



Eskridge Family News

202 Hidalgo Dr
Hampton, VA 23669-1656

April 2025

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The 2025 Annual Meeting will be held the weekend of October 3-5 in Williamsburg VA

- If you have not paid your membership dues, please send the \$20 payment to:

NEW

Martha Bostic

2537 Holly Oak Ln

Gastonia NC 28056

- Children, grandchildren, births, marriages, divorces, deaths—we would love to have your latest information to include in the Historical Archives.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Letter	1
Treasurer's Report	2
Reunion Information	2
From History & Archives	3
Family News	4
From History & Archives	5
Cleaning up Gravestones	6/7

Dear EFA Cousins and friends,

The Eskridge Family Association Reunion will be in the Williamsburg/Jamestown area the weekend of October 3-5 with our annual meeting on Saturday, October 4, 2025.

This is a great opportunity to visit with other Eskridge Family descendants and their families. We plan to have our Annual Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday in a meeting room in the hotel. After lunch we plan to go Jamestown to see the actual site of the earliest residences and the beginning of our first legislature.

We plan to allow time on Friday evening, also in a gathering room in the hotel, to have a time to visit and use our rich resources of Eskridge lineage heritage. We plan to have snacks available for this time together.

We hope you will make plans to join us for this gathering. This is a good time of greeting acquaintances, meeting new cousins and hearing their stories as we compare our family connections.

We are looking forward to this time together,

Carolyn Knight
President EFA

Remember to keep your
information up-to-date.
Please send changes or
corrections of personal
information of family line-
age to:

Carolyn Knight
202 Hidalgo Dr
Hampton, VA 23669-1656
E-mail: crknight@cox.net
757-243-8162 (cell) 757-771-9750

FROM YOUR TREASURER

Our Treasurer is Martha Bostic who lives in Gastonia NC

Please note that our revised membership form includes our e mail, web address and social media accounts. We need the ability to communicate with you electronically so thank you for making sure you fill out your e mail address. EFA will not share your information.

Your membership expiration date is on the address label for this newsletter. If no date is shown, we would be grateful if you would start paying your family dues in 2025? Questions: Contact Martha Bostic martha_b@bellsouth.net or 704-824-1685 (leave a message) Address is 2537 Holly Oak Ln, Gastonia NC 28056



IT'S REUNION TIME !!! – SAVE THE DATE

Our reunion will be headquartered at the Fairfield Inn and Suites in beautiful & historic Williamsburg Virginia 1402 Richmond Rd, Williamsburg VA Dates are October 3, 4 & 5. Make your room reservations by calling the hotel directly at 757- 645-3600. Special rate of \$145 + tax per night is available until 9/2/25— a continental breakfast is included.

This hotel has hosted us before & the facilities are very nice for our uses

THIS IS A MARVELOUS EXPERIENCE!! COME JOIN US AND GET TO KNOW YOUR ESKRIDGE COUSINS BETTER!

Schedule of Events

Friday October 3

7:00-9:00 pm gathering of the clan in the meeting room of the hotel. Light snacks and drinks will be served. An opportunity for all to check out the Eskridge Books and visit with cousins from all over. (suggest you eat dinner beforehand)

Saturday October 4

7:00 am Complimentary breakfast served at the hotel

10:00 am Business meeting at the meeting room of the hotel

Afternoon — optional but suggested tour of the National Park at Jamestowne

FURTHER DETAILS IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

THE BRITISH ARE COMING!! THE BRITISH ARE COMING!!



In April 1775, the Sons of Liberty — including Paul Revere and William Dawes prepared to alert the citizens of Massachusetts of the approach of British Army troops. On the night of 18 April 1775, Robert Newman (sexton of the Old North Church in Boston) used a lantern to warn the people in Charlestown of the approach of the British Army on the Charles River.

Revere and Dawes then took off on horseback to meet John Hancock and Samuel Adams in Concord — about 10 miles

away. They alerted as many as 40 other riders and were joined by Samuel Prescott. The 3 men were intercepted by a British patrol in Lincoln. Dawes and Prescott escaped, but Revere was captured. He was later released after questioning. By giving the Minutemen advance notice of the British Army's approach, the ride played a significant role in allowing a Patriot victory at the Battles of Lexington and Concord on the 19th of April 1775.

THE BATTLES OF LEXINGTON AND CONCORD were the first military engagements of the Revolutionary War. These battles were significant for their symbolic importance and signaled the beginning of open rebellion against the most powerful country in the world. It encouraged colonists to fight for their rights and liberties.

Thus, we begin our celebration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution

ESKRIDGE PATRIOTS

BURDETT 3 ESKRIDGE (SC) DAR Ancestor # A055134 SAR Patriot # P-155215

SGT/LT GEORGE 4 ESKRIDGE (VA/KY) DAR Ancestor # A037136 SAR Patriot # P-155216

CAPT. GEORGE 3 ESKRIDGE (VA) DAR ANCESTOR #A037142 SAR Patriot # P-328878

LT JOHN 3 ESKRIDGE (VA) DAR ANCESTOR #A037145 SAR Patriot # P-155218

RICHARD 3 ESKRIDGE (NC) DAR ANCESTOR # A215476 SAR Patriot # P-345009

CAPT WILLIAM 3 ESKRIDGE (VA) DAR ANCESTOR # A037147 SAR Patriot # P-155220

LT WILLIAM 4 ESKRIDGE (VA) DAR ANCESTOR # A037148 SAR Patriot # P-288433

MARGARET 2 ESKRIDGE KENNER (VA) DAR ANCESTOR #A064850 SAR Patriot # P=155219

If you know of others, please let us know

Wonder what Col George would have thought?? He was a loyal supporter of the Crown

DONATIONS ARE TAX

JAMES C ESKRIDGE

DEDUCTABLE

\$40

In memory of Sanford and
Olive Eskridge

BRENDA M. DOWNING

\$10

WEB

\$10

Where needed

\$10

In memory of Minnie Jane
Eskridge Toney**D
O
N
A
T
I
O
N
S****NEW MEMBERS****Brenda M Downing (Rich 3)****Kenneth Edward Thomas (Burd 3)****CONDOLENCES**

William Henry (Bill) Leyden — spouse born 18 May 1938 IRELAND; died 30 November 2024 Atlantic Beach FL — husband of Coz. Anne Leyden. Bill will be remembered by many of us who watched in horror and helplessness as he tumbled down the hill behind the Eskridge Oak in Fredericksburg while attending a reunion.

Gordon W 9 Eskridge (Rich 3) — born 7 July 1940 Oklahoma City, OK; died 22 December 2024 OK. "Gordon was a proud veteran of the United States Air Force . . . earned his Doctor



of Education degree from Oklahoma State University. He used his degree as a NASA educator to teach teachers how to engage their students. . . . He was a dedicated family man and loved his children and grandchildren. He was also a gifted genealogist and contributed much to our Eskridge genealogy.

He was deeply involved in his faith, volunteering with the Scouting and Young Men's programs of The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints.

Gordon was married to Rosemary Horn Eskridge for 58 years. He is also survived by his daughters Samantha (Don) Hand; Jennifer (Jason) Sprouse; Jeana (Keith) Hasbell, Rachele Eskridge (Sean Hill); Sarah (Joshua) Donaldson. He also leaves behind 19 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren, 10 nieces and 19 nephews — and Eskridge cousins.

Gordon loved to create "stories" that were historical in nature, but with his own contribution to the story. They are not true— but "might have been"?? Just understand they are fiction and should be enjoyed as such.

The Unofficial Family Tree of Vincent Van Gogh — thanks to Little Church Mouse — UK*His dizzy aunt ~ Verti Gogh**His brother who ate prunes ~ Gotta Gogh**His magician uncle ~ Where-diddy Gogh**His Mexican cousin ~ A Mee Gogh**The constipated uncle ~ Can't Gogh**The sister who loved disco ~ Go Gogh**The brother with low back pain ~ Lum Bay Gogh**I saw you smiling . . . ~ there ya Gogh!!*

FROM THE ARCHIVES

A Day in the Life of a Settler in Colonial America

There was no such thing as a “typical day”. Things varied considerably depending on your location, economic status and your own circumstances. The colonial era spanned from the early 17th century to the late 18th century before we became an independent nation. It also covered wide and varied geography. The original 13 colonies spread from Massachusetts to Georgia and the colonies were populated with people from different countries and different religious beliefs. They brought their traditions with them.

Colonists adapted to their environments, often taking lessons from Native Americans on how to survive. The weather, seasons and the availability of resources contributed to their daily lives. But regardless of your station in life, days were long and often started before dawn; lasting until long after the sun went down. The morning meal typically consisted of bread & milk, a cornmeal mush or porridge served with cider or beer (what no Starbucks??) Sustenance was much needed to be able to handle the work — typically 12 hour days; 6 days a week.

Men were expected to provide for their families and farming was the primary occupation. Men also worked in specialties like blacksmithing, silversmithing and other trades. Women typically worked in the home — providing meals and educating the children. They also helped out with the “family business” whatever it was. Children were often expected to help their parents in their work and thus learn valuable lessons for later life.

In the Colonial Era, the biggest meal of the day was at noon-time and was called “dinner”. It was a hearty fare designed to give a break from the work day and to sustain them.

For many Colonial settlements, the local economy relied heavily on indentured servants (primarily from Europe) and enslaved labor (primarily of African descent). Their contributions were significant to Colonial life. Their dinner was often brought to them in the fields.

Spring planting season and fall harvesting were important to the life of the colonists and often marked the “make or break” point in their lives with long hours and hard work. Winter was less busy outside, but time was consumed fixing and preparing equipment and making and repairing clothes and shoes.

The hearth was the focal place in the home and families often spent time in the evening reading, playing games and musical instruments, and hearing stories of life. They generally had a light “supper” of leftovers at night and went to bed early.

Beds were generally sacks stuffed with straw or chaff and sometimes with feathers. Homemade quilts provided warmth. They shared bed space and often slept in the common rooms. Older children slept in 1 bed and young ones slept with their mother.

Makes us wonder what life would have been like at Sandy Point??

thanks to: <https://historyfacts.com> — for inspiration and facts in this article

REMEMBRANCE RESTORATION — by Coz Ann Campbell

With permission, my husband Doug & I cleaned some stones at Yeocomico Church on 19 August 2023 using D 3. Included was the marker for Sarah 2 Eskridge Newton. There are 3 photos taken the day we cleaned the stones. There is one picture from August 2024 — 1 year after.



BEFORE



After spraying solution and a gentle scrub with a Tampico bursh



Inscription starts to emerge



One year later — august 2024— BEAUTIFUL!

FROM THE ARCHIVES

SARAH 2 ESKRIDGE — daughter of Col George & Rebecca Eskridge

Sarah was originally buried at "Wilmington" — the family seat of the Newton family. There is some confusion/argument as to whether this is a replacement stone for the original. It does seem that her remains were moved to Yeocomico and reinterred there. This is the only known Eskridge grave at Yeocomico. Her grave is often mistaken for Col George's grave. Let's hope that with the tombstone being very clean and readable that less mistakes will happen.

The stone reads:

"Beneath this stone are deposited the remains of Mrs. Sarah Newton, daughter of George Eskridge and late wife of Captain Willowby Newton, of Westmoreland County, who, after having justly established the character of a dutiful child, a faithful friend, an affectionate mother, and sincere Christian, departed this life on the 2d of December, 1753, in the 48th year of her age"

Editor's note — Coz Ann and her daughter Caroline are starting a hobby/business cleaning grave markers in the greater Richmond VA area, so if you would like to have your relatives marker cleaned by some very talented ladies, reach out to ANN.

THE JAMESTOWNE SOCIETY



Members of the Jamestown Society are descended from early settlers who lived or held colonial government positions in Jamestowne Virginia prior to 1700 or who invested in its establishment. The Society was established for historic, patriotic and educational purposes.

Among its activities, the society makes visits to early American sites; provides a fellowship for a graduate student researching Colonial Virginia prior to 1700; funding the preservation of Colonial records and supporting

the preservation of Colonial sites. Membership is limited to lineal descendants of an ancestor who aided in the establishment of the first permanent colony of Virginia 1607-1624. You have to be 18 years of age and fill out the paperwork. Lifetime membership is \$400.

Members of the Eskridge family have applied and been accepted as members. Descendants of Burdette 3 and Richard 3 should be able to apply easily.

Have you joined the Jamestown Society through an Eskridge connection?? Let us know, we would like to share your experience with others.

2025 EFA REUNION

MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND THE 2025 REUNION

OCTOBER 3, 4 and 5

FAIRFIELD INN WILLIAMSBURG

1402 RICHMOND ROAD

WILLIAMSBURG, VA

757-645-3600

SPECIAL RATE OF \$145 (plus taxes) UNTIL 9/2/2025

Your Living History...



*Eskridge Family
Association*
Carolyn Knight
202 Hildalgo Dr
Hampton, VA 23669-1656
E Mail: crknight@cox.net

