



Eskridge Family News

152 Pine Creek Drive
Hampton VA 23669-1244
757-851-6758

August 2018

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear EFA Cousins and friends,

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- The 2018 Annual Meeting will be held the weekend of October 5-7 in beautiful Richmond VA
- If you have not paid your membership dues, please send the \$15 payment to:

Ann Campbell
2311 Dolfield Dr
Richmond VA
23235

It has been good to hear from members and interested cousins who are looking into their ancestry. We are happy to hear about new members and hear of additions to families. We are sorry for our families who have lost loved ones but do appreciate getting the information. Each story adds to the narrative of our family history.

This year we will gather in Richmond for our Association Reunion. In addition to our Annual Meeting on October 6, 2018, we will have the opportunity to tour the Museum of History and Culture and view the portraits of Colonel George Eskridge and his wife Rebecca, which are housed in the Museum. Their collections also give a view of life in colonial Virginia and more.

I hope many of you will come on Friday and can enjoy going through the books that have been compiled on the families of the descendants of our ancestor Colonel George. We will have a room in the Comfort Suites at Virginia Commons for your research and visiting with other cousins. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

The Association for the Preservation of Yeocomico Church will have their 113th annual meeting on Sunday October 7th at 10:00 am. This is also Homecoming Sunday at the church. Following a brief business session, a new bronze marker on the churchyard brick wall will be unveiled.

This marker commemorates the presence on 16 August 1953 of presiding Bishop Henry St. George Tucker and Diocese of Virginia Bishop Frederick Deane Goodwin. The two bishops celebrated the 300th anniversary of Westmoreland County. The APYC is a fund of Cople Episcopal Parish of the Diocese of Virginia. Their mission is to cherish, maintain and preserve the oldest church in the historic Northern Neck.

EFA supports their efforts with annual contributions. I encourage all to attend Yeocomico. We will have directions for you.

Carolyn Knight, President

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

Carolyn Knight
152 Pine Creek Drive
Hampton VA 23669-1244
E-mail: crknight@cox.net

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FROM YOUR TREASURER

The address label on your newsletter includes a date such as 12/31/2017 This is the date your dues have been paid through. Dues are paid for an entire calendar year from January to December. If your label does not have a date included then dues have not been received in recent years. Associations receiving the newsletter will have an "A" on their address label. If you have ANY questions about your dues contact the EFA Treasurer: Ann Campbell Eskridge Family Association 2311 Dolfield Dr, Richmond VA 23235 Email: eskridgefamilyassociation@gmail.com 804-272-6543 voicemail
If you provide your most recent e-mail address on the Membership Renewal/ Registration Form, we will update our records and you will receive an e-mail confirmation of money and forms received



**REUNION HEADQUARTERS 2018
COMFORT SUITES – VIRGINIA COMMONS
10601 Telegraph Road
Glen Allen VA 23059
Tel 804-262-2000 and mention special rates for
EFA**

Special Eskridge Family Association rates are: \$89 per night **BUT YOU MUST RESERVE BEFORE SEPTEMBER 18TH TO GET THIS RATE !!!!!**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY OCTOBER 5th

7:00 to 9 PM — gather in the meeting room for snacks and drinks — examine the family books
Meet your cousins

SATURDAY OCTOBER 6th

Meeting will be at Virginia Museum of History & Culture — 428 N. Boulevard, Richmond VA 23220

10:00 am Business meeting

10:45am - Program -Presentation of the Col George Eskridge portrait — up close & personal

11:30 am ish — box lunch served

12:30 pm — Tour of the museum and the portrait of Rebecca Bonum Eskridge

2:30 pm — 4:30 pm Tour of Agecroft Hall

6:30 pm — dinner at The Iron Horse — a great local restaurant

After dinner, you may use the meeting room at the hotel for gathering or looking at books until 10

SUNDAY OCTOBER 7th

On your own — may want to attend church services at Yeocomico and see where the Col lived
It is homecoming Sunday and special events are planned.

DEATHS

We sadly mark the passing of 2 members who have been active and important to EFA:

Davis Bottom — spouse of our past president Hildie Bottom died 28 April 2018. His smiling face and sage advice will be greatly missed

William “Bill” Groseclose — spouse of Ellen Eskridge Groseclose and father of former EFA Vice President Martha Kolling and current Treasurer Ann Groseclose Campbell died on 7 June 2018. A man of great kindness and patience (he needed it with a house full of women! He will also be missed!

NEW MEMBERS

Harriet H 10 McCallum —
 (Sid 9 Cath 8 And 7 Cath 6 Mary 5 Thos 4 Mary 3 Aylett Eliz 2 Geo 1)
 Cousin Harriet reports that her lineage has been verified by NSDAR to Thomas Ludwell Lee SR — husband of Mary 3 Aylett (DAR #793257)

<i>BEELER ESKRIDGE</i>	<i>\$10</i>		D O N A T I O N S
<i>HARRIET H McCALLUM</i>	<i>\$10</i>	<i>research</i>	
<i>DR. RANDI R VERETT</i>	<i>\$100</i>		
<i>MRS JULIA W SPRINGER</i>	<i>\$15</i>	<i>website</i>	
<u>YOUR DONATIONS ARE MUCH APPRECIATED — IT HELPS US DO EFA’S WORK</u>			
<u>WE TRY TO BE GOOD STEWARDS OF EFA’S MONEY</u>			
<u>REMEMBER DONATIONS TO EFA ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!</u>			

COLONEL GEORGE ESKRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

At last year’s reunion, members voted to establish a scholarship fund to award a scholarship to one or more students at the high school in Westmoreland County VA. The scholarship would be awarded to a student that showed excellence and interest in history — particularly Westmoreland County history. A few of the qualifications under consideration include:

Candidates to be selected by a committee from each high school made up of principal, guidance counselor and a history teacher. Candidates should exhibit/possess the following:

1. be a senior planning to attend a college in the fall (community or 4 year)
2. at least a "B" cumulative average
3. a proficiency and/or love for history
4. a planned major in history and/or desire to be a teacher is preferred
5. patriotism, Northern Neck public service and consideration for the environment are important

Want to serve on the scholarship committee or contribute to the fund? Contact Coz Carolyn

FROM THE ARCHIVES IN SEARCH OF JANE ASHTON ESKRIDGE BY SUE HARRAL

For three decades I longed to attend the annual Eskridge meeting but was not able to make the trip from Texas. As soon as I retired after 47 years in education I made plans to attend the annual gathering. While in Virginia I took time to visit the Eskridge materials in Westmoreland County, Yeocomico Church, and Sandy Point. I began to become acquainted with my ancestor, Samuel Eskridge. Samuel, the son of Colonel George Eskridge, married Jane Ashton, daughter of Charles Ashton and Margaret Hart. Although Jane Ashton is listed as Samuel's wife in some books, I did find a question mark after the marriage data in some publications, so I assumed that this fact may not have been thoroughly documented. One entry I found contained a hand-written note that suggested that the Jane Ashton connection may be the basis for membership in The Jamestown Society. My curiosity increased. I had taken many school trips to Jamestown, met Dr. Bill Kelso, archeologist, and felt so very drawn to that site. Could it be that one of my ancestors was a part of that first permanent English colony? Multiple trips to Richmond, Virginia, hours spent in the Archives and the Virginia Historical Museum, helped piece together the family story. When reviewing the 1939 letters of Mrs. West I found encouragement to continue the search because she too had heard from relatives about the Eskridge/Ashton connection. The next year I focused on my Jamestown application and in 2016 I submitted materials. Much to my dismay I received a note that said that I had not

positively proven that the Jane married to Samuel was Jane Ashton.

Numerous court records documented that there was a Jane Eskridge married to Samuel, but no resources contained her maiden name, Ashton. I would need to present more proof.

Westmoreland County Order Books held many clues to this marriage, but no primary records were found. Numerous entries in court records show that Jane had many legal challenges. Cople Parish where their marriage records could have been found provided no marriage entries. During the years 1733-40, the church had no regular minister so record keeping was not consistent. . During the War of 1812 much destruction occurred when the church was occupied by British troops (the altar was used as a butcher block.) The rectory burned in 1915 destroying records stored there. At times the church was abandoned and forest creatures made their home within the church walls.

Colonel George Eskridge died in 1735. Jane and Samuel's marriage date was probably 1735-36 . Just about this time Jane asked to be given inheritance promised in her father's will. She received no land but personal items and slaves. Colonel George's will left 800 acres of land to Samuel, but he was not to take possession until the passing of Elizabeth Vaulx, George's second wife. Jane and Samuel then moved

to Loudoun County where their first 2 children were born. At Elizabeth's death, Samuel and Jane returned to Westmoreland County where he passed away in 1747 without a will. Jane was made executor of his estate. Other relatives and friends were made guardians of the children. Eventually the estate was not able to support the children so Cople Parish took responsibility for the children and placed them as apprentices or in guardianships. Daughter Rebecca's placement with Richard Bernard gave me assurance that Jane Eskridge was Jane Ashton Eskridge. Richard Bernard was the second husband of Elizabeth Hart Storke Bernard. Elizabeth was the Aunt Storke who was mentioned in Charles Ashton's will as the desired



FROM THE ARCHIVES IN SEARCH OF JANE ASHTON ESKRIDGE (CONT.)



guardian of Jane Ashton, his daughter. It was reasonable that Rebecca, Jane's only daughter might have been placed with the family who was her mother's guardian.

I presented this information along with nine other points to make a case for fact that Jane was Jane Ashton Eskridge. The case was accepted by the Jamestown Society.

Jane Ashton's line connected to Thomas Graves, a member of the First Jamestown Assembly.

The Samuel and Jane Eskridge line is now a Jamestown accepted line. If anyone is interested in becoming a member through this line, help is available. To qualify for membership, one needs a sponsor and proof of connection to Samuel Eskridge and Jane Ashton. After the Samuel and Jane Eskridge generation my number may be used to prove the generations to Thomas Graves. I will provide my number to anyone who is interested. Many thanks to Carolyn Kendrick Farmer, a national Jamestown Society officer, who was my incredible mentor during this journey.

Editor's note: Many thanks to Coz Sue for pursuing this fantastic opportunity for any descendants of Samuel 2 Eskridge. If any of you have had success getting accepted by any of the historical associations and want to share your journey or provide some "how to" advise — Send it on the Coz Harry jhe1947@aol.com

Jamestown 2019 Celebration

The year 1619 brought three historic events that shaped the future of the Jamestown Colony and America; the meeting of the First Jamestown Assembly (the beginning of representative government in America), the arrival of the first group of women, and the Angolans. An exciting celebration of these events will be held July 27-31, 2019 on Jamestown Island, Virginia! A reenactment of the First Assembly Meeting, a special church service at the historic Jamestown church, tours, informative programs and of course meetings of the Jamestown Society will be a part of the historic occasion. There will also be a gathering of the descendants of Thomas Graves. The Samuel Eskridge and Jane Ashton descendants have an opportunity to celebrate and participate because of their proven connection to Thomas Graves. Check jamestown.org for additional celebration information.

WHAT'S UP?

ENGLISH RESEARCH

Because of the generosity of Coz. Stan and Bren Eskridge, we established the E Stan Eskridge History Fund. We have retained the services of a researcher in England that is an expert in English and Colonial America. To this end, we are asking him to look at the following:

1. to study the records of Over Kellett and Lancashire. If Col George came from England – that appears to be the best area to consider. It is almost as important to disprove some of the assumptions we see on Ancestry and other sites as it is to find the Colonel's birth- date and his parents. His birth is listed on a lot of spots as 30 September 1660 – in some cases in Wales – others Lancashire. His parents are listed as George Eskridge who was born in 1639; died 1715 (or 14) and Elizabeth. . .

2. In this country, we want to look at:

A. Rebecca Bonum – when was she born? our records say ca 1672. That would make sense if what we know of her parents is correct: Her father Samuel was born ca 1645 and married mother Margaret ca 1670.

B. If Rebecca was the Col's first wife and was born ca 1672, when were the oldest sons born? William 2 Eskridge – some of our records indicate he may have been born between 1680 and 1683 – but that is impossible if he is the son of Rebecca.

More on him elsewhere. Some sources say he was born ca 1696 – but I haven't seen anything to confirm that — but that would fit others

George 2 Eskridge – some of our records indicate that he may have been born ca 1683. Again some sources say he was born ca 1699. He died before the Col. (1735)

Samuel 2 Eskridge -- don't know when he was born

3. Lastly, we want to take a look at:

Sarah Eskridge Carr. Internet sources indicate she may have been born 1654; died 21 November 1726 Westmoreland Co VA. She was supposed to have married William Carr in 1675. He was born ca 1650; died 13 January 1713 Westmoreland Co VA.

Was Sarah a relative of the Col.? The most likely connection would be sister and some web sites say that she was the daughter of George Eskridge born 1639; died 1715 and Elizabeth – and sister of the colonel??? There is too much coincidence, but . . .

Outside research costs money – if you want to contribute to this project, send a check to our Treasurer – Ann Campbell – payable to EFA — but mark it for the E Stan Eskridge History Fund. Remember, Donations to EFA are Tax Deductible

DID YOU KNOW? On 5 April 1732, George Washington and Richard Henry Lee were baptized at Yeocomico Church in the font that had been in use at the church since 1655 under Senior Warden George Eskridge.

EFA BOOKS

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***Are available by grandchild of the Colonel in either
Flash drive for \$15 or \$10 for DVD
Order through our Treasurer***

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM 2

We have just completed work on the new volumes or the Children of William 2. It is the culmination of more than 2 years work and is the first complete work that includes the Delaware Eskridges. It was long overdue. Get your copy now!!

RICHARD 3

We have begun a major revision on our Richard 3 books. It is a long overdue project. The first books were done in 2005 and a lot has changed since then. If you descend from Richard 3 — make sure we have all your family information to include in the books. Pictures and stories are always appreciated!

**Send to: Harry Eskridge
6627 Summer Darby Ln
Charlotte, NC 28270 or jhe1947@aol.com**

WHAT IS AGECROFT HALL?



Agecroft Hall is a majestic Tudor mansion brought to Virginia piece by piece from Manchester, England.

The home is located on 23 beautifully landscaped acres overlooking the James River in the neighborhood of Windsor Farms, not far from downtown Richmond.

You'll walk into the lives of the landed gentry in England's Tudor and early Stuart periods. Tour the Great Hall, and you'll imagine the feasts and merriment its richly-paneled walls have seen. The Great Hall's leaded glass window was transported from England completely intact. Enter the manor's Great Parlour, where family and guests retreated for comfort, privacy and 16th- and 17th-century diversions. See the sleeping chambers, where residents not only rested, but also dressed and dined. This manor home has 500 years of stories to tell. Our tour includes *self-guided Gardens, Woodland Walk & Sunroom Exhibit*

2018 EFA REUNION

MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND THE 2018 REUNION

OCTOBER 5, 6 & 7

COMFORT SUITES AT VIRGINIA CENTER COMMONS

10601 TELEGRAPH ROAD

GLEN ALLEN VA 23059

804-262-2000

SPECIAL RATES IF YOU RESERVE BY SEPTEMBER 18TH !!



Eskridge Family Association

Carolyn Knight, President

152 Pine Creek Drive

Hampton VA 23669-1244

E Mail: crknight@cox.net

Your Living History...