



Eskridge Family News

7 Quarry Circle
Hampton, VA 23669-1374

August
2021

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear EFA Cousins and friends,

We are happy to say we are going ahead with plans to gather at Stratford Hall Plantation for our annual Association Reunion. We welcome you to Virginia and hope you will take advantage of the opportunities to mingle with other Eskridge descendants and their families.

We are mindful of the ravages of the COVID virus. We will provide hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes for your use. We encourage everyone to be or get vaccinated. We also encourage appropriate use of masks whether you are vaccinated or not.

Our Guest House is a beautiful and private location and we will have it all to ourselves. There is a beautiful and spacious great room and a large deck, if the weather will cooperate. We will gather there for our Friday evening get together. While we will be providing nibble foods, desserts, soft drinks and wine, we would encourage you to provide for yourself as far as dinner is concerned. There are no food/restaurant facilities on or near the plantation grounds.

Friday will be our time to share our genealogy books and family stories.

Saturday morning, our annual meeting will take place at 10:00 am. next door at the Dining Hall . It will include a speaker from Stratford Hall who will share some interesting information about the Plantation and the people who lived there. A box lunch will be served.

Saturday afternoon you can join us on a tour of Menokin, tour Stratford, visit Yeocomico Church and Sandy Point or other points of interest. We will have dinner Saturday night at a local restaurant if you are interested

Sunday will be at your leisure.

We look forward to a time of gathering, sharing our families' stories, adding to the rich history we have built to this time. The genealogical research done by many of you and others has helped the collection of information grow. Many of our members have contacted us with details of their extended families. It is valuable information to the whole story and also brings out more facts that may be of interest to other members.

Hope to see you at Stratford. We'll have a grand time !!

Sincerely,

Carolyn

Carolyn Knight
President

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST :

- The 2021 Annual Meeting will be held the weekend of October 8-10 in beautiful Westmoreland County VA
- If you have not paid your membership dues, please send the \$15 payment to:
Ann Campbell
2311 Dolfield Dr
N. Chesterfield VA 23235
- Children, grandchildren, births, marriages, divorces, deaths—we would love to have your latest information to include in the Historical Archives.

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

Carolyn Knight
7 Quarry Circle
Hampton, VA 23669-1374
E-mail: crknight@cox.net

FROM YOUR TREASURER

Guess what? EFA now has a PayPal account!! Annual dues & donations can be made by sending funds to: efadonations1937@gmail.com. In any notation areas, please make sure to list your name and details regarding any donation. Thank you for your patience as we adapt to a seamless way of making available online forms & donations

Your membership expiration date is on your return address label. If no date appears, we would be grateful if you would begin paying your family dues in 2021.

Would you be willing to assist EFA in the financial & development realms? Accounting? Web design? Giving platforms? Search Engine ? Social marketing? Membership management software? Please contact me via email so we can connect.

Any questions? Contact: Ann Campbell: eskridgefamilyassociation@gmail.com or 804-337-9600. Hope to see you at Stratford Hall!



IT'S REUNION TIME !!! – SAVE THE DATE

Our reunion will be at Stratford Plantation in beautiful and historic Westmoreland Co VA this year October 8, 9 & 10. We will actually be staying on the grounds of the plantation in beautiful guest houses. Make your reservations by calling the plantation directly 804-493-1967 (Leslie) or e mailing reservations@stratfordhall.org. Rooms are \$135 for a king or 2 twins — price includes tax and continental breakfast.

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

Address is: 728 Great House Road, Stratford, VA 22558 on the grounds of Stratford Hall Plantation.

NOTE — If you are staying with us at the Inn, you will receive a free ticket to the Great House — AND it is beautiful!!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday October 8 7:00 PM — gather in the commons area of the guest house to visit with cousins, peruse our books and get to know family. Hopefully the weather will also allow us to use the deck outside. We will provide snacks and goodies to eat & drink, but advise you to eat dinner prior as there are no restaurant facilities at the Inn

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
(cont.)

Saturday October 9

Breakfast — Continental Breakfast available to those staying at the Inn at your leisure.

10 AM — EFA Annual Meeting on the porch of the dining hall. We will have a speaker and general EFA business to discuss. As usual, your participation is encouraged!!

11:45 AM — Luncheon is served. We will have a selection of sandwiches with chips available in the meeting room

1:30 PM — Leave for a tour of Menokin in Montross. Menokin was the home of Francis Lightfoot Lee. It is a History Museum and on the National Historic Landmark list. More details in the newsletter

(optional) — we will not be too far from Yeocomico Church — home church of Col George Eskridge and Sandy Point — the site of the home of the Colonel. While his house burned, it is interesting to see the sight and the smoke house that survives in the back yard. If you have an interest, let us know and we will help you get there.

6:30 PM — dinner at Two Fish Bistro and Tackle in Montross. Everyone pays their own bill.

Sunday October 10

Breakfast — Continental Breakfast available to those staying at the Inn at your leisure.

The rest of the time is yours — tour the great house, attend church at Yeocomico — worship where Col George worshipped. Service is at 11 am

DRIVE SAFELY GOING HOME — SEE YOU NEXT YEAR IN WILLIAMSBURG!

HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE FOR UNCLAIMED FUNDS THAT MIGHT BELONG TO YOU?

Back around the first of the year, the NC State Treasurer's Office ran a list of unclaimed property. If funds are not claimed by the owner, the company reports them to the treasurer as unclaimed property. Bank accounts, wages, utility deposits, insurance policy proceeds stocks, bonds contents of safe deposit boxes are all there.

The state listed something for my mother Sara who died in 2016. It was not a lot of money, but it was ours from an insurance policy in the mid 1950's. CHECK OUT YOUR STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE!!

TREASURER'S REPORT 2020

Receipts	\$4275.00
Dues	\$2230
Initiation	100
Flash Drive	50
Most needed	855
Research	820
Web	110
Eskridge Oak	60

Expenditures	\$1850.46
Newsletter	650.00
Research	496.40
Web site	143.88
Annual meeting	110.18
Donations	450.00
Cople Parish	\$100
Yeocomico	100
Chesapeake	100
West. Museum	150.00

Balance 12/31/2020 \$17,790.52

General Fund	\$13939.13
Research	3198.65
Website	107.74
Scholarship	50.00

DONATIONS ARE TAX DECUCTABLE

SHERRY RAWLS DEERING	\$25	Most Needed	D O N A T I O N S
CAROLYN WALKER	\$10	Most Needed	
M/M ROBERT L ESKRIDGE	\$100	In memory of Dr Robert C Eskridge	
SUSAN E HAMBURG	\$250	In memory of Harry A Eskridge (Louisville KY)	
JOHN "Steve" SHEPARD	\$100	E Stan Eskridge Sr History Fund	
INGRID ROCKSTROM	\$20	In memory of Bob and Peggy E Rockstrom	
DR. RANDI VERETT	\$70	Most Needed	
DR CARL B ESKRIDGE	\$40	Website	
MARY HANNUM	\$20	In memory of C.M. Seaton-Leachman	
LUCY M. HEADLEY	\$100	Website	
JANET R SUMNER	\$250	In memory of Katherine Coiner Roberson	
DR LARRY K ESKRIDGE	\$30	E Stan Eskridge Sr History Fund	
CHARLES D ESKRIDGE	\$40	Most Needed	

NEW MEMBERS

Sherry Rawls Deering Rich 3 Robert Y Williamson Geo 3 Geo 2
Darrow Boggiano John 3 Robert E Coles

FROM THE ARCHIVES

MENOKIN — A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

Menokin, also known as Francis Lightfoot Lee House, was the plantation of Francis Lightfoot Lee near Warsaw, Virginia. Lee was a signer of the United States Declaration of Independence. Menokin was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1971.

It is one of the few 18th Century Virginia homes for which the original architectural drawings exist. We don't know who the designer was, but we do know it was built from local materials: sandstone, pine and oak from local sources.

The preservation began at about the time of its designation as a landmark in 1971. It was in severe disrepair prior to that. Time and nature were not kind to the house.

It is a unique restoration in that it uses glass to replace missing walls and roof so that we can see how the house was actually built.

It is of special interest to us because Francis Lightfoot Lee was the brother of Richard Henry Lee who married our Anne 3 Aylett and also of Thomas Ludwell Lee who married our Mary 3 Aylett. It doesn't take much imagination to see our family members visiting the house. It certainly is a depiction of how things might have been for 3rd Generation Eskridges



Coz Wynelle Eskridge Wagnon from Lubbock TX writes in her beautiful handwriting to remind us that she still thinks about EFA. She also sent a timely article about the Dallas Cowboys' star logo.

The article says that the logo for the Dallas Cowboys was designed by a basketball player — Jack Eskridge (1924-2013). He was hired by Tom Landry to be the team's equipment manager and designed the iconic star by modifying a previous one. Prior to joining the Cowboys, Eskridge played professional basketball for the Chicago Stags and Indianapolis Jets.
Thanks Coz Wynelle!!



Seen on a street near my house in Charlotte a Lexus with Oklahoma plates and bought from our cousins at the Eskridge Lexus in Oklahoma City! Keep your eyes open, you may see one too.

RICHARD 3 ESKRIDGE ACHIEVES DAR PATRIOT STATUS

For many years, cousins have tried to find a way to enter DAR through Richard 3 as their patriot. Among them are — Bren Eskridge, Beth Zeiss and her mother, Rosemary Eskridge and her daughters, Mary Walker Eskridge and others that just don't immediately come to mind. Coz Cyndee and I spent a couple days in the Yanceyville, Caswell Co NC area looking for clues about Richard 3. Along comes Coz Beckie (Rebecca Anne 10 Whitener) Grider. She spent 2 years and aided by her friend, a FL State Regent with DAR, and was finally successful. Richard 3 is DAR ancestor # A215476

Coz Beckie's line is as follows: Rebecca Anne 10, Louise 9 Bridges, Arthur Rush 8 Bridges, Eunicy (Unicy) Hesintine 7 Roberts, Elizabeth 6, Unicy 5 Richard 4 Richard 3 Samuel 2 George 1

We have not been able to find a burial spot for Richard or his wife Elizabeth, but we suspect they may have been buried on their land that is now covered by a reservoir. If we back up to his father Samuel 2. We know Samuel was single at the time of the death of the Colonel. He married Jane "Jean" Ashton and they had 5 children — Charles, Richard, Burdette, Rebecca and John

Samuel died in 1746/1747 and Peter Rust was appointed guardian of the children. Mr Rust was released in 1751. That would indicate that all the children were minors when Samuel died. We show Charles born 27 August 1737; Richard 1739; Burdette 1740; Rebecca born 1742; and John in 1743. All in Westmoreland Co VA

Richard 3 married Elizabeth Read on 12 June 1764 in Loudon Co VA — there is a marriage bond to prove it. She was born 26 July 1746 Westmoreland Co VA. She and her family later moved to Loudon Co VA. (Could it have had something to do with the Flat Lick property that brought Richard to Loudon Co? Don't know, but perhaps worth further investigation)

Richard 3 first appears on the Tax List for Caswell Co NC in 1777. On 1 October 1776, the Caswell Co surveyor was ordered to survey on Cobbes Creek for Richard Eskridge. Cobbs Creek wiggled back and forth on the Person/Caswell County lines. That property is the one that made up the original land grant on 10 October 1783.

The 1790 census records were destroyed by in 1908, the US Census Bureau published a 1790 Local Tax list that they accept as a substitute. Richard 3 is on that list. He is also on the 1800 census living in Caswell Co and is listed as over 45 years old.

Coz Beckie used the land grant that Richard entered in Caswell Co in 1778 as the basis to name him a patriot. You could not get a land grant in NC without taking the Oath of Allegiance.

1) TOOK OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO MAKE LAND ENTRY, CASWELL CO, 16 JUN 1778

Thanks Coz Beckie for your 2 years work in getting this approved. All our DARS appreciate it and so do us HODARS!

DEATHS

Dr Robert C 8 Eskridge CMSGT-- born 11 Feb 1936 AR; died 14 Oct 2020 IL —Rich 3

Robert Joseph “Skip” 9 Eskridge II— born 6 Feb 1961 KS; died 20 Dec 2020 NC — Rich 3

**Katherine Coiner 8 Roberson — born 22 Oct 1935 TN; died 5 Aug 2020 Greenville SC — Jas 3
Step toe**



IN MEMORIUM — KATHERINE ANNE 8 COINER ROBERSON (Nor L 7 Eliz C 6 John M 5 Thom 4 Jam 3 Eliz 3 Geo 1) was born 22 October 1935 Knoxville TN; died 5 August 2020 Greenville SC

Kathy was raised in LaFollette, TN and later Avondale, GA. She graduated from the University of Georgia summa cum laude and was president of her sorority, Pi Beta Phi. She met Jim Roberson in Atlanta and they married Aug. 23, 1958.

Their 60-year marriage resulted in four much loved children: Janet Sumner (Steve); Jayroe Wurst (Brian); Julie Wolfe; and James Roberson, Jr. (Catherine). Six grandchildren: Michael Wurst, Caroline

Wolfe, Samantha Wolfe, Jake Wolfe, William Roberson, Anna Roberson. As well as son in law Jason Wolfe and step grandchildren: Elizabeth (Matt) Fager and Will Sumner. A step great grand-daughter Molly Fager. Her brother Richard Coiner.

She was a consummate wife, mother, grandmother and a friend. She and Jim settled in Greenville SC in 1965 and quickly became involved in the community.

Kathy was an avid EFA'er and served as Secretary for quite a few years. Her aunt Elizabeth Coiner was EFA president and founding rock. We will miss her sweet smile!!

I am still keeping my promise to Margie. It's Pearl Harbor day!

A Telephone Tale, my Promise to Margie.

Back in 1976 I was hired by SWBT to work cordboard in Huntsville, Texas. Margie was number one on the seniority list and I was number last. She worked short lates and I got the usual newbie 2-10:30's and 3-11's. Since our hours coincided I heard a lot of her stories about the "olden days". I loved listening to Margie. I remember being amazed by the fact she had started working for SWBT before I was even born.

One night Margie told me a story and made me promise to remember and repeat it whenever I could. Over the years, I have repeated her story many times. I kept my promise, I never forgot.

On December 7, 1941 Margie was working alone on what was to become anything but another sleepy Sunday. The day the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Margie said her first information about the attack came from Rate and Route operators on the West coast. The news spread like wildfire through the telephone company but of course we were unable to give our subscribers any information. This was before direct dial and all calls went through the operator. In no time at all Margie was swamped with calls and so was everyone else, nationwide. Call volume went up so fast the network was in danger of collapse. Too many people trying to make too many calls at once. Rumors everywhere and people were terrified. At one point Margie heard that Hawaii, California, and Alaska had been invaded.

Then a miracle happened. All over the entire country, AT&T employees started reporting in to to work, unasked and uncalled There were operators, COT's, union, and management. Everyone pitched in to help so there wouldn't be a major communications failure to add to the country's problems. From coast to coast people left their families and loved ones and went to work. Many went to work even though they knew they would be enlisting in the armed forces the next day. The network met the challenge and kept on working. Margie wasn't alone for long. In a matter of hours, every position on the cordboard was open. Even the Chief Operator was taking calls. They heard the familiar bong of the CO alarms for hours as they took call after call. They were immensely relieved when the news broke the story of the attack and it became common knowledge they could relay to customers.

Margie said she knew things were changing and would continue to change. And probably not for the better! She hoped we would never lose the spirit and commitment we showed on that infamous day.

Thank you for letting me share this story one more time! 🇺🇸 📞

2021 EFA REUNION

MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND THE 2021 REUNION

OCTOBER 8, 9 and 10

THE GREAT HOUSE @ STRATFORD HALL PLANTATION

483 GREAT HOUSE ROAD

STRATFORD VIRGINIA 22558

804-493-1967 (Leslie) or reservations@stratfordhall.org

PLEASE BOOK BY SEPTEMBER 18TH

Your Living History...

***Eskridge Family
Association***
Carolyn Knight
7 Quarry Circle
Hampton, VA 23669-1374
E Mail: crknight@cox.net

