Thank You For Being A Member of Historic Petersburg Foundation, Inc.!

One of the highlights of 2012 is the movie Lincoln that includes footage from Petersburg. It was an exciting time having Steven Spielberg, the stars in the cast and his crew in town. Petersburg realized it has assets that have value and can attract a diverse group of individuals and businesses. The primary asset is its historic architecture. Original Architecture.

Many historic properties that are now beautiful private homes and other structures that are well known local landmarks today are here because of the actions and efforts of Historic Petersburg Foundation. There is still work to do and with your support, we will continue “to lead the preservation and restoration of Petersburg’s historic architecture, and neighborhoods and to tell their story.”

Please make a special year-end gift to our Annual Fund. Whatever amount you choose to contribute before the end of this calendar year will be deeply appreciated and will help further our preservation efforts.

Donate online at www.historicpetersburg.org
A Letter From The President

First let me welcome and introduce two new members who have joined the Board of Trustees. Mr. Stephen Rumble, CPA, was elected to a full term and volunteered to serve as Treasurer. Ms. Brittany Goodwyn joins us to serve the balance of Peggy E.C. Lee’s term. Brittany intends to continue her higher education next year. We will encourage her to remain with us in some capacity in the future. Please see more about them inside this newsletter.

I would also like to thank Bill Irvin for serving as Treasurer this past year and a half. Bill took this thankless job most reluctantly at my personal request. I am most grateful for his dedication, scrutiny and stewardship of our financial assets during very difficult and challenging economic times. Thank you Bill for a job well done!

With Peggy Lee’s life long service to community, education, love of history and dedication to HPF very much in mind, we have established a new endowment in her name. The purpose of this endowment will be to make a periodic award to an exceptional student or teacher working in the areas of African American History, Culture and Architecture in Petersburg. If you would like to honor Peggy Lee’s life and work, we encourage you to make a restricted donation to The Peggy Lee Endowment for Excellence in Education.

I am also pleased to advise that we have been invited to partner with the Battersea Foundation to explore the feasibility of creating a Conservatory for Historic Artifacts to be located on or near the Battersea property. This facility would potentially catalogue, store, conserve and provide a place for research and public display of the many artifacts found during excavations in the Petersburg area over time. For starters, this would include artifacts found at Battersea, the Peter Jones Trading Station and the recently completed Golden Ball Tavern excavation. I am personally pleased that we have found a meaningful opportunity to work with the Battersea Foundation on an important project.

The Board of Trustees has expanded the Executive Committee to include all Committee Chairs. We believe this inclusive approach to governance will lead to a broader base of ideas for the future of HPF. In addition, the BOT has asked the Executive Committee to study the feasibility of establishing and filling the position of Executive Director with the primary responsibility of Fundraising.

Visit our newly designed and upgraded website. We will be adding videos and new information, so visit us online often! Please encourage friends and family to join you in attending the 35th Annual Christmas Homes Tour, December 9th from 1-5 pm. This is an important fundraiser and we need your support. I hope to see you there!

Robert C. White

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35th Annual Christmas Homes Tour

From 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, **December 9th** five beautifully restored historic homes, including a Holiday Designer House will be open and decorated for the season. **Tickets are $18 in advance** and will be sold in Petersburg at Historic Petersburg Foundation, Rivers Edge Interiors, Hiram Haines Coffee & Ale House, Joyner Paint & Frame, Palmore Decorating Center, Petersburg Visitor’s Center, Siege Museum and Wabi-Sabi; in Colonial Heights at Laine’s Paint & Frame and in Hopewell at The Gardener’s Gate. **Tickets are $20 on tour day** and will be sold at each of the five houses open for the tour. Refreshments will be served at the High Street Inn from 2-4 pm. The tour brochure is on the events page of our website.

This tour is possible thanks to our sponsors, designers and these homeowners: Chris and Sarah Calkins, Patrick Hagerich, Bill and Brenda Irvin, David and Nancy Primeaux, JoAnn DuBois White, and Eddie and Tina Bertenshaw. We hope you will make plans to attend this fundraiser.

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Thank you!
Two New Trustees

In October, we welcomed Brittany Goodwyn and Stephen Rumble to the Board of Trustees.

Brittany graduated in May 2012 from New York University with an MA in Historical and Sustainable Architecture and she received her BS in Architecture and Environmental Design from Morgan State University in 2011. Brittany interned with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Brittany’s term is through April 2013, when she plans to continue her education.

Steve is a CPA and has worked at Dixon Hughes Goodman since he graduated from Clemson in 1987. His specialty is real estate related entities and medical practices. He also provides assistance for the Virginia Enterprise Zone and other tax credits to area businesses. Steve begins his three year term wholeheartedly by taking on the role of Treasurer.

We are very glad to have Brittany and Steve helping further our mission.

10th Annual Ball in the ‘Burg

We are making plans for the 10th Annual Ball in the ‘Burg, which will be held Saturday, February 23, 2013 at the Country Club of Petersburg. The committee has chosen a Luau theme for this event. The music will be provided by the band Attraction, and there will be a variety of auction items for our guests to bid on during the evening.

The Ball in the ‘Burg is an important fundraiser and as a member of HPF, you can support our efforts by attending the event, donating items or services for the auctions, displaying a poster at your business, or being an event sponsor.

Come have a ball February 23rd!

Invitations will be mailed in early January.
In Memoriam

We enjoy bringing you these newsletters each quarter to keep you up to date on the work we are doing and how your membership enables us “to lead the preservation and restoration of Petersburg’s historic architecture, and neighborhoods and to tell their story.” However, there are times when it is difficult to write, such as when we have struggled with a preservation issue for a long time and experience a disappointing loss or when we have sad news to share with our members. This December issue is one of those times when we write with a heavy heart, for we have lost a dear member.

On November 7th, Dr. David “Bootie” H. Reames, Jr. passed away at the age of 91. Until recent years when his health declined, Dr. Reames was a hands-on leader active in Trinity United Methodist Church, the Petersburg Music Festival, Boy Scout Troop 180 and Historic Petersburg Foundation, Inc.

Dr. Reames was a member of HPF for many years. He served on the Board of Trustees and was President from 2001-2003. Mrs. Shirley VanLandingham asked him to serve as a liaison between the Board of Trustees and the architect and contractor for the restoration and adaptive re-use of the John Baird, Jr. House as our headquarters building. Who could say no to Shirley?! Dr. Reames accepted this time-consuming position and handled every challenge that arose with his easy going nature, team spirit and a large amount of patience. After his term on the Board, Dr. Reames continued to support Historic Petersburg Foundation wherever he could.

In 2004, two of his interests blended with the Appomattox River Heritage Trail project. We had been awarded a grant from Philip Morris USA for informational signage to be installed along the trail. Thanks to Dr. Reames, five scouts from Boy Scout Troop 180 working towards their Eagle Scout Badges, used this as their community service project.

Historic Petersburg Foundation received much of his time, energy and financial contributions and for that we are grateful.

Let his example of helping others, volunteering time and a willingness to try new things in retirement inspire you to share you experience, knowledge and talents with your community.

You can make a difference.
The conference by the Peter Jones Trading Station Story Team held Saturday, November 17 at the Union Train Station was very well attended. HPF Board member, Garland Tompkins gave the history and accomplishments of Historic Petersburg Foundation and Membership Committee Chairman, Wert Smith, Jr. was on hand to encourage those in attendance to join HPF.

Three speakers were featured and each presented different parts of Petersburg’s early history:
Dr. Chris Stevenson—Human Pre-Written History of Indians in Southside, Virginia
Dr. Alan Briceland—Fort Henry (Petersburg): Gateway to the Trans-Appalachian West 1650-1674
Lucious Edwards, Jr.—African-Americans in the Early Years in Petersburg, 1645-the early 1700s

Eddie Woodmancy had an extensive display of Indian Artifacts for all to enjoy. Chief Kenneth Adams, Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe and Assistant Chief Reggie Stewart, Chickahominy Tribe were able to assist with answering questions after Dr. Stevenson’s presentation.

Richard Stewart assisted with questions following Lucious Edwards presentation.

Dr. Briceland, the world’s leading expert in late 17th century English exploration made us all proud to learn that the explorations from this area were the most important explorations east of the Mississippi.

The Peter Jones Trading Station Story Team will present another conference on May 18, 2013 at the Peter Jones Trading Station. There will be living history and story telling from 10-12 and three more presentations and a reception in the afternoon from 2-4 pm. We hope you will join us to hear from three more authors.