



Diamond Hill News

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The Victorian Society in America 2012 Fall Study Tour

Lynchburg, Appomattox & Bedford, VA ~ October 11-14, 2012

This Study Tour will examine an area of "Southside Virginia" that blossomed during the 19th and early 20th centuries with bustling industries such as tobacco, iron, steel and railroads. The thriving economy produced some wonderful architecture from various periods that survives to this day. The tour will also examine the impact of the Civil War on the region through a number of sites associated with the war, including a house in Bedford used by Union General David Hunter as his headquarters and Appomattox Courthouse, where General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant in April, 1865.

First settled in 1757, Lynchburg was named for its founder, John Lynch who operated a ferry service across the James River. He was also responsible for the first bridge spanning the river, which replaced the ferry in 1812. The "City of Seven Hills" quickly developed along the rolling terrain surrounding Lynch's Ferry. These improvements in transportation routed traffic through Lynchburg, allowing it to become a center for tobacco trading. By the 1850s Lynchburg was a leading center of commerce and manufacturing, and one of the richest towns per capita in the United States.

During the Civil War, Lynchburg served as a Confederate supply base, and was approached within one mile by the Union forces of General David Hunter as he drove south from the Shenandoah Valley. Under the false impression that the Confederate forces stationed in Lynchburg were much larger than anticipated, Hunter was repelled by the Confederate forces on June 18, 1864 in the battle of Lynchburg. To create this impression, a train was run continuously up and down the tracks while the citizens of Lynchburg cheered as if reinforcements were unloading. Even local prostitutes took part in the deception, misinforming their Union clients of the large numbers of Confederate soldiers.

Following the war, Lynchburg's economy evolved into manufacturing, earning it the nickname "Pittsburgh of the South" and once again making the community per capita income one of the highest in the country. The tobacco industry also fueled the economy of neighboring Appomattox and Bedford, where the vast fortunes generated by tobacco allowed for the construction of beautiful homes and public buildings, many of which will be seen on this tour.

Planned itinerary* to include:

Lynchburg: The Lynchburg City Museum, Court Street United Methodist Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Point of Honor, the Anne Spencer House and Gardens, Rivermont Avenue, Garland Hill and **Diamond Hill** Historic Districts, and the Old City Cemetery with the Pest house Medical Museum, Hearse House and Caretakers' Museum, Station House Museum, and the Mourning Museum.

Bedford: Otterburn, the Bedford Museum, Avenel, Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest, and Sweet Briar Museum.

Appomattox: Museum of the Confederacy and Appomattox Court House.

What is The Victorian Society in America?

The Victorian Society In America is the only national non-profit organization committed to historic preservation, protection, understanding, education, and enjoyment of our nineteenth century heritage. The VSA was founded in 1966 as a sister organization to the Victorian Society in the U.K., by such legends of historic preservation as Brendan Gill, Henry-Russell Hitchcock, and Margot Gayle. So outraged were they by the 1964 destruction of New York's magnificent Pennsylvania Station [McKim, Mead, & White, 1910] that they formed the Society to ensure that other important structures did not fall to the wrecker's ball.

Since then, the VSA has fulfilled its mission through publications, symposia, architectural tours, and its famous Summer Schools in Newport, Rhode Island & London, England, and has made tremendous contributions to the preservation of many historic buildings. Indeed, *Old House Journal* included the founding of the Victorian Society as one of the 25 most significant milestones in American preservation.

There are 19 registered Chapters of the Society around the country hosting a wide range of local events and lectures. There is also an active Summer Schools Alumni Association that sponsors exceptional architectural tours all over the world.

For more information please visit:
<http://www.victoriansociety.org/>

Progressive Dinner on Diamond Hill for VSA members

On October 13th DHHS will have the honor to host a private progressive dinner for VSA members.

October Activities:

Point of Honor

October 6th—Fall Festival FREE

Jones Memorial Library

October 17th, 2012

Jefferson's Furnishings at Poplar Forest
For more information call the library @
(434) 846-0501

LHF

October 25, 26, 27

Ghosts of Historic Lynchburg
Downtown Main Street
Partnering with Lynch's Landing
Sponsored by Whitten Funeral Homes

The walks will start at the City Market on the corner of Main and 12th Streets. Tickets will go on sale there at 6:00 p.m. each night. First come, first served...with a limited number of walks each evening. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 11 years old and younger....No rain dates. Group reservations will be accepted for 10 or more. Please call the Foundation office at (434) 528-5353 to make these reservations, or for more information. All proceeds go to Lynch's Landing and the Lynchburg Historical Foundation. For more information call the Foundation office at (434) 528-5353

Poplar Forest

October 6, 2012 Archaeology

Behind-the-Scenes Tours

Tours at 11:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 1:15 p.m., and 2:15 p.m.

Archaeologists share their latest discoveries, and take visitors inside the archaeology lab. Free with regular admission

October 13, 2012 Poplar Forest 5K

2nd annual run to support children's educational programming at Poplar Forest.

October 13, 2012 Family

Archaeology in the Field

October 13th (rain date October 14th)

8 a.m. - Noon

Parents and kids can learn together how to be an archaeologist! Spend a special Saturday morning learning from the archaeologists. \$25.00 per adult/child team
Reservations Required please contact the Museum Shop at (434)534-8120.

October 20, 2012

Family Archaeology in the Lab

8 a.m. - noon.

Become a detective! Go behind-the-scenes with your kids or grandkids for hands-on learning with the archaeologists as they figure out what artifacts are and what they mean. \$25.00 per adult/child team. Reservations required please contact the Museum Shop at (434)534-8120

DAY at the POINT

Free Admission

15th Annual Fall Festival at

Point of Honor

Saturday, October 6th

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

112 Cabell Street

Living History

Blacksmith, costumed interpreters, batteau exhibit, open-hearth cooking, and much more!

Children's Activities

Games, jump castle, face-painting, quill pen writing, candle making, brick making, pumpkin decorating!

Musical Entertainment

Music: Riddle on the Harp, E.C. Glass Strings, Lynchburg College Con Brio Woodwinds and Jimbo Cary: *Songs and Tunes from Old Virginia!*

Food

Brunswick stew, BBQ, hotdogs, popcorn, caramel apples, homemade baked goods, and drinks!

Highlights

Tours of Point of Honor & historic Daniel's Hill, beekeeping, apple pie contest, and quilt exhibit!

www.pointofhonor.org or

www.lynchburgmuseum.org

Lynchburg Museum Facebook or

(434) 455-6226

10% Discount in Gift Shop



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Neighborhood Watch: L. Robert Halpin
Children's Activities: Mari Smallshaw
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Parliamentarian: Pat Gatti

Meetings

Business meetings are usually held at 7:30 p.m. on first Tuesdays of each month except June, July and August. Owners of properties in the Diamond Hill Historic District and others interested in supporting historic preservation are welcome to attend.

Membership

Annual dues for Active Members are \$10.00 per person and the initiation fee is \$5.00 (first year). Active Membership is limited to adult members of households owning Diamond Hill property. Annual dues for Associate Members are \$10 per person (no initiation fee). All members receive this newsletter at no charge. Newsletter subscriptions for non-members are \$5.00 per year.

Publisher's Statement

The Diamond Hill Historical Society (DHHS) is a nonprofit historic preservation organization approved under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Its purpose is to preserve and encourage—through the fostering of education, research and restoration—the historical and architectural integrity of the Diamond Hill Historic District. DHHS was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia February 22, 1979. Views expressed in the *Diamond Hill News* do not necessarily reflect the position of DHHS or its officers and directors.

Brush & Bulk Collection

No need to call to schedule your pickup! Just put your brush or bulky items on the curb on the day of your trash collection (but keep separate from trash). Refuse collectors will pickup brush and bulky items when they pick up your trash or in the case of a large pile, they'll contact the knuckleboom operator to pick up the items at a later time (usually within a weeks time). Private contractors hired by citizens are always responsible for the disposal of brush, limbs, branches and other yard debris cut by the contractor. In addition, remodeling and demolition debris must be delivered by the contractor/citizen to the [landfill](#) for proper disposal. This type of waste material is not accepted at the curb.

Loose Leaf Collections: This is a free service available in the Fall at announced times only. No phone call is necessary. During this time we ask that you please rake leaf piles curbside being careful **not** to pile them in the street. Leaf piles should be free of sticks and rocks. Leaf collection crews will vacuum leaves as promptly as possible.

Bagged Leaves: The city no longer accepts bagged leaves.

Compost Your Leaves: Leaves are an excellent source for compost. To learn more about composting, see below:

What Is Composting? Composting is a natural decomposition process of organic material into a humus-rich soil amendment, known as compost.

Is Composting Recycling? Yes. In fact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) includes composting in its definitions of recycling.

Is Composting Easy To Do? Yes. If you're the lazy composter, then you need a pile of leaves, water and sunshine. Nature does the rest. For more active composters, use a bin; put in three parts brown (leaves, hay, etc) to one part green (grass clippings, vegetable/fruit peelings), wet material, turn once a week, and walah... compost--black and crumbly and smells like rich dirt.

How Can I Get Started Composting? Contact a local Master Gardener to learn more about composting by calling the Lynchburg Home Extension Service at (434) 455-3740



*Mirror, mirror on the wall -
Who has the best pumpkin of all?*



*Diamond Hill
Pumpkin Decorating Contest
Prizes for spookiest, funniest and most creative.*

*Pumpkins will be judged the evening of October
31st.*

**For information, contact Mari Smallshaw
846-3242 or mws1019@aol.com**

Kids' Haven Dinner

Mary Kathryn, George & Jane, Mari, Josi & Jean - Thank you for helping out on August 27th with the Kids Haven dinner. Total of 40 people were served. Everyone loved having hot dogs & mac n cheese. Not much left. The ice cream Dixie cups with a little whip topping and lots of sprinkles was a hit! We thank Sally & Jeff for leading Diamond Hill participation. A fun night for all!

Women of Achievement

The YWCA of Central Virginia recently announced the 2012 inductees into the elite Academy of Women. Amongst those to be inducted this year is our neighbor and fellow DHHS member Sally Schneider. Sally is being recognized as the Extraordinary Woman in Business for the central Virginia area.

Sally and her husband Jeff moved to Lynchburg in 2000 and Sally was selected for the position as the Executive Director of the Lynchburg Historical Foundation in December, 2001. Sally has served as the Executive Director of LHF for nearly eleven of LHF's forty year existence. Her proactive approach initially focused on reenergizing the LHF organization and ultimately in ensuring LHF was fulfilling its mission. Her contributions have been extensive and as a result of her dedication and commitment, LHF is back on the city's radar as an effective and viable organization that is highly respected and which has a positive influence in the City of Lynchburg.

Since becoming the Executive Director of LHF, Sally's accomplishments are many. She has substantially expanded the educational programs and workshops, more than tripled the revenue generated through the annual tour of homes and patron's party, more than doubled LHF membership, and has implemented several new and extremely successful events including the *Ghosts of Historic Lynchburg*, *Corks and Forks* and *Story Time with Santa*. And you will soon see her as co-author of an LHF sponsored and published children's book about the history of the Miller Claytor House.

The YWCA, a local nonprofit promoting female empowerment, reserves its biennial Academy of Women award for those women who've achieved excellence in fields ranging from art to government to ministry. Sally and the rest of this year's honorees will be recognized at a dinner October 12th. They join an elite group of only 127 other women in the Lynchburg area that have been honored in the past as outstanding Women of Achievement since the Academy was established in 1986.

Congratulations Sally!



October Meeting

Tue., Oct. 2nd
7:30 pm.

at the

416-18 Lewis-Clark Duplex
(Prior to 1885)
416-18 Washington St

Hosts: Fran & Rad Briley



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