



# DISPATCH



A Newsletter of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation • Winter 2011

## Special Programs Throughout 2011 Engage Visitors at Jamestown Settlement, Yorktown Victory Center

Beginning with a “From Africa to Virginia” theme in February, Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center offer an array of commemorative special events and family-friendly themed interpretive programs throughout 2011, as well as seven public lectures presented by leading scholars.

“Werowocomoco: Seat of Power,” the first museum exhibition of artifacts from one of the most important sites in Virginia Indian history, continues at Jamestown Settlement through June. Two Virginia Indian heritage lectures will be presented in the final month of this special exhibition, on the evenings of June 4 and 18.

“From Africa to Virginia” at Jamestown Settlement in February is the first of three theme months during the year. Daily programs highlight the culture of the first known Africans in Virginia – from Angola – and the experience of Africans in 17th-century Virginia. Lectures at 2 p.m. on February 6 and 27 offer a new perspective on the evolution of slavery in Virginia and

examine the legacy of an iconic 17th-century Angolan leader. “Seed to Stalk” theme month at both museums in June explores early American agriculture, and “Tools of the Trade” in August highlights implements and processes used in farming, fishing, hunting, defense, maritime navigation and construction.

Jamestown Settlement’s annual “Military Through the Ages” takes place March 19 and 20, with hundreds of re-enactors spanning the centuries. Among more than 30 groups participating in 2011, the beginning of the Civil War 150th anniversary, are four Union and Confederate units.

“Court Day” debuts at the Yorktown Victory Center on September 17. Featuring spinning demonstrations, puppet shows, music and cricket, the event provides a glimpse of activities – including trade, entertainment and recreation – that took place during the 18th century when local court was in session. *continued on page 3*



**A statue of Powhatan, paramount chief of 30-some Indian tribes in Virginia's coastal region at the time English colonists arrived in 1607, stands next to artifact cases in Jamestown Settlement's “Werowocomoco: Seat of Power” exhibition.**

## Altria Group, Dominion Resources, Robins Foundation Among Generous Supporters of Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Programs

Major gifts totaling more than \$100,000 support the Yorktown Victory Center replacement project, museum special events, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation educational programming and the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund, which provides unrestricted funding for a range of programs.

Building on previous grants for the project, Altria Group provided \$20,000 for Yorktown Victory Center artifact acquisitions, and the Robins Foundation \$20,000 for gallery exhibits. A portion of a \$25,000 gift from an anonymous donor also is designated for the Yorktown Victory Center, with the balance going to the Annual Fund. Architectural design of the project, which includes replacement of existing ticketing, exhibit and maintenance buildings with one approximately 80,000-square-

foot structure, reorganization of the site and enhancements of the museum's outdoor living-history areas, is nearly complete, and gallery design work is under way.

Dominion Resources has made a grant of \$20,000 to support the Annual Fund and to underwrite 2011 special events and lectures at the Yorktown Victory Center.

A grant of \$10,000 from the Charles S. and Millicent P. Brown Family Foundation funds the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation's elementary school scholarship



**Recent major gifts support the Yorktown Victory Center replacement project, for which architectural planning is nearly complete. This artist's rendering depicts the entrance lobby in the new building.**

program in Northumberland and Sussex counties. With a grant of \$11,000, the Camp family foundations support the scholarship program in Franklin City and Southampton County and the Annual Fund. The scholarship program provides outreach and on-site education experiences for students and teachers in Virginia school districts where a significant number of students participate in free and reduced-fee school lunch programs.

Sue Gerdelman, president of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., and her husband John contributed \$10,000 to the Annual Fund. ■

# Three Lecture Series Presented in 2011

Two Sunday afternoon presentations in conjunction with February's "From Africa to Virginia" theme month at Jamestown Settlement comprise the first of three series of public lectures in 2011 related to exhibit and interpretive themes at the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation museums.

The lectures and other special programs are supported with grants from James City County and Dominion Resources.

On February 6, John C. Coombs, associate professor of history at Hampden-Sydney College, presents "Slaves are the most proper and cheap instruments for this plantation": Re-examining the Initial Establishment of Slavery in Virginia."

## 'Jamestown and Bermuda' Exhibition Graphics, Text Will Support Educational Programs in Bermuda

Graphics and informational labels from 2009's "Jamestown and Bermuda: Virginia Company Colonies" exhibition at Jamestown Settlement will have renewed life in Bermuda through an agreement between the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation and the Bermuda National Trust. The Trust will be the repository for the materials, which arrived in Bermuda at year-end, for up to 10 years.

"What a fabulous start to the new year," said Bermuda National Trust Education Director Carolyn Conway, reacting to the "quality and content of the exhibition." "We are in the planning stages of deciding which National Trust museum will be used to house the exhibition. We want to tie in with St. George's, as it is a World Heritage Site. Our aim is to expose the material to all students in Bermuda and to develop close links to the national school curriculum."

The Bermuda National Trust was among several Bermuda institutions that loaned objects for the 2009 exhibition at Jamestown Settlement. Examples of Bermuda-made 17th- and 18th-century cedar furniture and silver spoons came from the Tucker House, a Trust property in St. George's that was the home of Henry Tucker, brother of St. George Tucker, an 18th-century Virginia judge and legal scholar born in Bermuda.

Information about "Jamestown and Bermuda: Virginia Company Colonies" and other Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation special exhibitions is available in a new section of [www.historyisfun.org](http://www.historyisfun.org), "Collection and Exhibitions."



A section of the "Virginia Company Colonies" exhibition chronicled the evolution of government in Virginia and Bermuda.

The lecture challenges the conventional portrayal of the early growth of slavery in Virginia as almost a historical accident, arguing that the initially slow expansion of slavery was more a reflection of the shifting character of Anglo-Spanish rivalry and the rapid economic development of the English West Indies. Dr. Coombs is author of the forthcoming book *The Rise of Virginia Slavery* and co-editor with Douglas Bradburn of Binghamton University of *Early Modern Virginia: Reconsidering the Old Dominion*, an essay volume to be published in 2011.



John Coombs

Linda M. Heywood, professor of history and director of the African American Studies Program at Boston University, speaks February 27 on "Queen Njinga: Legacy, Memory, and Nation in Contemporary Angola." Dr. Heywood, author of the book *Contested Power in Angola* and co-author with John K. Thornton of *Central Africans, Atlantic Creoles, and the Foundation of America*, explores the question of how and why Queen Njinga, who waged war against the Portuguese in the 17th century and is profiled in Jamestown Settlement gallery exhibits, became a figure of memory and a powerful political icon in contemporary Angola.

Both lectures are scheduled at 2 p.m. at Jamestown Settlement and are included with museum admission, which is free to residents of James City and York counties and the City of Williamsburg.

## Virginia Indian Heritage Lectures

Two Virginia Indian heritage lectures will be presented at Jamestown Settlement on Saturday evenings during the final month of the "Werowocomoco: Seat of Power" exhibition. Helen C. Rountree, noted scholar and author on Virginia Indians, will present "English Myth-Making and Indian Reality: Early English Stereotypes of the Virginia Indians" on June 4. On June 18, Martin D. Gollivan, College of William and Mary associate professor of anthropology and guest curator of the Jamestown Settlement special exhibition, will present a lecture titled "Werowocomoco: Seat of Power."

## Revolutionary War Lecture Series

A three-part Saturday evening Revolutionary War lecture series at the Yorktown Victory Center begins September 10 with "John Adams, Patrick Henry, and the Elusive Origins of the Revolution," by historian and author Jon Kukla. Historian and author Robert A. Selig presents "From Saratoga to Senegal: How the Capture of General 'Johnny' Burgoyne Turned the American Revolution into a World War" on September 24. The series concludes October 8 with "The French Alliance and the Road to Yorktown," by Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation historian Edward Ayres.

The Saturday evening lectures in June, September and October are free, and advance reservations are recommended by contacting [rsvp@jyf.virginia.gov](mailto:rsvp@jyf.virginia.gov) or (757) 253-5185. ■

# Acquisitions for Yorktown Victory Center Range From Miniature Portrait to Cannon Ramrods



A miniature portrait of Revolutionary War General Daniel Morgan, an American-made gorget, an antislavery book, an English teaspoon decorated with expressions of liberty, and 18th-century objects associated with weaponry and food preparation have been acquired for future exhibit at the Yorktown Victory Center.

All of the artifacts were acquired with private donations to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc.

The miniature closely resembles a portrait of General Morgan painted about 1794 by Charles Willson Peale and likely was painted by Peale's brother James. The watercolor-on-ivory miniature portrait is set in a gilt case, designed to be worn as a locket or pin, engraved on the back with the initials "D.M." Morgan is renowned for defeating the British at the Battle of Cowpens in 1781. In 1794 he led the Virginia militia in western Pennsylvania to suppress the Whiskey Rebellion, and it is likely that the original Peale portrait was done in Philadelphia during a stop on Morgan's return trip to Virginia. He served a term in the United States Congress from 1797 to 1799.

Made in Albany, New York, in the late 18th century, the gorget, a decorative metal plate that is worn around the neck, probably was intended for use by Indians. In the late colonial period American silversmiths made a number of items to be traded to Indian tribes on the western frontier or given as presents as part of treaty negotiations. Its design indicates that this silver and brass gorget is representative of these items.



Even before the Revolution, there was a developing anti-slavery movement in America, and the most influential of early anti-slavery publications was *A Caution and Warning to Great-Britain, and Her Colonies ...*, by Anthony Benezet. The book contains an appendix written by prominent Virginian Arthur



Lee, whose 1767 "Address on Slavery" was the first antislavery tract known to have been published by a Virginian.

A silver teaspoon made in England about 1768 is decorated with an image of a bird escaping from a birdcage, surmounted by the slogan "I Love Liberty." These teaspoons were made in England as expressions of support for John Wilkes, who opposed



the expansion of royal power at the expense of Parliament and the people. The symbolism of the bird escaping from its cage was adopted by Patriots in America and was widely used during the Revolution and subsequent Federal period.

A set of 13 oak ramrods with sheepskin-covered heads and a wrought iron game larder hook come from Chatsworth in England, ancestral home of the Cavendish family and successive dukes of Devonshire. Ramrods were used in the loading and firing of cannon, and multiple types were needed for each artillery piece. Some were used in the various stages of loading the cannon and others after the cannon had been fired to clear the gun of obstructions and extinguish stray sparks. Larder hooks were used for "hanging" wild game for a period of time before it was cooked, a practice believed to enhance the flavor. ■



Three of 13 cannon ramrods.

## Special Programs *continued from page 1*

Three events mark important milestones in the nation's history. "Jamestown Day" at Jamestown Settlement on May 14, jointly sponsored with Historic Jamestowne, commemorates the 404th anniversary of the founding of America's first permanent English colony. At the Yorktown Victory Center, "Liberty Celebration" on July 2-4 salutes the anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. A rare broadside printing of the historic document dating to July 1776 is on exhibit in the museum galleries.

Leading up to "Yorktown Victory Celebration," held October 15-16 in conjunction with the 230th anniversary of the decisive military victory of the American Revolution, is a series of three evening lectures, on September 10 and 24 and October 8.

Both museums offer holiday programs in late fall. Historical Virginia foodways are featured during "Foods & Feasts of Colonial Virginia" November 24-26, and 17th- and 18th-century holiday traditions during "A Colonial Christmas" December 1-31. ■



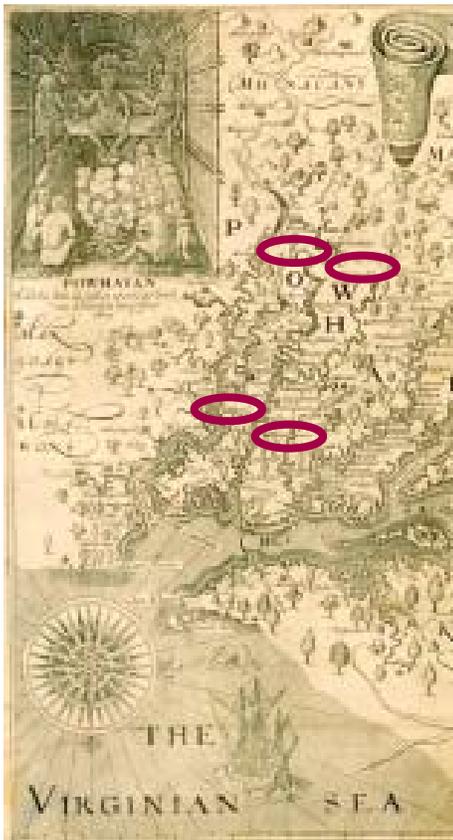
Spinning is one of the activities planned for the Yorktown Victory Center's "Court Day" event on September 17.

# “Divers Seats Or Houses”: Powhatan’s Capital Towns

By Nancy Egloff, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Historian

Jamestown, Williamsburg, Richmond. Werowocomoco, Orapaks, Matchcot. These places represent seats of power for two different political groups in Virginia. Governments move their physical locations for a variety of reasons – a shift of the center of population, a threat of war creating unsafe conditions, or the establishment of a place specifically set aside for the building of a capital town, as in the example of Washington, D.C.

Jamestown served as Virginia’s first permanent English capital for almost a century, until the capital was relocated in 1699 to Williamsburg, a healthier location with a larger population. It moved again near the end of the Revolutionary War to Richmond, to be located closer to the state’s center of population as people migrated to the west.



Three capitals – Werowocomoco, Jamestown and Orapaks – and the location of a fourth, Matchcot, are circled on this section of a 1612 edition of John Smith’s *Map of Virginia* in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation collection. The illustration in the upper left corner of the map depicts Powhatan at Werowocomoco. The Smith map is featured in the Jamestown Settlement special exhibition “Werowocomoco: Seat of Power.”

Just as Virginia’s English seat of power shifted twice, so did the capital of the paramount chief of Virginia’s Powhatan Indians. Wahunsenacawh, also known as Powhatan, was born in the town of Powhatan on the James River near present-day Richmond. After he inherited the role of paramount chief, he relocated his political seat of power to Werowocomoco, a more central location within his expanding chiefdom. This town on the north shore of the York River had served as a place of native political and sacred power for centuries. After the arrival of the English, Captains John Smith and Christopher Newport visited Powhatan at Werowocomoco several times. In recent years archaeologists and historians have determined Werowocomoco’s importance through the discovery of high-status artifacts and trade goods, as well as the location of specialized features on the landscape.

During the first two years of the English presence in Virginia, Anglo-Powhatan relations were tenuous but generally peaceful. However, a major seven-year drought in the area began to have an effect on interactions by late 1608. A growing number of English immigrants needed a larger food supply. The Powhatan people were reluctant to trade their limited supply of corn and game, and John Smith commanded the English to take food by force. In the winter of 1608-9 Smith traveled to Werowocomoco to obtain food from Powhatan. He then went up the Pamunkey River, seizing food from groups along the way. Heading back downriver, Smith stopped at Werowocomoco again and found the chief had moved his entire town: *He [Powhatan] tooke so little pleasure in our neare neighbourhood, that [we] were able to visit him against his will in 6 or 7 houres, that he retired himself to a place in the deserts at the top of the river Chickamania . . . His habitation there is called Orapacks where*

*he ordinarily now resideth.* This town *in the wilderness* was near the modern community of Bottoms Bridge at the headwaters of the Chickahominy River, a tributary of the James.

Orapaks became Powhatan’s new “seat of power.” John Smith wrote that Powhatan was attended by *a guard of 40 or 50 of the tallest men his Country doth afford. Every night upon the 4 quarters of his house are 4 Sentinels . . . A mile away in a thicket of wood he [Powhatan] hath a principal house in which he keepeth his kind of Treasure, as skinnes, copper, pearle, and beades, which he storeth up against the time of his death and burial. Here also is his store of red paint for ointment, and bowes and arrows.* English interpreter Henry Spelman, who lived with Powhatan at this time, wrote that the temple in Orapaks contained the *beades or Crowne or Bedd which the King of England sent him* and which Christopher Newport gave to Powhatan while the Indian leader still lived at Werowocomoco. When Powhatan moved his seat of power, he also moved his prized possessions.

Powhatan lived at Orapaks for about five years, during the first Anglo-Powhatan war. During this time his warriors raided the growing English settlements and took prisoners, tools and weapons. In retaliation the English kidnapped his daughter Pocahontas in 1613 to force him to stop the raids and to return the prisoners and stolen items. By March 1614, when Powhatan had not agreed to their terms, a large force of Englishmen planned to confront him and learned that he had moved his capital again.

Matchcot became Powhatan’s new *chiefe habitation.* Ralph Hamor described Matchcot as being *three score miles distant from us, being seated at the head almost of Pamaunkie River.* Powhatan probably moved there to be near the heavily populated Pamunkey region, which could offer him the best protection from the English. He still did not meet



Powhatan's capital Matchcot is shown in the upper right corner of a 17th-century engraving in the collection of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. The engraving depicts Pocahontas, surrounded by Englishmen, meeting several of her brothers in March 1614.

English demands but did consent to a marriage between Pocahontas and John Rolfe. Soon the war ended, and later that year Powhatan told Ralph Hamor that he was *old, and would gladly end my days in peace, so as if the English offer me injury, my country is large enough, I will remove myself farther from you.* In his old age, Powhatan began to relinquish his dealings with the English to his brother Opechancanough.

In 1616 the English recorded that Powhatan had *gone Southwards* (location unknown) and speculated that Opechancanough was conspiring against Powhatan for control of the chiefdom. While Powhatan tried to keep peaceful relations with the English, his brother stirred up the Indians with hopes of rebelling against the settlers. In 1618 Powhatan died. His power passed nominally to his weaker brother Opitchapam, chief of the Pamunkey people, but actually to his more forceful brother, Opechancanough, whose seat of power was in the upper Pamunkey River region.

Powhatan had placed Opechancanough as the chief of the Youghtanund people who lived up the Pamunkey River close to present-day Hanover. But due to the fluidity of tribal boundaries he sometimes resided with Opitchapam's people at their stronghold at Menapucunt, just above today's West Point. Because of his strong personality, Opechancanough may have controlled both regions simultaneously upon taking power at Powhatan's death. ■

## Board of Trustees Officers Re-Elected

H. Benson Dendy III was re-elected chairman, Suzanne O. Flippo vice chairman, Janet D. Howell secretary and M. Kirkland Cox treasurer, all for two-year terms, at the semi-annual meeting of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Board of Trustees in November.

Four trustees serving in board-elected positions – A. Marshall Acuff, Jr., Stephen R. Adkins, Sr., Frank B. Atkinson and Reginald N. Jones – were re-elected to one-year terms.



H. Benson Dendy III

## Four Join Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors

Gilbert A. Bartlett of Williamsburg, John M. Camp III of Alexandria, William B. Downey of Williamsburg and Pamela W. Fitzpatrick of Williamsburg have joined the board of directors of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Bartlett is an attorney with the Williamsburg law firm of Bartlett & Spirn. He has held leadership positions in numerous local government, civic and charitable organizations and is currently president of the Gladys & Franklin Clark Foundation and recent past chair of the Williamsburg Community Health Foundation.

Mr. Camp, a partner at Southfield Capital Advisors, has worked as a partner in private equity investing for the past 25 years. He serves on the boards of the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges and the Camp-Younts and Camp foundations and on finance advisory committees of the University

of the South and the Virginia Historical Society.

Mr. Downey is executive vice president and chief operating officer of Riverside Health System. He serves on the boards of Virginia Living Museum, Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance, Virginia Health Network and Achievable Dream and is past chairman of the United Way of the Virginia Peninsula.

Ms. Fitzpatrick is a long-time volunteer in support of neighborhood associations and church- and school-affiliated organizations. She currently is on the board of the Governor's Land at Two Rivers Neighbor to Neighbor Association and, in Richmond, served as secretary of the Whittaker Woods association board and as a historic tour guide for Richmond Relocation/Virginia Properties, Inc.

## Curator Appointed to Support Planning for New Yorktown Victory Center Exhibits

David B. Voelkel has joined the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation as a curator, with primary responsibility for media elements of planned new exhibition galleries at the Yorktown Victory Center. The galleries, to be located in a new building intended to replace existing facilities, will engage visitors in the entire story of the Revolution and its aftermath through period artifacts and sensory experiences, including re-created immersive environments, dioramas, interactive exhibits, video presentations and an experiential theater.

During the past 12 years, Mr. Voelkel has served as consulting curator for

Ash Lawn-Highland in Charlottesville, curator of the state art collection at the Library of Virginia, director of curatorial operations at George Washington's Fredericksburg Foundation, and assistant director and curator of James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library in Fredericksburg. Mr. Voelkel started his museum career as keeper of the collection at The Building of Bath Museum in Bath, England, following graduation from the University of Leicester with a master's degree in museum studies. He earned a bachelor's degree in historic preservation at Mary Washington University in Fredericksburg.

## Donors Provided In-Depth Look at Historical Clothing Program

Re-created historical clothing is a key aspect of interpretive programming at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center, and donors of \$2,500 and above were treated to a special event in November highlighting the costume program. A behind-the-scenes tour of the Jamestown Settlement costume shop led by Costume Services Supervisor Chris Daley was followed by a reception and fashion show in which Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation volunteers modeled costumes representing varied cultures, occupations and time periods.



## Costume Pieces in Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Collection Will Be Shown During Costume Symposium

Thirty of the registrants at a March symposium co-sponsored by Colonial Williamsburg and the Costume Society of America will have a rare behind-the-scenes look at 17th- and 18th-century costumes and accessories in the collection of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. The March 13-16 symposium, "Costume Accessories: Head to Toe," complements Colonial Williamsburg's DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum exhibition "Fashion Accessories from Head to Toe."

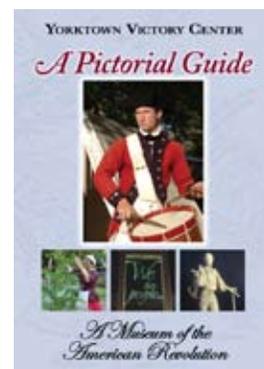


English beaded purse, 1628

The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation showing will feature a 1628 beaded purse, 17th-century lace fragments and a number of 18th-century pieces, including stays, calashes, women's gowns, a striped cotton jacket and a man's red wool cape.

## New Yorktown Victory Center Pictorial Guide Available

New at the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation gift shops is a revision of the Yorktown Victory Center pictorial guide, first published in 2000. The 32-page illustrated soft-cover book presents historical information from the museum's exhibits and includes a 1750-1791 timeline of the American Revolution. The guide sells for \$5.95 and also is available to purchase online at [www.shophistoryisfun.com](http://www.shophistoryisfun.com).



## Betty White Visits Jamestown Settlement

Famed television and movie actress Betty White, recently voted 2010 Entertainer of the Year by members of The Associated Press, was a guest at the Jamestown Settlement ships this fall during a visit to Williamsburg to participate in events to raise funds for the Morris Animal Foundation. Ms. White boarded the *Discovery*, where she helped raise a sail and examined a swivel gun before it was fired by museum staff. Ms. White currently appears in the cable television program *Hot in Cleveland* and is well known for her roles in *The Golden Girls* and *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* television series.



## 'Party on the Pier' Coming in June

"Party on the Pier," an evening social event featuring music by local favorite "Slapwater" and dinner, is coming to Jamestown Settlement June 25. Tickets will go on sale this spring, with proceeds supporting Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation programs.

"Party on the Pier" builds on the success of last year's "Shindig at the Settlement."



# Smooth Sailing of Ships a Testament to Volunteers

A hardy crew of 66 volunteers makes smooth sailing for the Jamestown Settlement ships.

Volunteers in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation's sailing program gathered at the Jamestown Settlement pier on a chilly January morning recently to begin down-rigging the *Discovery*, removing sails, spars and lines as part of routine winter maintenance. Upkeep on the *Susan Constant*, *Godspeed* and *Discovery* is year-round, as volunteers meet monthly to sand, paint, caulk, oil and tar sections of the wooden ships alongside maritime staff.



Marine mechanic Whit Perry and volunteer Rich Watkins prepare the topmast on Jamestown Settlement's *Discovery* for removal.

A busy year lies ahead for the crew, with the *Godspeed* sailing in the James River on Jamestown Day and participating in Norfolk Harborfest and Henricus Public Days and the Virginia Thanksgiving Festival at Berkeley Plantation. Port calls also are scheduled in October in Alexandria and at Yorktown during the Yorktown Victory Celebration event. The Jamestown Settlement ships' voyages are funded with private donations.

Volunteers contributed more than 9,700 hours last year to keeping the ships in good shape and taking part in voyages to Norfolk, Hampton, Lancaster County and Urbanna. At each port, they don 17th-century-style sailor's clothing and host hundreds, sometimes thousands, of visitors. They also assist with education programs for Virginia schoolchildren, showing methods of navigation and life on board a ship in the 1600s. Of the 66 sailing program volunteers, 15 are Foundation staff, including four maritime historical interpreters. Representing an array of experiences and career backgrounds – academic, military, engineering and shipbuilding – volunteers range from ages 13 to 70. Among them are retirees, couples, siblings, and parents and teens. Many of the volunteers have been with the program for more than five years, and more are expected to

join this year.

"We're very fortunate to have so many volunteers with time to dedicate to the program," said Eric Speth, maritime program manager. "We wouldn't have a sailing program without the volunteers. They are vitally important to the success of the program."

Training for ship volunteers is extensive, from basics of boating and seamanship to lessons in sail handling and vessel operation and federal maritime regulations. In addition to the routine training process for Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation volunteers, sailing program volunteers must complete 32 hours of sail training and another 32 hours in ship maintenance before they can sail.



Volunteers Gene Bjerke and Doug Lindeman provide interpretation for visitors on board Jamestown Settlement's *Godspeed* during Hampton Bay Days in September.

Speth stressed the significance of volunteer efforts to maintain the fleet of wooden ships to preserve them and increase their longevity. Last year alone, the specialized work completed by volunteers would have cost the Foundation approximately \$150,000 to hire a maintenance crew, he noted.

Rich Watkins, a volunteer who's logged more than 2,000 hours with the sailing program over the last six years, attributes the camaraderie, ongoing educational opportunities and a unique experience for his continued interest in the program.

"A lot of us want to keep learning, and every time I'm on board one of the ships, I learn something new," said Watkins, noting the hands-on expertise given by Speth, as well as Todd Egnor, ships maintenance supervisor, and Whit Perry, marine mechanic. "They are extremely knowledgeable and share so much. Whenever Eric tries a new sailing maneuver, he'll offer historical background that makes it significant for us." He added that "the sailing program is a continuing education program and makes us feel like we're doing something important." ■

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## Internet Campaign Boosts Online Ticket Sales

With a new Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Internet advertising strategy, sales of museum admission tickets online – though still a fraction of all ticket sales – nearly doubled in 2010.

The primary focus of the campaign was to direct visitors who clicked on display ads and keywords to landing pages on the [www.historyisfun.org](http://www.historyisfun.org) website promoting various ticket options. Special emphasis was placed on a "Web-only" combination ticket that offers seven days of unlimited visits to both Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center in contrast to one-time admission to each of the museums with tickets purchased on site. Also available online is the Four-Site Value

Ticket featuring admission to the museums as well as Historic Jamestowne and Yorktown Battlefield, and the America's Historic Triangle ticket, offering admission to Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area and Art Museums along with the Jamestown and Yorktown sites.

The landing pages deliver visitors to the online ticketing section of the site to make their purchases. Cooperative online advertising with the Williamsburg area destination marketing website, [www.visitwilliamsburg.com](http://www.visitwilliamsburg.com), and its new booking engine gives an additional outlet for visitors from [historyisfun.org](http://historyisfun.org) to make purchases of vacation packages that feature combination tickets with a hotel stay in the Williamsburg area. ■



*The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, an educational institution of the Commonwealth of Virginia accredited by the American Association of Museums, fosters through its living-history museums – Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center – an awareness and understanding of the early history, settlement, and development of the United States through the convergence of Native American, European, and African cultures and the enduring legacies bequeathed to the nation.*

Philip G. Emerson, *Executive Director*

Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, until 6 p.m. June 15 - August 15. Closed December 25 and January 1.

(757) 253-4838 • (888) 593-4682 toll-free  
[www.historyisfun.org](http://www.historyisfun.org)

### *Dispatch*

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## Calendar

Through June 30

### **“Werowocomoco: Seat of Power” Special Exhibition**

#### *Jamestown Settlement*

More than 60 artifacts spanning nearly 10,000 years from one of the most significant sites in Virginia Indian history are on museum display for the first time. Werowocomoco was the principal residence of Powhatan, paramount chief of 30-some Indian tribes in Virginia’s coastal region at the time English colonists arrived in 1607, and was an important Virginia Indian political, spiritual and social center predating the Powhatan chiefdom.

February 1-28

### **From Africa to Virginia**

Theme Month

#### *Jamestown Settlement*

The 17th-century Virginia-Angola connection and a new perspective on the evolution of slavery in Virginia are featured through daily interpretive programs and lectures at 2 p.m., Sundays, February 6 and 27. Throughout February, the “From Africa to Virginia”

theme is reflected in a printed family guide of Jamestown Settlement’s expansive gallery exhibits and in daily guided tours of the museum’s outdoor interpretive areas that compare fishing, hunting, construction and metalworking skills of Africans in Angola with technology used in 17th-century Virginia. Tour participants are invited to engage in role play that illuminates the circumstances of the 1619 arrival in Virginia of 20-some Africans.

February 6 and 27, 2 p.m.

### **From Africa to Virginia Lectures**

#### *Jamestown Settlement*

**February 6** – “Slaves are the most proper and cheape instruments for this plantation”: Re-examining the Initial Establishment of Slavery in Virginia,” John C. Coombs, associate professor of history at Hampden-Sydney College.

**February 27** – “Queen Njinga: Legacy, Memory, and Nation in Contemporary Angola,” Linda M. Heywood, professor of history and director of the African American Studies Program at Boston University.

March 19-20

### **Military Through the Ages**

#### *Jamestown Settlement*

In the course of one weekend, more than 30 re-enactment groups depicting centuries of military history showcase camp life, tactics and weaponry. The event features a Saturday children’s parade and Sunday military pass-in-review.



May 14

### **Jamestown Day**

*A jointly sponsored event at Jamestown Settlement & Historic Jamestowne* Maritime demonstrations, military drills, archaeology and programs on English and Powhatan Indian contact, exploration and discovery mark the 404th anniversary of the 1607 founding of Jamestown, America’s first permanent English colony.