth of Virginia through the Virginia Board of Public Works, it was only half completed by 1851, reaching Buchanan, in Botetourt County. When work to

extend it further west stopped permanently, railroads were overtaking the canal as a far more productive mode of transportation. After the American Civil War funds for resuming construction were unavailable from either the war-torn Commonwealth or private sources and the project did poorly against railroad competition, finally succumbing to damage done by massive flooding in 1877. In the end its right-of-way was bought and the canal was largely dismantled by the new Richmond and Allegheny Railroad, which laid tracks on the former towpath. The R&A became part of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway in the 1890s, which developed much of the former canal route into an important line for West Virginia bituminous coal headed eastbound for the Peninsula Extension to reach the Hampton Roads coal piers at Newport News for worldwide export aboard large colliers.



<http://www.virginiaplaces.org/transportation/graphics/turningbasin2.png>

Promoted by such men as George Washington, Edmund Randolph, and John Marshall, the James River Company opened in 1790 as the first commercial canal in the United States. Stretching from Richmond, Virginia to Westham, Virginia and paralleling the James for 7 miles (11 km), it supplemented existing bateaux transportation on the James River. These flat-bottomed boats floated down the James to Richmond laden with tobacco hogsheads and returned with French and English imports, furniture, dishes, and clothing.

In addition to bateaux, many canal boats were packets, which drew more water than the smaller bateaux. Mules and horses pulled the packets along the towpaths. Locks were necessary at points where the river had rapids. The American Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 each slowed construction. Work was slow, expensive, and very labor-intensive through the rocky terrain of Virginia's Piedmont region, a transitional area between the sandy coastal plain and the mountains. Enslaved Africans hired from plantation owners who lived near the route of the canal did most of the labor. After work stalled for a number of years the canal company went broke and gave up.

In 1820, the Commonwealth of Virginia took control of the project and with state funds provided through the Virginia Board of Public Works resumed construction. Work stalled yet again, then resumed in 1835 under the new James River and Kanawha Company, with Judge Benjamin Wright as Chief Engineer. He was assisted by his son Simon Wright, Charles Ellet Jr., and Daniel Livermore. By 1840, the canal was completed to Lynchburg. Service was inaugurated by William Henry Harrison who was elected president that same year. In 1847, Walter W. Gwynn was hired as Chief Engineer, with Edward Lorraine as his assistant.

The canal eventually extended 196.5 miles (316 km) west of Richmond to Buchanan by 1851. There, the plan was to link it to the James River and Kanawha Turnpike to provide passage through the most rugged portions of the mountains. The goal was to reach the Kanawha River at its head of navigation, about 30 miles (50 km) east of today's Charleston, West Virginia. The portage necessary made competition with railroads along the same route a real threat. Construction of a planned railroad there was delayed by the American Civil War. However, both war damage and interruption in the flow of commerce along the canal did great harm to it. As part of Richmond's revival and redevelopment of its waterfront, a portion of the canal was restored.

The 138-acre (56 ha) James River and Kanawha Canal Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. The historic district included one contributing building, nine contributing sites, and 21 contributing structures. Today boat rides are featured along a Canal Walk which extends for 1.25 miles (2 km) parallel to both the old Haxall Canal and James River and Kanawha canal. Several historical exhibits about the canals and the City of Richmond are dispersed along the way.

<http://www.civilwar.eastlymehistoricalsociety.org/images/10thcvi/lgrichmond.jpg>



Article compiled by Donetta Bantle, using en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_River_and_Kanawha_Canal and gochlandhistory.wordpress.com

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Badge and Pin Protocol

The Membership Pin can be worn with or without an Ancestor Star. The pin is worn on your left side. Any additional pins such as a President or Past President badge must be worn in a straight line left of the Membership pin. Small American flag pins may be worn on the label above the Membership pin. No other pins can be worn on the left side. Additional pins can be worn on your right side.

Ancestor Star pin forms can be downloaded from the National site. These can be filled out and submitted with \$5.00 to the President who can order them from National.



200th Birthday of Elizabeth Van Lew

Please put Monday, October 8th on your calendars. There will be a celebration of the 200th birthday of Elizabeth Van Lew. Make plans now to join us. Donations of \$10 per person will be received at the door.

Ms. Lapisardi will perform as Elizabeth Van Lew at American Legion Post 144, 1717 Old Hanover Road, Sandston, VA, at 1:30 p.m. Following her performance, there will be a wreath laying ceremony at Shockoe Hill Cemetery. It would be great if members of our Tent could attend. At this time, myself, Margaret Stromberg and Midge Elliott will attend. We could meet for lunch in Sandston, go to the program and then on to the cemetery for the wreath laying. If you want to come in historic attire that would be great. Let me know if you are interested.



<http://www.picshunger.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Happy-Birthday-Cake-Photos-HD-Wallpaper-1.jpg>

Ancestor Minute

Ann Beer, Gail Itchner and Vicki Meadows presented information about their ancestors.

We plan to continue this at the end of our meeting before the closing ritual. Names were kept from the last meeting so bring your ancestor information/artifacts again; and if you did not bring something last time, you can bring it this time and put your name in the drawing. We will keep doing this until everyone has had a chance to present.

Additionally, our Tent website (<https://elizabethvanlewtent.weebly.com>) has an "Ancestor Spotlight" in which your ancestor can be highlighted with a few paragraphs and photographs. If you would like your ancestor to be included on our webpage, please send the submission to our webmaster, Karen Misiano, at elizabethvlew@yahoo.com.



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