



## ‘The 17th Century: Gateway to the Modern World’ Opens November 16 at Jamestown Settlement

The transformational impact of scientific advances, economic developments and social change finds expression in a special exhibition organized by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in cooperation with the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation – “The 17th Century: Gateway to the Modern World” – opening November 16 at Jamestown Settlement.

Sixty-five objects from the VMFA collection have been selected to illustrate seven themes in the exhibition, which continues through August 15, 2012.

Highlighting the theme “The World of the Mediterranean” is a Tintoretto portrait of Andrea Barbarigo, who commanded a Venetian galley during the 1571 Battle of Lepanto, the last major naval battle fought by oar-powered ships. Although this battle effectively stopped the advance of the Ottoman Empire into Europe, new technologies required to navigate the Atlantic in the following century swiftly made the Mediterranean fleets obsolete, which changed the balance of power, trade and influence on the continent. The continued influence of Italian culture throughout the 17th century is



Portrait of Andrea Barbarigo, 1569, Jacopo Robusti, known as Tintoretto, Italian, oil on canvas. VMFA, Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund.



Inca drinking vessel, Peruvian, 16th century, wood and lacquer. VMFA, Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund.

reflected in several artworks in this section of the exhibition.

“Westward Ho! Conquest of the Atlantic” features early 17th-century portraits of Sir Thomas Dale, who served as marshal and subsequently deputy governor in Virginia between 1611 and 1616, and Captain Robert Adams, who made several voyages to Virginia, including one in 1609 as captain of the *Blessing*.

Among eight objects in “Religious Conflicts: Reformation and Counter Reformation” are a stove tile depicting Duke Heinrich the Pious of Saxony and an Inca drinking vessel from Peru that incorporates Spanish influences into its traditional design.

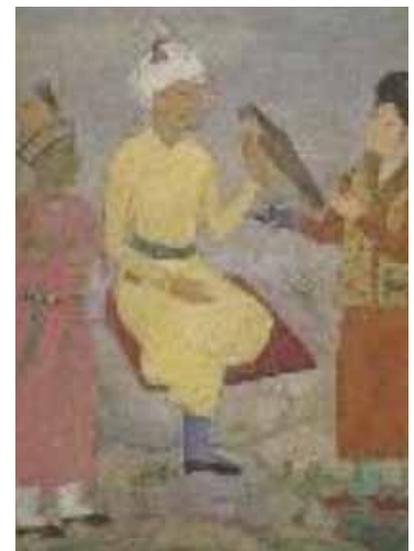
Supporting the theme “Enlightenment! New Philosophies and Technologies” are a portrait of John Locke, whose views on government and natural rights influenced the leaders of the American Revolution; depictions of figures

associated with mathematics; early maps of Virginia; and a copy of John Ogilby’s 1671 book *America: being the latest, and most accurate description of the New World* ....

“New Trade Routes and Products” presents an array of objects from India – a huqqa for smoking through water, a metal bowl and six watercolor scenes – and China – a porcelain sculpture of Guanyin, Buddhist symbol of compassion, and porcelain and metal containers.

The increased importance of tableware fueled the production of silver products in the 17th century, and late in the century large numbers of French Huguenot silversmiths fled to England to escape religious persecution. A variety of English-made objects – including two-handled cups, spoons and a monteith bowl – illustrate the theme “Silver and Silversmiths.”

*continued on page 3*



Abd Allah Khan II on a Hunting Expedition, Mughal (Jahangir), 1618-20 or later, opaque watercolor on paper. VMFA, Gift of Paul Mellon, Nasli and Alice Heeramanek Collection.

# For Some, Volunteering Leads to Employment



**Brian Beckley raises the Cross of St. George, the traditional flag of England, on Jamestown Settlement's *Godspeed*.**

Brian Beckley couldn't have imagined at age 12 in 1998 that his experience as a 4-H peer teacher at the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation would turn into a career. Now a full-time historical interpreter at the Jamestown Settlement ships, Brian is the longest-tenured of several paid staff members who began their affiliation with the Foundation as volunteers.

After completing the peer teacher program, which introduces middle- and high-school students to interpretive methodology, Brian volunteered as a youth interpreter for several years. He began working for pay in high school, continued in college, and became full-time in 2007. He was assigned primarily to the Jamestown Settlement fort until moving to the ships last year. Sewing is among the skills he has acquired as an interpreter. "One of the reasons I've been interested in learning is that people would rather watch something being done than have someone talk about it," Brian said. His passion for history and interpreting is reflected in related activities as a World War I re-enactor and actor in community theater, where he recently had a major part in *Lés Miserables*.



**Katie Ricks operates the windlass on the *Discovery* at Jamestown Settlement.**

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A more recent 4-H program alumnus, high school senior Jesse Sledge, has volunteered at the Yorktown Victory Center encampment since seventh grade and became a part-time paid staff member in June 2010. "History is one of my favorite subjects in school," Jesse said. "At the Victory Center I get to meet people from all over and work



**Jesse Sledge demonstrates a flintlock musket at the Yorktown Victory Center.**

with a great staff. This definitely is something I'll always remember." An Eagle Scout, Jesse is commanding officer in the Junior ROTC program at Tabb High School, band member and soccer player.

Katie Ricks fulfilled a volunteer internship last summer, working on curatorial projects and interpreting at the Yorktown Victory Center farm. She returned this spring as a paid



**Gerry Zel holds a trephine, used for drilling holes in the skull and one of the variety of surgical instruments displayed at the Yorktown Victory Center encampment.**

interpreter at the Jamestown Settlement ships after graduating from Texas A&M, where she majored in history and communications. She is a native of Austin, Texas, with a family connection in Yorktown, Virginia. "It's fun!" Katie says of working at the ships. Ultimately, "I would love to do curatorial or archive work."

Gerry Zel, retired from a career as a urological surgeon and longtime role as Civil War surgeon re-enactor, found his niche at the Yorktown Victory Center encampment. After a chance encounter with a Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation interpreter at a Target store, he signed on as a volunteer in February of this year and joined the paid staff just two months later. Gerry rotates throughout the encampment, though he spends much of his time at the surgeon's tent, explaining to visitors that medical theory and practice was virtually unchanged from 1607 to 1781. "I've been a history buff all my life," Gerry said. "This ideally suits my interests."

While Brian, Jesse, Katie and Gerry and some of their colleagues started as volunteers, 17 former and retired employees have taken a complementary path, continuing to share their knowledge, experience and enthusiasm as Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation volunteers. ■

# \$30,000 in Grants Support Foundation Educational Programming

Grants of \$15,000 from The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation, \$10,000 from the Charles S. & Millicent P. Brown Family Foundation, and \$5,000 from the Norfolk Southern Foundation support Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation structured educational programming.

The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation and Brown Family Foundation grants will underwrite the elementary school scholarship program in the Hampton Roads region. 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.

The Norfolk Southern Foundation grant will go toward outreach education in southeastern and southwestern Virginia.

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation outreach programming reached 83,036 people in the 2010-11 academic year, including students in 98 Virginia school districts. During the programs, which are linked to Virginia's Standards of Learning, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation instructors



**Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation curriculum-based education programs are offered at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center and in classrooms across Virginia. Above, students at Jamestown Settlement learn how a chip log is used to measure ship speed. At right, in an outreach program taught by Foundation instructor Anthony Burcher, a student handles a musketeer's bandoleer.**



engage students in historical analysis and examining reproduction artifacts from Jamestown Settlement

and the Yorktown Victory Center. Participation in curriculum-based guided tours and hands-on history programs at the two museums totaled 209,337 during the year.

Educational materials on [www.historyisfun.org](http://www.historyisfun.org) – lesson plans, essays, videos and podcasts – complement the Foundation's outreach and on-site programs. ■

## 'Gateway to the Modern World'

*continued from page 1*

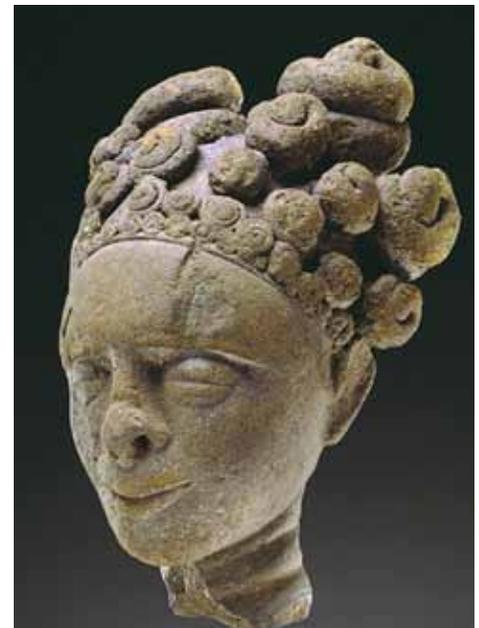


**Guanyin Enthroned with Her Acolytes, Chinese, first half to mid-17th century, Ming or early Qing Dynasty, blanc de Chine porcelain. VMFA, Bequest of Forrest R. Brauer.**

"Portraits: Faces of the New Century" shows the diversity of the portrait genre in the 17th century. Along with oil paintings are a medal of Henri IV and Marie de Medicis, a commemorative head from the Akan culture of West Africa, and two needlework scenes, one of the coronation of James I.

"The 17th Century: Gateway to the Modern World" is supported with grants from James City County and Altria Group, as well as gifts from Bay Electric Co., Inc.; William and Janice Grace, Grace Industries, Inc.; Virginia and Philip Alsop; and Linda and Donald Baker.

"This wonderful exhibition is the result of successful partnerships," said Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Executive Director Philip Emerson. "We are very pleased at the opportunity to work with another state agency, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, which has provided the content for the exhibition, and grateful for financial support from donors to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc." ■



**Commemorative Head, Akan culture (Ghana), circa 18th century, terracotta with traces of polychrome. VMFA, Arthur and Margaret Glasgow Fund.**

# Slave Shackles and the Transatlantic Slave Trade

By Thomas E. Davidson, Ph.D.  
Senior Curator, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

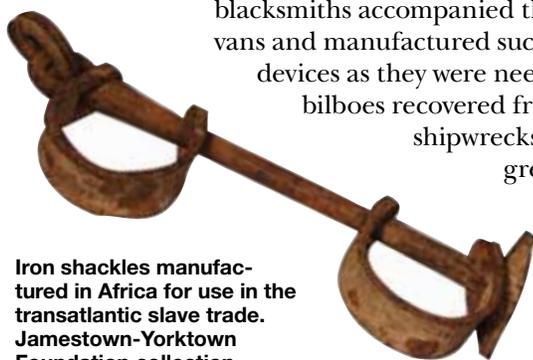
Recently the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation has added a pair of iron slave shackles to its collection. These shackles are of a form associated specifically with the transatlantic slave trade and will be exhibited in the new museum galleries to be constructed at the Yorktown Victory Center. Over the centuries many different forms of chains, handcuffs and leg irons were used to physically restrain enslaved persons. Aboard the ships involved in the transatlantic slave trade, however, one basic form of shackles was used much more commonly than any other. Shackles of this type, called “bilboes,” have been found by underwater archaeologists on slave shipwrecks dating from the 16th through the 18th centuries.

Unlike the popular image of slave shackles, two iron cuffs joined together with a short chain, bilboes consist of two U-shaped pieces of iron that slide up and down a short iron bar. The U-shaped pieces of iron went around the prisoner’s ankles, not his wrists, and were secured to the iron bar by a wedge of metal that is hammered into place by a blacksmith. There is no lock and key; the shackles remain in place until a blacksmith hammers them off again. Since there is no chain linking the two U-shaped cuffs, just a short iron bar, a person wearing bilboes has very little mobility.

Bilboes were preferred for use in the slave trade because they were simple, cheap and efficient. Since bilboes required neither chains nor



**Elmina Castle in present-day Ghana, West Africa, built by the Portuguese in the late 15th century and occupied by the Dutch during the 17th and early 18th centuries, was a major stop in the transatlantic slave trade. This circa 1640 watercolor is in the collection of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation.**



**Iron shackles manufactured in Africa for use in the transatlantic slave trade. Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation collection.**

mechanical locks, they could be made by any blacksmith. Bilboes were manufactured throughout Europe and West Africa and are of such simple construction that they offer few clues as to their specific place of origin. Mungo Park, an 18th-century Scottish explorer who traveled with slave caravans in West Africa, noted that African blacksmiths accompanied the caravans and manufactured such restraint devices as they were needed. The bilboes recovered from slave shipwrecks vary a

great deal in size and shape, suggesting that they were procured from a variety of sources.

Outside of the slave trade, bilboes were regarded mainly as a device for corporal punishment rather than just another form of restraint. In the 17th century, British and colonial American courts often sentenced criminals to short periods of public confinement in bilboes. In 18th-century America the use of wooden stocks for this same purpose was more

common. By the time of the American Revolution many people already had come to believe that the use of bilboes amounted to what we would call today “cruel and unusual punishment.” In 1789 a British official, Captain William Hill, was shocked when he discovered that English convicts were being forced to wear bilboes on prison ships bound for Australia.

“The irons used on these unhappy wretches (convicts) were barbarous; the contractors had been

in the Guinea trade, and had put on board the same shackles used by them in that trade; which are made with a short bolt, instead of chains that drop between the legs.”

Clearly Captain Hill believed that it was wrong to force even convicted felons to wear these painfully restrictive devices. In his mind convicts were not slaves and should not be treated with the casual brutality meted out to enslaved persons being transported to America. During the first half of the 19th century, bilboes gradually fell out of use as punishment devices in the American, British and European penal systems. However, bilboes continued to be made and used for the confinement of slaves as long as the institution of slavery survived. In the Americas, the first known bilboes were recovered from the wreck of a slave ship dating to the early 16th century, a ship that sank at a time when slavery was just getting established in the New World. Centuries later another American shipwreck, a vessel sunk in Savannah harbor during the Civil War, yielded a pair of bilboes that can be dated securely to 1864. Bilboes are a stark and powerful symbol, a symbol that spans the 350 years of injustice that American slavery represents. ■

## Count Rumford Portrait Illustrates Loyalist Story

A British portrait of Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford, one of the most prominent scientists of the late 18th century, will be exhibited in planned new galleries at the Yorktown Victory Center to help tell the story of the role Loyalists played in the American Revolution.

The 18- by 24-inch oil-on-canvas painting by an unknown artist, dating to about 1800, was acquired with private donations to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc.

Born in Massachusetts in 1753, Thompson joined the British side during the Revolution. He left the United States



after the war, never to return, and had a successful career as a scientist and inventor in Britain and on the Continent, known principally for his work in thermodynamics. He was knighted in Britain in 1784 and was made a Count

of the Holy Roman Empire in 1791 for his accomplishments in Bavaria, where he lived for a decade. Count Rumford continued his scientific work until his death in Paris in 1814. ■

## Godspeed Fulfills Unique Educational Role



Participants in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Summer Teacher Institute, held July 10-15, had a hands-on experience in learning about 17th-century seamanship aboard Jamestown Settlement's *Godspeed* as it sailed in the James River.

From October 4 through 9, the ship is in Alexandria, hosting public tours and students from area schools for educational programs. From Alexandria, the *Godspeed* sails directly to Yorktown and will be open to the public at Riverwalk Landing 2 to 6 p.m. on October 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on October 15, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on October 16, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Yorktown Day, October 19. The Yorktown visit is in conjunction with events marking the 230th anniversary of the decisive battle of the American Revolution. (See calendar on page 8.) ■



## Medallion Image Symbolizes Anti-Slavery Movement

A circa 1790 Wedgwood cameo medallion depicting a manacled slave surrounded by the motto, "AM I NOT A MAN AND A BROTHER?" has been acquired with private donations for future exhibit at the Yorktown Victory Center.

This image and motto symbolized the British antislavery movement, a cause to which master potter Josiah Wedgwood was committed. Wedgwood donated hundreds of these medallions to the Society for the Abolition for Slavery in Britain and in 1788 sent a quantity to Benjamin Franklin, who was president of the Abolition Society in America.

# New Bellows Created for Fort Forge

The blacksmith forge in Jamestown Settlement's re-created fort acquired an additional working bellows in July following months of sewing, framing and leatherwork. The project involved historical interpreters, exhibit maintenance staff, volunteers and museum visitors.

Bellows are used by blacksmiths to increase the air flow going into the forge. The double-chamber apparatus constructed from late spring into summer will allow the forge to have two work stations. Leatherwork for the bellows was sewn and fastened with forged nails to an existing frame of three solid pieces, two hollow ribs and a new nosepiece.

The project was coordinated by historical interpreter Jim Kladder, who previously worked at the Colonial Williamsburg harness shop, where he often replaced bellows. Other interpreters enjoyed the experience of learning a new skill. "I've never done that kind of work before," said Don Hulick. "It was great to see from the inside how a bellows works."

Visitors had a hand in tacking down nails on the bellows' leather covering. "Visitors love getting involved in projects," Hulick added. "I know that in 10 years from now someone will come back to the museum and say, 'I helped put that together.'" ■



**Historical interpreter Don Hulick sews a piece of leather in an early stage of the bellows construction project and tests the completed bellows.**



## In Appreciation of Museum Supporters

Members of *The 1607 Society* will be invited to a November 15 preview and reception celebrating the premiere of "The 17th Century: Gateway to the Modern World" at Jamestown Settlement. The special exhibition, which opens to the public on November 16, is featured on the front page of this *Dispatch* issue.

Donors of \$250 or more annually to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., will receive invitations to an exhibition reception on November 16 and to a hospitality suite and special guided tours at Jamestown Settlement on Saturday, November 26, during the annual "Foods and Feasts of Colonial Virginia" event (see "Historical Holiday Fun" on page 7.)

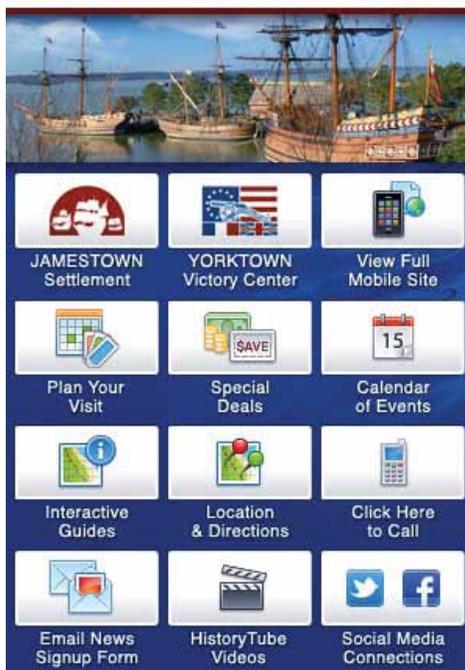
Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund donors support a variety of public programs, educational activities and exhibition needs throughout the year. To learn more about gift clubs or to make a donation, call (757) 253-4139 or visit [www.historyisfun.org/giving](http://www.historyisfun.org/giving).

## Mobile Version of Website Debuts

The future is mobile, and the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation is preparing by creating a new mobile version of its [www.historyisfun.org](http://www.historyisfun.org) website. Accessed at [www.historyisfun.org/mobile/index.html](http://www.historyisfun.org/mobile/index.html) or through a link on the main website, the mobile site is pared down to the essential information about how to plan and enjoy a visit to Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center.

The site is intended for use on mobile phones and features a template designed to fit the smaller phone screen. The home screen has colorful icons linking to information about Jamestown Settlement, Yorktown Victory Center and planning a visit; interactive guides to each museum; a calendar of upcoming events; a "click to call" button; and streaming videos. ■

### JAMESTOWN & YORKTOWN SETTLEMENT & VICTORY CENTER



# Historical Holiday Fun Awaits Visitors at Jamestown Settlement, Yorktown Victory Center

With the holidays come seasonal events at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center – “Foods & Feasts of Colonial Virginia,” November 24-26, and “A Colonial Christmas,” December 1-31 – and holiday vacation packages including lodging and seven-day combination tickets for Williamsburg area attractions.

The holiday season begins on Thanksgiving Day with “Foods & Feasts of Colonial Virginia,” which explores foodways of 17th- and 18th-century Virginia. At Jamestown Settlement, historical interpreters demonstrate how food was gathered, preserved and prepared on land and at sea by Virginia’s English colonists and Powhatan Indians. The Yorktown Victory Center



Methods of food preparation and preservation in the 18th century will be demonstrated at the Yorktown Victory Center’s re-created 1780s farm during “Foods & Feasts of Colonial Virginia.”

provides a window on typical soldiers’ fare during the American Revolution and traces the bounty of a 1780s farm from field to kitchen.

During “A Colonial Christmas,” holiday traditions of 17th- and 18th-century Virginia are recalled through special interpretive programs and, December 26-31, musical entertainment. A Jamestown Settlement holiday film and guided tours – with periodic appearances by the Lord of Misrule – compare and contrast English Christmas customs

of the period with how the season may have been observed in the difficult early years of the Jamestown colony. At the



Musical entertainment will be presented December 26-31, the final week of “A Colonial Christmas,” at Jamestown Settlement as well as at the Yorktown Victory Center.

Yorktown Victory Center, visitors hear accounts of Christmas and winter in Revolutionary War encampments and glimpse holiday preparations on a 1780s farm.

Holiday shopping opportunities at the Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center gift shops and online at [www.shophistoryisfun.com](http://www.shophistoryisfun.com) complement and extend the museum experience.

Holiday vacation packages, available at [www.historyisfun.org/Vacation-Packages.htm](http://www.historyisfun.org/Vacation-Packages.htm), include “History is Fun for the Holidays,” with admission to Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center and coupon booklets for Williamsburg Premium Outlets and Yorktown’s Riverwalk Landing shops; “America’s Historic Triangle for the Holidays,” with admission to Jamestown Settlement, Historic Jamestowne, Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Area and Art Museums, Yorktown Battlefield, and the Yorktown Victory Center; and “Christmas Town and Colonial Fun,” featuring Busch Gardens, Jamestown Settlement, Yorktown Victory Center and Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Area and Art Museums. Attraction combination tickets are available separate from lodging. ■

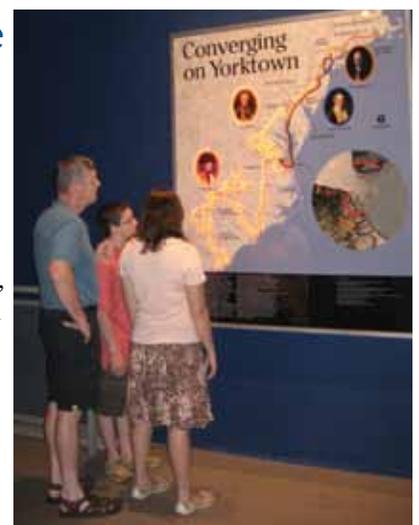


## Electronic Maps Enhance Gallery Experience

Interactive maps help illustrate storylines in the Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center galleries.

Visitors press buttons below a map at Jamestown Settlement (left) to illuminate patterns of settlement, showing Virginia Indian settlements in 1608, English settlements before 1625, and Indian and English settlements in 1675.

A Yorktown Victory Center map (right) traces the movement of British troops from the south and American and French forces from the north into Virginia in 1781 and their convergence at Yorktown.





*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 American Indian, 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

October 8, 7 p.m.

### **“The French Alliance and the Road to Yorktown”**

*Yorktown Victory Center*

In the final lecture of a three-part American Revolution series, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Historian Edward Ayres will discuss how French assistance enabled the United States to eventually win the War for Independence. Admission free. Advance reservations recommended by contacting [rsvp@jyf.virginia.gov](mailto:rsvp@jyf.virginia.gov) or (757) 253-5185.

October 15-16

### **Yorktown Victory Celebration**

*Yorktown Victory Center*

Revolutionary War re-enactment groups demonstrate military life and tactics throughout the October 15-16 weekend to mark the 230th anniversary of America’s momentous victory at Yorktown on October 19,

1781. To experience Continental Army life firsthand, visitors can enroll in “A School for the Soldier.” Special programs also are scheduled on the weekend in Yorktown, including tours of Jamestown Settlement’s *Godspeed*, and at Yorktown Battlefield and on October 19 in Yorktown.

Opening November 16

### **“The 17th Century: Gateway to the Modern World”**

*Jamestown Settlement*

Special exhibition organized by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts explores developments that set in motion the transition from “old” world of the Mediterranean – the center of European commerce and diplomacy since ancient times – to a new globally connected world in the 17th century. Sixty-five artifacts from European, Asian, African and American cultures on exhibit through August 15, 2012. (See story on page 1.)

November 24-26

### **Foods & Feasts of Colonial Virginia**

*Jamestown Settlement & Yorktown Victory Center*

Virginia foodways are featured, from food preparation by Powhatan Indians and America’s first permanent English colonists to the rations of Revolutionary War soldiers and crops harvested by 18th-century farmers. (See “Historical Holiday Fun” on page 7.)

December 1-31

### **A Colonial Christmas**

*Jamestown Settlement & Yorktown Victory Center*

Holiday traditions of 17th- and 18th-century Virginia are recalled through special interpretive programs and, December 26-31, musical entertainment.

(See “Historical Holiday Fun” on page 7.)

