



Historic Franconia Legacies

Franconia Museum Inc.
 6121 Franconia Road, Franconia, Virginia 22310
 E-mail: franconiamuseum@yahoo.com
 Web: franconiamuseum.org

Volume 8 Issue 1

Franconia Museum

Spring 2009

Special points of interest:

1040's High School Student Bus Drivers	1
Presidents Message	2
New Friends	2
Bus Drivers Continued	3
Recipes	4
Franconia's 1947 Undefeated Baseball Team	5
Emails & Notes	6
Franconia's Gun Site	7
Famous Franconian Mattie Roger Nalls	8
Did You Know	9
Volunteers Needed	9
Museum Helps To Reconnect the Stewardson Family	10
Andrew Wylie Lone Vote	11
Lincolns Assassination Trial	11
Franconia's Gun Site Continued	12
Ode To An Apron	13
Laurel Grove School History Marker	13
Events Hold The Date	14
Recipes Continued	15
In Memoriam	16
In Memoriam	17
In Memoriam	18
In Memoriam	19

1940's HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BUS DRIVERS

By Jacqueline "Jac" Walker

School buses sometimes may have been a little late picking up, but rain, sleet, hail, or snow never stopped bus runs or caused young drivers to panic. Joyce Stewardson Young recalls that during the 1948-49 school-year, Broadus Bunch, a Springfield boy, drove her bus to school. One winter morning, she waited about an hour or so. When Broadus came, he told them he had a found a deceased woman on the back seat of the bus. She never heard anything to the contrary. Except for Route 1, the roads were narrow and crowned, with no shoulders. Once off the asphalt you were in a ditch, and often it was a deep ditch. She said the drivers had the respect of school officials and their passengers.

The following are some of the memories experienced by Bob Cooke who was one of the student drivers hired the first year:

During World War II, because of the lack of men willing and able to drive school buses, Fairfax County hired male high school students to drive some buses. (I don't think using women as bus drivers ever entered anyone's mind.)

I was 16 years old when I began driving the bus on a regular basis in the fall of 1945. I had gotten my Virginia driver's license in June of 1943 at the age of 14. I had no experience driving buses or large trucks, but was able to

Continued on Page 3

Pictured is a group of Fairfax County high school student bus drivers as scanned from the 1952-53 Mount Vernon High School year book.



*First Row: Wayne Hulvey, **Francis (Pete Talbert, Neville Ramey,** Marvin Brown and Dallas Phillips. Second Row: Warren Trice, F. Traves (not a student), Bill Armistead, Bob Stocks, **Roland Booe, Fred Lacy,** Luther Beahm, **Milton Booth,** Ralph Buckley, Assistant Principal, and John Moore, Business Director. **Bold** denotes students from the Franconia area.*

Presidents Message ...

On January 1, 2009 I was elected President of the Franconia Museum by the Board of Directors. I have served on the board for the past 5 years, and for the past 4 years have been Vice President for Administration. I am a native of Northern Virginia and was raised in Arlington County. I am the Broker-President of Sherman Properties, Inc located in Franconia, Virginia and have been in the real estate business since 1970. My educational background is in Accounting, Business Administration and History. I have recently been appointed by Supervisor McKay to serve on the Board of Directors of Celebrate Fairfax.

Phyllis Walker Ford who previously served as the President of the Franconia Museum, remains on the Board of Directors as the Vice President of Education. Phyllis was recently appointed to serve on the Fairfax County History Commission by Supervisor McKay.

We have many exciting and interesting events planned for 2009, starting with a museum sponsored Both Sides Civil War Bus Tour on April 25, followed by a Story Swap honoring the 1947 Franconia Undefeated Baseball Team on May 2, 2009, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at the Franconia Governmental Center. There will be a dedication of the Historical Marker for Laurel Grove School on June 13, 2009 at 10:00 AM.

Franconia History Day will be held on October 24, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Franconia Firehouse, which is a new location. There will be the unveiling of Franconia Remembers Joe Alexander, the fifth volume published by the museum. There will also be musical entertainment and refreshments. This should be our best and biggest History Day so far.

I am looking forward to meeting and talking with the many Friends of the Franconia Museum in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Steve Sherman

<u>New Friends</u>		
Lucy Callaghan		
Virginia G. Carter		
Phyllis Ann Duncan		
Bernard M. Fagelson		
Kristina Prack		
<u>\$1,000 + Donations</u>		
Sheehy Ford		
<u>Double Lifetime Friends</u>		
Shirley Dove Davis		
<u>Business Friend</u>		
Dove Heating & Air Conditioning		
<u>Event Sponsors</u>		
Sherman Properties		
Laurel Grove School		
Don Hakenson/Gregg Dudding		
Martin & Gass		
Roy Rogers		
Dove Heating & Air Conditioning		
Honorable Mark Sickles		

1940's HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BUS DRIVERS ... *continued*

pass a very simple and inadequate driver test near the county bus maintenance facility in Fairfax. In effect, all I had to do was demonstrate my ability to start the motor, shift gears without too much difficulty, move the bus around the block, and park it back at the garage all in one piece.

The pay for student drivers was \$50 a month. As I recall, regular adult drivers got \$80 a month. I never understood the disparity, but it was of no consequence. Fifty dollars was great, driving the bus was fun and carried with it a little prestige.

I remember one episode in particular where being a bus driver paid off. During Social Studies class, taught by an elderly gentleman, Mr. Morse, I asked if I could be excused from class to clean my bus that was left quite dirty by my student passengers. He said sure, and "Don't worry about your grade, because I know driving the bus takes a lot of your time." From that moment on, I took advantage of Mr. Morse and enjoyed a free ride in Social Studies.

There were two school buses serving Franconia Elementary and Mount Vernon High Schools students: School bus #38 driven by Joe Starry and Bus #11 driven by a man whose name I do not remember. Bus #38 gathered students along Franconia Road from the Rose Hill area to Springfield. After leaving the elementary students at Franconia, the bus continued on Franconia Road to Kings Highway, and then US Route 1 to Mount Vernon High School. Bus #11 covered Beulah Road and delivered students to Franconia, Groveton and Mount Vernon, via Beulah Road, Telegraph Road and US Route 1.

My route began near Fort Belvoir, covered Telegraph Road, and other roads in the Occoquan-Lorton area. The first leg ended at Lorton Elementary School. From there, we filled the bus with high school students who had gathered at Lorton Elementary, and

followed US Route 1 to Mount Vernon high.

To the best of my knowledge, no problems of consequence resulted from the use of high school students as bus drivers. Student behavior on the bus, both elementary and high school was never a problem. I personally did some stupid things that I should not have done. Some examples are speeding. The speed limit was 35 mph and I would frequently go 50 on Route 1. I also allowed students to get on or jump off the bus without coming to a complete stop. Fortunately, no one was ever injured.

As I think about the days as a student driver, I remember things that may or may not be true, but are very clear in my mind. Some examples are:

I am absolutely sure that teens of the World War II era were much more mature and responsible than teens of today. The county government and citizens of our community trusted us to get their children to school safely on the narrow, winding roads of Fairfax County. We did it well.

Many teens also drove, and otherwise manned the three fire trucks of the Franconia Volunteer Fire Department. Once again, we did not disappoint the community. We extinguished many brush and grass fires in the Franconia-Springfield area, and to the best of my knowledge, always acted responsibly. We even conducted "turkey shoots" to raise money for the department, and kept the fire fighting equipment spotless and in good working condition.

We always worked well with the adult men who, because of age or health, were not able to participate directly in World War II. We respected each other and worked together very closely. Obviously their caring supervision helped all of us.

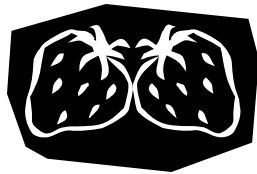
Continued On Page 4

1940's HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BUS DRIVERS

... continued

In 1945-46, gasoline was 20 cents per gallon, movies were 39 cents for adults and 11 cents for children under 12. The bus ride from Alexandria to Washington was 15 cents, the street car fare to Griffith Stadium was 10 cents, and the cost of bleacher seats for a double header between Washington and the Yankees was 50 cents. So you can see that driving a school bus for \$50 a month was pretty darn good for a sixteen year old kid. I am grateful that I had the opportunity.

It is interesting to note that the janitor of Franconia School, Jinks Walker, was an African American. Jinks acted as a daytime father to many of us. Mr. Walker's children were not allowed to attend Franconia School, but were taught in what were undoubtedly better schools in Washington, D. C. Mr. Walker's son would always give us a ride to Alexandria as we hitch hiked in front of the school. We drove our buses past many African American homes, but no kids rode with us to attend our all white schools. All of this seemed normal to virtually everyone, and no one did anything to change it.



Annual Strawberry Festival

The Strawberry Festival at the Franconia Episcopal Church (6107 Franconia Road) will be May 30th from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

RECIPES

At the Franconia Museum History Day event at Franconia School in November, we asked for recipes - "A Taste Of The Past" was the theme. We thank those of you who contributed, and ask that you continue to send them to us. We will publish a few in this issue and **hope to collect more** to possibly publish a Franconia Museum cookbook.



APPLE SAUCE CAKE

An Old Recipe from Rheba Richard

- 1 cup butter (2 sticks margarine)
- 1 cups sugar (1 white, 1 dark brown)
- 2 eggs
- 4 cups flour
- 2 tsps. Cinnamon
- 1 tsp. Nutmeg
- 2 tsps. Baking soda (put soda in applesauce)
- 2 cups applesauce
- 1 box raisins
- 1 or 2 cups nuts

In a large bowl, add butter, sugar and eggs. Mix well with an electric beater until creamy. Add nutmeg and cinnamon, mixing by hand. Add the applesauce with the soda, mixing by hand. Add the 4 cups of flour gradually, mixing by hand. Save part of the flour. In a small bowl, drop the raisins and nuts in the flour, coating them so they won't stick together. Add floured raisins and nuts to the cake mixture. I use black walnuts, English walnuts or pecans.

Pour into a large tube pan that has been oiled. (Spray with Pam) Place pan on the middle rack of the oven.

Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Turn temperature down to 250 degrees. Bake for a total of two hours or until tested done with a tooth pick or whatever.

Continued on page 15

1947 Franconia School Undeclared Baseball Team

In July 2008 the Franconia Museum got a visit from Sonny Wright, one of the ball players from the legendary 1947 Franconia School Undeclared Baseball Team. In the team picture Sonny is in the back row, second from the left. He has been back to visit the museum many times, has brought us some valuable Labor Day Parade Pictures to scan, and his Franconia Volunteer Fire Department membership cards to display.



Sonny Wright in front of our Franconia Museum poster of the 1947 Franconia School Undeclared Baseball Team.

Batter Up !!!!



**SATURDAY MAY 2, 2009
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Helen Wilson Community Room
Franconia Governmental Center
6121 Franconia Road**

Join members of the Franconia's Unbeaten 1947 baseball team as they reminisce about the special season!



Separate Insert Has All The Details

Remembering Joe Davies

Carl Sell is writing a book about Joe Davies, who grew up in Franconia and made the ultimate sacrifice for his country in Vietnam. If you have a recollection of Joe's childhood in Franconia, please contact Carl Sell at 703-971-4716 or preferably via e-mail at sellcarl@aol.com.

The Franconia Museum hopes to publish the book as one of its series titled 'Franconia Remembers'.

Emails & Notes

On December 29, 2008, Donna Jenkins Hamcke wrote that her sister, Sandy mailed her a set of four "Franconia Remembers" books as a gift. Sandy attended the Fall History Day event at Franconia School. She was thrilled to see the displays, and to meet up with old friends. Donna wrote "I can't get enough of them. I particularly enjoyed reading about the Fitzgerald family, and seeing old Mr. Fitz in the picture. I remember going to that store (Fitzgerald Grocery) with my mother as a child."

Donna went on to say that she has lived in the frozen wasteland of the north called Massachusetts for the past 25 years. She works for an accounting firm, and is active in Sudbury United Methodist Church just like her family was in the Franconia United Methodist Church. Her parents, both deceased, were Bernie and Opal Jenkins. Besides Sandy, she has a brother, Lee Jenkins. Donna has three children; Lindsey, age 26, back in school and works for a bank; Mike, age 20, is in the air force stationed in Arkansas; Caitlin, soon to be 19, is attending college at Suffolk University in Boston. Donna remarried six years ago to David Hamcke.

Reading the books has brought back many memories which she shared. She e-mails them to me as she recalls.

She remembered Freddy Puckett who lived on a dirt road beyond the end of Japonica



We would love to hear from you... if you would like to give us your comments or send us a word or two, please contact us by mail or email.

**6121 Franconia Road
Franconia, VA 22310**

Street. They were prohibited from going near him as he had a gun from which he shot rock salt. She remembers Mr. Potter, who was custodian at Springfield Estates School. He always called her "Blondie." There are members of the Rogers family mentioned frequently in the books. Mac Rogers lived in the little tiny house right across from them. Next to him was Earl Rogers, whose daughter, she believes, married Johnny Untied. She and her siblings used to climb the fence to the Broders' Cemetery when they were kids. They lived next to Dallas Schurtz, and McKinley Schurtz' house was next to his. On the other side of McKinley's was the Talbert's farm stand. In the books, Aunt Georgie's house was mentioned. Across the street from the farm stand, there was a house that was almost identical to the farm stand house. That house on Georgie Lane, which ran alongside Lee High School, belonged to Aunt Georgie Talbert. Her brother, Walter Talbert and his children also lived in the farm house. Donna played down this lane with the Blevins' children. She remembers an old woman that lived next door to them who had one of those big talking parrots she called "Polly." She cannot remember her name.

Aunt Georgie and her brother Walter later moved in with Walter's son, Allen. They lived on the property behind the farm stand, across from Forestdale School. He was the area school bus driver.

She remembers the Ogdens, the Javins, and Cassie Smith. Her dad plowed Mrs. Smith's garden. Before her dad got his tractor, Allen Talbert plowed their garden.

Donna writes "So many memories. Reading the books just brings it all pouring back. It is too bad the area has changed so much."

(Jac Walker)

FIGHTING THE COLD WAR FRANCONIA'S AAA GUN SITE

By Jim Young

Yes, it may be hard for you to remember, or even believe for that part, but an Anti-Aircraft Artillery (AAA) Gun Site did exist in Franconia. The Gun Site was located where Frances Scott Key Intermediate School is now located, next door to the Ogden's (Herbert, Flossie, Herbie and Kathryn) home at 6412 Franconia Road.

At first the site had four 90mm (millimeter) AAA guns. Later even larger 120mm guns were installed. They were aimed by radars and a computer; and were part of the air defense protection of our nation's capitol against a possible Soviet air attack. The guns protected the southern air approaches to the Capitol. Other gun sites protected the east, west, and northern approaches to the city.

The AAA gun site land was leased by the Federal Government from the Ogden family in 1950, in response to the Communist Soviet threat. The Cold War started around 1950 with the beginning of the Korean Conflict. Both Communist China and Russia supported North Korea, and both were hostile to United States interests. Russia had developed the atomic bomb, and the United States feared a Soviet air attack on our cities, especially the Capitol. America's response was to ring our cities with AAA guns.

This was not the first time the government had leased the Ogden's property; the first time was in 1940 at the beginning of World War II. The land adjacent to Fort Belvoir and the Ogden property were leased for the duration of the war, to train army engineers. The Young's 40-acre farm, located next door to Anthony T. Lane Elementary School (7139 Beulah Road), was also leased in 1940. I remember the soldiers conducting map practice (land navigation) on our farm. The soldiers would ask me to pick up sodas and snacks for them at Miss Nellie Simms' Country Store (front room at 7437 Beulah Road). They would give me money to purchase the items and a tip to deliver.

. Life was pretty good back then. The Ogden property was also leased in 1940. Fort Belvoir used the Ogden property as a camping area. Soldiers would march to Franconia, pitch tents on the Ogden's open field, spend the night, and march back to Fort Belvoir the next day. In summary, the Franconia site was leased to train soldiers at Fort Belvoir from 1940 to 1945, and then from 1950 to 1964 for the AAA Gun Site.

The active Army (regular) manned the AAA gun site from 1950 to 1954, and the Virginia National Guard (VANG) took over manning the site until 1964. That year they were moved to operate the two Nike (Ajax) Missile Sites, one at Lorton Reformatory, and the other site near Fairfax City, on Popes Head Road. The VANG could man the site with just forty full-time technicians, and support them with eighty part-time Guard volunteers. It took 120 full-time regular Army personnel to achieve the same AAA protection. The economy of resources was a major factor in the VANG taking over and manning the AAA gun and missile sites.

Organization of an AAA gun site consisted of three platoons or sections. The Headquarters Platoon had the administrators, cooks, vehicle drivers, mechanics, and security personnel. The Gun Platoon comprised the four gun crews and machine gun sections. The radar platoon included the two separate types of radar operators (acquisition radar and gun pointing radar, computer operators and maintenance personnel.

The administrative housekeeping part of the AAA Gun Site consisted of six to eight Butler Huts—10x30 prefab metal buildings like sheds erected on concrete blocks; a permanent modern well-equipped mess hall built on a concrete slab; and a large permanent latrine in a separate building also on a concrete slab. Sewage was handled by a septic system. Each

Continued of page 12

FAMOUS FRANCONIAN

MATTIE ROGERS NALLS

August 20, 1901 – December 13, 1997

By Jacqueline "Jac" Walker

Mattie Nalls was one of six girls born to Arthur and Rose Simms Rogers, and was a lifetime resident of Beulah Road. She was married to Carroll L. Nalls of Alexandria, Virginia on January 22, 1921. He preceded her in death on December 21, 1977. Their three children, Arthur L. (Buddy) Nalls (Betty), Julia Nalls Lee (Oliver) and Gladys Nalls Shain (Fred) made their homes on Beulah Road in one of the many Franconia family compounds. Gladys passed away on December 4, 2000. In addition to Buddy and Julia, surviving are 8 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren. Mattie has one surviving sister, Elnora White, of Manassas, Virginia. Elnora celebrated her 102nd birthday on February 2, 2009.

Mattie and her husband loved the earth. As newlyweds, they built their home on a small farm on Beulah Road where they raised vegetables, fruit trees, grapes, and a variety of animals. Later, they began selling their extra harvest of fruits and vegetables at a roadside stand. This venture grew into a business called Nalls Produce, which is now owned and operated by a grandson, Cary Nalls.

Mattie especially loved flowers. Her flower garden and blooming shrubs were beautiful from early spring until the first frost. She shared her flowers with her church and neighbors. The flowers have even been used to help decorate the White House.

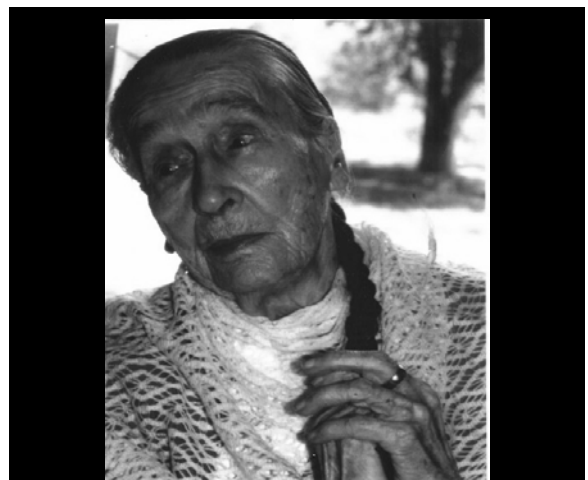
As a child, Mattie became a member of the little Bethel Methodist Church on Beulah Road. Her father helped to hew the logs that went in the foundation of the church. She attended church faithfully all of her life. She and her older sisters, Ossie and Lizzie, and younger sisters, Bessie, Daisy and Elnora, walked one mile to church along with the Schurtzs, Talberts, Rogers, Redfields, Simms, Kings and Gorhams.

She became more active in the church, serving on all of the Boards and committees. She was a member of the "Willing Workers," the Methodist

Women and the Women's Society. During the Depression and World War II, she worked tirelessly helping to promote the minister's "Poundings" (food to stock the parsonage), ham and oyster suppers, turkey dinners, pie parties, box socials, bazaars and programs to keep the church repaired and maintained. Although she did not have the best of health herself, she was always concerned with the needs of others, especially those who were less fortunate. Mattie continually worked to find housing, food, clothing, furniture, and firewood/coal wherever needed. One time she helped build and furnish a small one room house for a lady that had no place to live. She took baskets of food to the sick people and shut-in, did sewing and mending, quilting, or anything that was needed. Mattie was born of a poor family and had to work hard and long before she was married. Therefore, she always helped others to better themselves.

Mattie rededicated herself and her three children to Christ under The Reverend Grey. In the 1950s, her health began to fail, and she was semi-confined to her home for some years. She suffered a stroke in 1989, and had to have almost constant nursing care until her death on December 13, 1997.

Mattie Rogers Nalls



Did You Know ?

Fort Belvoir Camp

-Jean Mittendorf- Agricultural to suburban life shift was facilitated by tax policies and eminent domain to get land for public facilities. The Fort Belvoir Camp claimed a lot of Mittendorf land. Humphries during the Civil War set up tents for Mittendorfs when the house burned down- it had heaters and floors. Everyone on Telegraph Road was related by blood or marriage to Mittendorf grandparents. Property on Woodlawn Road formerly owned by the Petits- they had 26 children and each got an equal parcel in the will, and each parcel was divided by each following generation.

Florence Lane

-Edith Sprouse- Revolutionary War soldiers buried off Florence Lane.

Volunteers Needed

Are you interested in your community and history? Get involved with the Franconia Museum. You can volunteer for one event or more often if interested.

Your help is needed with events like Story Swaps, Annual History Day, or staffing the Museum during hours of operation. Your help is also needed with periodic administration needs like preparing mailing (newsletters, special event post cards, letters) and with filing and computer data entry for cataloging pictures and Museum items. Additional opportunities to help the Museum will be available periodically, including writing grant proposals, fund raising, and educational programs.

Please give us your:

Name
Address
Phone number (s)
Email
Area (s) interested in helping the Museum
Best time to be contacted

You can contact us in in anyway:

Mail or drop off your information at the Franconia Museum (inside the Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Road Franconia, VA 22310.

Email to franconiamuseum@yahoo.com

Call Johna Gagnon at 703-960-2840

Help us preserve and make the history of the local Franconia area available to everyone.



FRANCONIA MUSEUM HELPS RECONNECT THE STEWARDSON FAMILY

Franconia History Day was held at Franconia Elementary School on November 8, 2008. Franconia Museum memorabilia on display included school pictures of yesteryear and old family photos. Copies of *Franconia Remembers, Volumes I, II, III*, and the newly-published *Volume IV* were on sale. It was a mesmerizing day for those who attended, especially those who chose to recall their years in Franconia. Visitors to the event were delighted to learn all about the Museum. It proved to be a wonderful event for the Stewardson families who grew up on Potters Lane from 1941, until the mid-80s.

The first generation of Stewardsons moved to Franconia in the late 1930s. Matt and Cleo Stewardson, of the second generation, built their home on Potters Lane in Franconia during the 1940s. The third generation of Stewardsons (Joyce, Janice, Tommy and Barbara) grew up on Potters Lane. When Matt and Cleo left Franconia in 1960, Joyce and her family lived there for a short time. Her brother, Tommy, and his family moved there in 1962. Tommy died of cancer in 1977, at 39 years of age. His wife, Jean, and their five children (the fourth generation), Lynda, Alan, Connie, Robin, and the youngest, Charlton (only eight years old), continued to live on Potters Lane, until developers bought the property in the 1980s. They married, and like generations before them left Franconia. They worked and were involved in school activities and children's sports, while the older generations struggled with ill health and death issues. It became increasingly difficult for families to stay in touch. There were visits, telephone conversations, and, ah, yes, funerals, but these contacts were few and far between. Sadly, there was little or no opportunity to share stories or to compare tales of the "good old days."

In May 2008, Cleo, Joyce and sisters, Janice and Barbara visited the Franconia Museum for the first time. Excitedly, Joyce and Barbara wrote stories for *Franconia Remembers, Vol. IV*, describing their experiences in the community during the 1940s and 1950s.

On November 8, 2008, Charlton Stewardson (now approaching his 40s and living in Spotsylvania County) happened to drive to Franconia. Noticing traffic around the elementary school he stopped, and went inside to find that Franconia History Day was being celebrated. He found his dad's third grade picture hanging on the wall, and took a picture of it because he had not seen pictures of his dad when he was young. He relished in the fact he was walking the halls of the school his father had attended. He looked through the four volumes of *Franconia Remembers*, and found that Volume IV included stories written by his aunts, Joyce and Barbara. The stories included pictures of all the Stewardsons who had lived in Franconia over the years. He fondly realized he had lived his young years growing up in the house his grandfather built. He realized too that Louise and Buddy Potter had watched two generations of Stewardson children grow up across Potter Lane from their house. Charlton bought Volume IV of *Franconia Remembers* and shared it with his family. He e-mailed Joyce to express their delight with his "find." Joyce immediately contacted her sisters, Janice and Barbara, and they celebrated with tears of joy. Their mom was excited too to know that contact was reestablished between her family members.

"The museum has gone on record as having "Historic Preservation" as one of its primary missions. Helping preserve family history and family ties is a mission that we had not previously considered; but may be just as important as creating monuments or saving historic sites."

Everyone has a story to tell and we want to hear yours! If you are interested in sharing your stories with us please call Jacqueline "Jac" Walker at 703-971-2463. The Franconia Museum is also looking for artifacts, photo's, and maps (gifts or loans) for future exhibits.

Franconia Museum, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) private community based not-for-profit organization.

Andrew Wylie's Lone Vote & His Involvement with the Lincoln Assassination Trial

By Don Hakenson

This is a story about a man who made history in Alexandria, Virginia for a dubious act in 1860, and was involved in the most compelling trial in the United States of America in 1865. Who was this man? Let me tell you about him.

Andrew Wylie was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania on February 25, 1814. Wylie moved to Indiana when his father (also named Andrew Wylie) was appointed the first president of the new state college there in 1828. With his father as president Wylie graduated from the College of Indiana in 1832 (the college became the University of Indiana in 1938). He studied law at Transylvania University, in Lexington, Kentucky during the years 1835 to 1836. He was admitted to the bar at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1837. Wylie plied his successful trade in Pittsburgh for almost eleven years, until he moved to Alexandria, Virginia and opened an office in 1848. The main reason for his leaving Pennsylvania was to be near his wife's family. In 1845 Wylie had married Mary C. Bryan. She was a Virginian and had lived her entire life in the beautiful city of Alexandria.

It was during the year 1860 that Andrew Wylie, a noted Republican and a Northerner by birth, would forever be remembered in Alexandria's history as the only man who voted for Abraham Lincoln for President of the United States. Prior to the election Wylie had received threats that he would be shot if he voted for Lincoln, but he voted his conscience sealing his fate in Alexandria.

After his vote, while he sat comfortably on his front porch in Alexandria, a bullet whizzed through the air shattering the drinking glass he held in his own hand. Seeing the need for safety for himself and his family he moved post haste to Washington DC. In 1863, he was nominated by President Lincoln as a justice to the new Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. This was a position of knowledge and great esteem. While in Washington DC, Justice Wylie would concentrate on civil and financial litigation cases

as both a lawyer and a judge, with one notable exception.

After Lincoln was assassinated, the conspirators, including Mary Surratt, were tried and convicted before a military commission. President Andrew Johnson ordered their execution on July 7, 1865. On that date, Surratt's lawyers, Frederick Aiken and John Clampitt, made their way to Judge Wylie's house in the early morning hours. The lawyers demanded that the judge prepare a writ of habeas corpus, on the grounds that civilians could not be tried before a military commission in times of peace (a position that was upheld in another case the following year). Aiken and Clampitt awoke Justice Wylie, who came to the door in his pajamas. Justice Wylie heard their pleas and issued the writ at 3:00 a.m., making them return to court later that morning at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting again that morning in court, Attorney General James Speed informed Wylie that President Johnson had suspended habeas corpus for this case. Wylie while terming habeas corpus "*dear and sacred to every lover of liberty*" and "*indispensable to the protection of citizens,*" told Surratt's lawyers that the jurisdiction of the court had to yield to the actions of the President. By yielding to the President, Mary Surratt was summarily executed that afternoon, becoming the first woman to be sentenced and hanged in the United States of America.

Judge Wylie would remain in the Supreme Court in the District of Columbia until he retired on account of age in 1885. During his twenty-two years of service he had established an enviable reputation for his craft, won the respect of the general public as well as his professional brethren, but will always be remembered for his lone vote for Lincoln in Alexandria, Virginia, and for his involvement in the Lincoln assassination trial. He would live his remaining days until his death at 1205 Thomas Circle, in Northwest Washington DC.

FIGHTING THE COLD WAR FRANCONIA'S AAA GUN SITE ... *continued*

site was surrounded by a six foot chain link fence with security lights. We often considered ourselves “concrete soldiers” because of our semi-permanent buildings, and the inability to readily move the equipment.



“Concrete Soldiers manning the AAA sites often had lonely duty in severe weather conditions”

Yes, the Franconia AAA Gun Site area supported the War effort in both World War II and the Cold War. VANG soldiers manned the 90mm and 120mm guns from June 1954 to 1964. Local Guardsmen living in Fairfax and Prince William Counties, and Alexandria, Virginia protected the nation's capitol against air attacks by operating the guns located on Franconia Road.

Thank goodness the Russian bombers never came, the Cold War eventually ended, the Russians did not employ nuclear weapons, and we now live in peace. A list of those who served in World War II and the Cold War is being compiled by the Franconia Museum. If you have information about veterans that live, or have lived in Franconia, please contact the museum at Franconiamuseum@yahoo.com

Colonel James N. Young (retired), then a Captain with the VANG, was the first National Guard commanding officer of the AAA Gun Site

(June 1954) at the intersection of Telegraph Road and Kings Highway. The property is now Huntley Meadows Park, owned by Fairfax County Park Authority. There is an exhibit at Huntley Meadows Park with pictures of the AAA Gun Site (Battery D, 125th Gun Battalion, and VANG.) Later he was the commanding officer of the Franconia AAA Gun Site until 1964. Colonel Young then became the first VANG Commander of the Popes Head Road Nike Ajax Missile Site, located near the town of Fairfax. Jim went on to serve over thirty years in the Army. He and his wife, Connie, now reside in the Monticello Woods subdivision which is adjacent to Franconia Road. Jim considers himself a lifetime resident of Franconia, and we thank him for sharing this story with the museum.



“Ariel view of the AAA Gunsite in what is now Huntley Meadows Park, at the junction of South Kings Highway and Telegraph Road.”

***Have a story to share ...
please contact us by mail or email***

**6121 Franconia Road
Franconia, VA 22310
franconiamuseum@yahoo.com**

ODE TO AN APRON

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath; because she only had a few, it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and they used less material, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven. And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men

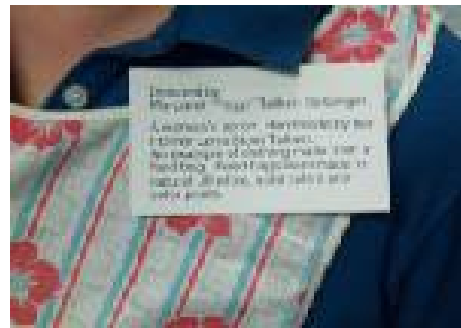
knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that old-time apron that served so many purposes.

One would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron. I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron.



"The apron pictured was worn by Lena Talbert, wife of Clarence Talbert. Donated to the Franconia Museum by her daughter, Margaret "Peggy" Talbert Seitzinger in 2008."



- Laurel Grove School History Marker -

You Are Invited ...

Please join us for the historical unveiling of the Laurel Grove History Marker. Unveiling will be at the Laurel Grove School, 6840 Beulah Street, Saturday, June 13, 2009, 10:00 a.m. Please join us for this historical event.

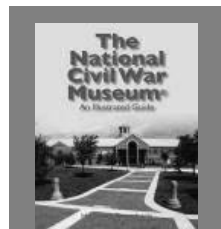


HOLD THE DATE

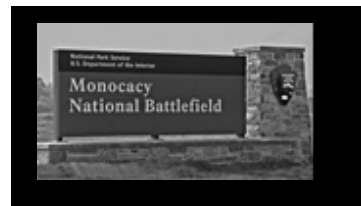
8TH ANNUAL HISTORY DAY
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2009
 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

New Location
Franconia Volunteer Fire Department
6300 Franconia Road

More Details In Fall Newsletter



****BOTH SIDES TOUR****
National Civil War Museum
Harrisburg, PA



Saturday, April 25, 2009

Sponsored by the Franconia Museum

With Stops at the new Visitor Center at Monocacy Battlefield Park near Frederick, MD and the World-Famous Cozy Restaurant in Thurmont, MD for a Gourmet Buffet Lunch



Separate Insert Has All The Details

Unveiling Of Our Volume V Book

***“Franconia Remembers
 Joe Alexander”***

The Book ... Franconia Remembers Joe Alexander ... will be unveiled on Saturday, October 24, 2009 at the Franconia Museum’s 8th Annual History Day. The hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Joe will be there to personally sign your copy! (See Insert)



Receipes ... continued**NO SUGAR APPLE PIE**
From Karen Seitzinger

1 – 15 oz Pillsbury Ready Pie Crusts
 10 – 12 apples (a mixture of any of these: Granny Smith, Gala, Fuji, Broburn, Pink Lady, Honey Crisp, or any tart-sweet apple.)
 3 Tbsps. Flour
 1 tsp apple pie spice
 pinch of salt
 1 Tbsp lemon juice

Set the crusts out of refrigerator to warm up. Peel apples and cut into chunks and slices. Pre-cook the apples in a large soup pot on medium high heat. Cook till still chunky, but part saucy too. Stir occasionally while cooking. Stir flour, salt, apple pie spice and lemon juice into the mixture.

When crust is softened, place one crust in bottom of a large pie pan. Shape the crust to the pan. Pour the apple mixture into the shell. Place second crust on top of the apples. Fold edge of top crust under and top edge. Cut slits in top crust in several places to vent the pie

Bake at 425 degrees for 15 minutes, then lower the temperature to 350 degrees and bake for 45 minutes. Crust should have lightly browned look on top. Serves 8.

**PINEAPPLE BREAD**
From Peggy Talbert Seitzinger

4 eggs
 1 stick margarine or 8 tablespoons of Smart Balance, buttery spread – melted
 1 20 oz can Dole crushed pineapple (in own juice)
 1/4 cup sugar or Splenda
 7 hamburger buns or 10 slices of white bread or wheat bread

In a large bowl, tear up bread into small pieces. Add whole can of pineapple, melted margarine, 4 eggs and sugar. Combine well.

Pour into a greased 2 1/2 to 3 quart casserole dish. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until top is golden brown and bubbly. Serves 8 – 10

BEAN SOUP
From Jac Walker

Ham bone with some meat
 2 or 3 pounds of dried navy beans
 2 carrots, chopped
 1 or 2 chopped onions (in large pieces)
 2 stalks of celery (I discard these before serving—they get soft)
 1 can of tomatoes (stewed or chunks)
 Salt and pepper to taste, and a bit of dried hot red pepper flakes (I am a bit heavy handed)
 Dash of dried thyme (about 1 tsp) crushed in your hand
 1/2 cup Orzo pasta (optional)

Soak beans overnight. Drain
 In a large pot, combine all of the above ingredients except the pasta. Cover with water about one inch above the ingredients and cook for about two hours or until beans are soft. Remove the ham bone when the meat begins to fall from the bone. Discard the bone. Chop the meat in bite size and put back in the pot. Add orzo pasta about 15 minutes before beans are done. Check the water level. You may have to add water as the soup will thicken.

This is as near as I can estimate to write down. In any kind of soup, I always have carrots, onions and celery as the base.

**OVEN OMELET**
By Lena F. D. Talbert
from Peggy Talbert Seitzinger

1/4 cup margarine or Smart Balance, buttery spread, melted
 1 1/2 dozen eggs
 1 cup reduced fat sour cream
 1 cup 2% milk
 1 tsp. salt

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Add the melted butter to a 9x13 Pyrex dish. In a large bowl, combine the remaining ingredients until well blended. Pour the mixture in the baking dish. Bake for 45 minutes. Serves 12.



In Memoriam

Lynda Duane Dennis August 13, 1947 – January 28, 2008

Lynda Duane Dennis (61) of Standardsville, Virginia passed away January 28, 2008 after a brief illness. She was born in Alexandria, Virginia, daughter of the late Alvin E. Dennis, Sr. and Irene Durrer Dennis. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Alvin Dennis, Jr.

Lynda is survived by her husband of 12 years, Keith McCord; two sons, Terry L. Krull and his wife, Betsy; Derek Krull and his partner, Donn Akin; two grandchildren, Lauren and Alex Krull.

In her many years of civilian service with the Department of the Army, she was honored on numerous occasions, including the 1995 Military Traffic Management Command Award "For Excellence in Traffic Management."

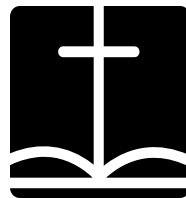
Lynda loved to enter sweepstakes. She won many trips that included England, France, Disney World, Aruba and Boston. Her love of travel took her and Keith many places throughout the country. She loved roses and various other plants that Keith would attend to regularly. She enjoyed reading and browsing the many catalogs that found their way into the mailbox.

Lynda grew up in Franconia on Cobbs Road (off Valley View Drive) and attended Franconia Elementary and Edison High Schools. She also

lived on Tilbury Road which was part of the Dennis compound. She suffered a stroke while conducting a government seminar; which led to her confinement to a wheel chair. Her spirit and love of traveling kept her active. She and her husband Keith moved to a retirement development in Standardsville, the hometown of her mother's family.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Dennis family were very important figures in Franconia Elementary School History. Lynda's grandfather, Wilbert J. Dennis, built the new Franconia School in 1931-32.

He liked Franconia so much that he decided to make his home here. Lynda's father, Alvin E. Dennis, Jr. provided his memories of early Franconia School life in Franconia Remembers, Vol. I.



Not on our Newsletter mailing list?

Want to become part of our growing family ... contact us
at franconmuseum@yahoo.com
to find out how you can become a friend or Steve Sherman - 703-971-7700
on how to become a business sponsor of the museum.

In Memoriam ... continued**Betty Ann Moffett**

Betty Ann Moffett, 77, died February 27, 2008 at Winchester Medical Center after a prolonged illness.

Mrs. Moffett was a long-time resident of Franconia, Virginia, where she resided for 43 years at 6000 Valley View Drive. She subsequently moved to Winchester, Virginia to be near her youngest daughter. She was a member of Olivet Episcopal Church in Franconia. During her illness, she attended Macedonia United Methodist Church in White Post, Virginia.

Surviving are four daughters, Bobbie J. Herrera of San Antonio, Texas, Linda L. Pulley of Plano, Texas, Debra S. Outland of Louisa, Virginia, and Donna A. Kern of Winchester, Virginia; two sons, James F. Moffett of Fairfax Station, Virginia and Michael W. Moffett of Dale City, Virginia; 13 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Francis P. Moffett, and grandson, Shawn M. Herrera.

Funeral services were conducted at the Royston Funeral Home in Middleburg, Virginia by the Reverend Jason Duley, followed by the burial in Middleburg Memorial Cemetery.

Anthony Joseph (Mark) Goodheart
August 22, 1914 – December 6, 2008

Marilyn Audrey Goodheart
April 20, 1923 – December 10, 2008

Survived by their children, Sharon A. Cerick, Steven B. Goodheart, Linda S. Casey and Donna J. Cunningham; grandparents of Mike, Stephanie, Kristin, Steven, Christopher and Tyler; step-grandparents of Laura, Paula, Mike and Dana; step-great-grandparents of Evan and Olivia. They were laid to rest the same day, December 19, 2008 at Fairfax Memorial Park.

Mark was a retired Oceanographer, and former Director of the Research and Development Laboratory at National Oceanographic Aeronautical Administration, in Rockville, Maryland.

Both Mark and Marilyn were involved in school and community activities. Mark was a charter member of the Springfield-Franconia Lions Club organized July 28, 1954 with 30 members. He also served as the Franconia Volunteer Fire Department president 1949-1951. Under his tenure, Paul Newton and Ed Holland suggested that a rescue squad be started. Because Paul and Ed were closely allied with Fort Belvoir, they were able to procure, at no cost, an ambulance that had been decommissioned. A motion was presented and voted down to accept the idea of a Rescue Squad. It was then that Mark suggested forming an independent corporation. After this was accomplished, there was no place to store the ambulance. Finally, fire department members were persuaded to permit its storage in the new fire station addition on Franconia Road. The next problem presented was that the ambulance had no gas; and that the new corporation had no funds; at which time Mark reached in his pocket and went on record as contributing the first \$10 to the newly-formed rescue squad. It soon was supported by the community.



Have a memoriam ...

please email it to us at

franconiamuseum@yahoo.comcom

Continued on page 18

In Memoriam ... continued*Goodhearts ... continued*

Marilyn was active with the Ladies Auxiliary, and went door-to-door collecting funds. Marilyn was a talented person who enjoyed writing and needle work, which she shared with her many friends. Each Christmas I display on my refrigerator a "HO HO HO" magnet that she made.

Mark, the youngest of five children was born in Savoy, Montana. Marilyn, the eldest of five was born in Grand Island, Nebraska and was reared in Denver, Colorado. After their marriage on March 17, 1945, they moved east for employment. They lived on Tilbury Road (off Valley View Drive) in Franconia for 58 years. Greenspring Village in Springfield became their home in 2004, where they lived out their lives.

Mark and Marilyn were regulars at the Franconia Lunch Bunch get-together each month until their health began to fail. Their story was captured in "Franconia Remembers, Volume II." One of Marilyn's poems, "Life's Shadows," is featured in the story.

The following letter written by Mark was a contest entry in 2003:

March 5, 2003

My Family Car Story Contest
P. O. Box 4943
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10162-4943

As my family entered Yellowstone National Park in our 1950 Buick, I noticed signs which instructed, "DO NOT FEED THE BEARS."

My wife had neatly filed our three "Are we there yet" youngsters in the back seat. Stopping the car, I warned everyone, wife included, against rolling windows down.

Something touched my shoulder and, turning, I found myself nose to nose with a huge, hungry-looking bear, its head inside my open window. I screamed, gunned the Buick and left the frustrated bear eating my dust!

Humiliated, I journeyed on, trapped in a car with four deliriously laughing passengers.

J. Goodheart
5820 Tilbury Road
Alexandria, VA 22310-1607
Tel: (703)971-8272

Mark and Marilyn enjoyed many friendships—they were fun and full of interesting stories. Franconia will miss them!

Jacqueline "Jac" Walker

*Did You Know?***Hayfield Barn**

-Jean Mittendorf- The Hayfield Barn was a playhouse for the kids and was no longer used for cattle. It was three stories. There were 100 steps from the bottom to the copula.

-Bill Cooke- The Hayfield Barn was on fire- it was arson.

Betty Marie Wilson Collins

Betty Marie Wilson Collins, 61, of Fredericksburg, went home to be with the Lord and loved ones passed on before on October 31, 2008 at Mary Washington Hospital.

Betty was born to the late Everett and Edna Wilson. She retired as a secretary in medical records at Mary Washington Home Health and Hospice. Betty lost her battle with cancer after 27 years of fighting. She fought always and believed in her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Friends and family were special and important to her. People stated Betty was the sweetest person they ever met. Betty has asked that Everyone celebrate her life, not mourn her death.

Betty is survived by many who loved her so including three daughters Sherry Collins of Fredericksburg, Debbie Collins of Stafford, and Marie Davis and her husband Darrell of High Point NC; two grandsons, Charles Davis and his wife Allison, and Douglas Davis; three sisters, Carol Quick and her husband Charlie of Fredericksburg, Susie Cordova and her husband Pat of Ft.

Collins, CO, and Debbie Allen and her husband Larry of Stafford; a brother, Everett Wilson, Jr., and Ann Blount of Ft. Belvior; and a sister in law, Ethel Huff of Warrenton. Betty's life on earth will always be remembered in our hearts and memories of who she was and what she taught us. She will be dearly missed by all.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, November 5, 2008 at 11:00 am with Rev. Carlin Dempsey officiating at the funeral home.



***** THE MATCHING GIFT *****

Many employers will match part or all of your donation to a 501 (c)(3) organization like the Franconia Museum. Amounts of Matching Gifts can vary from \$25 and up.

Last year a Friend of the Franconia Museum had their \$500 donation more than matched with double the amount, \$1000, given by their employer.

Check with your employer about Matching Gifts. *With Matching Gifts, your donation can do more to help the Franconia Museum.*

We're on the Web!
www.franconiamuseum.org

2009 Board Of Directors:

President:

Steve Sherman

VP for Administration:

Gregg Dudding

VP for Education:

Phyllis Walker-Ford

Secretary:

???????

Treasurer:

Jane Higham

Di

Jim Cox

(Publications Editor)

Debbie Dudding

Johna Gagnon

Carol Hakenson

Don Hakenson

(Publications Co-Editor)

Andy Higham

Cark Sell

Jacqueline "Jac" Walker

(Story Coordinator)

Debbi Wilson

(Newsletter & Website)

H

Congressman Jim Moran

Delegate Mark Sickles

Supervisor Jeff McKay

Honorable Gladys Keating

Honorable Joe Alexander

Honorable Dana Kauffman

Past

Bob Heitman

Jenee Lindner

Sue Patterson

Edith Sprouse

Webmaster: Jim Sapp

Franconia Museum Inc.
6121 Franconia Road
Franconia, VA 22310
Franconiamuseum@yahoo.com



*** We Are Open ***

Museum Hours Are

Monday - Wednesday - Saturday

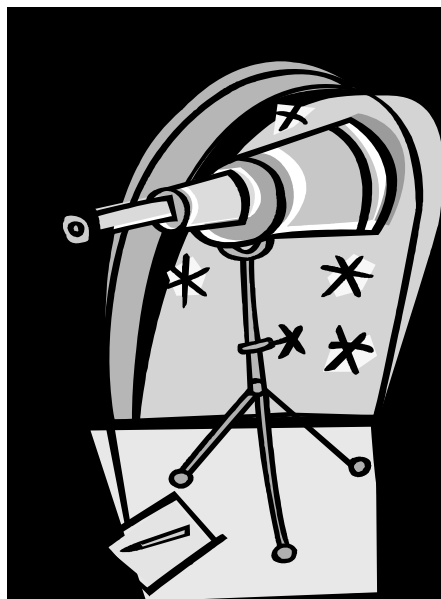
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Remember ... come on Wednesdays to sit with Jacqueline "Jac" Walker and/or Don Hakenson and tell them your story or write a story of your Franconia remembrances.

Volunteers Are Needed

Please Call Jacqueline "Jac" Walker at 703-971-2463 if you have any time to spare

"Want To See Your Ad Here?"
Email Us At:
franconiamuseum@yahoo.com



We're looking for your articles, pictures, and stories ...

Please call "Jac" Walker 703-971-2463