

News From Red Hill

PUBLISHED BY THE PATRICK HENRY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION — BROOKNEAL, VA



P. Henry
RED HILL
PATRICK HENRY
NATIONAL MEMORIAL



HANDLING COVID-19 AT RED HILL

Back in March, when Covid-19 changed day-to-day lives and routines across the world, Red Hill was no exception. We closed our doors alongside so many of our neighbors on March 23rd. In May, we opened so that visitors were once again able to walk on the grounds, giving folks the opportunity to get outside and stretch their legs, and to enjoy the *(continued on page 9)*

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RETURN OF ORIGINAL RED HILL PARCEL BY PHFS

On October 14, 2019, our neighbors at Patrick Henry Family Services officially returned the land that was given to them from the original Red Hill property in 1968 by the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation. This was 51 years to the day from when the land was originally deeded to them. The Foundation is excited to have part of Patrick Henry's original estate back, and is looking forward to continuing in the efforts to preserve the legacy of Patrick Henry through uniting parcels of the original estate. The land, originally part of a parcel of 843 acres, was deeded to the Patrick Henry Boys' Plantation in 1968, after several years of shared

tenancy between the organizations.

In 1944, the Red Hill Estate was put up for sale. In response, the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation was organized by James Stone Easley (the founding President), and others interested in preserving the legacy of Patrick Henry and the historic home. In those early years, it was not always easy to find funding to help with the Foundation's mission, and upkeep of such a large piece of land (921 acres at the time) was expensive. As a solution, James Easley and Reverend Ralph Bellwood came together with the idea of establishing a Boys' Home on the *(continued on page 2)*

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS ENDANGERED ARTIFACT COMPETITION WIN

For the second year in a row, Red Hill has won the Virginia Association of Museums' Endangered Artifact Competition, taking home a \$2,000 award to aid in the restoration of an original, hand-signed letter penned by Patrick Henry himself. Nearly 6,500 people voted in this competition, with Red Hill securing 1,716 votes, and coming in first place over 30 nominees from across Virginia.

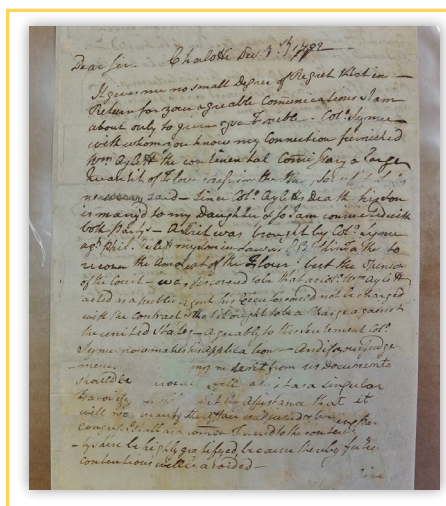
It is rare to find correspondence that is authored and signed by Patrick Henry. This letter is an example of Henry showing his character as a man ahead of his time. Henry writes to advocate for the rights of Native Americans who were suffering great hardships. He recommends Brigadier General Martin as an encourager of positive relations among the Cherokee Indians in the fledgling United States. Henry's choice of Martin was rooted in Martin's positive rapport among the Cherokee during the American Revolution. Martin's success in his dealings with the Native Americans was shown in his ability to keep the Cherokee neutral in the war with Great Britain, but also to avert Indian attacks on settlers. This letter shows Henry's sympathy to the

Cherokee plight, as well as his concern with coexistence and acceptance among those present in the United States without an Anglo-Saxon background, a concern which still resonates today in American society. The letter, signed by Henry, is 7.25" x 9.5" and dated December 1792. The letter is one page, with text on both the front and back. It is currently stored in a plastic page protector inside cardboard packaging. It is evident that professional restoration has

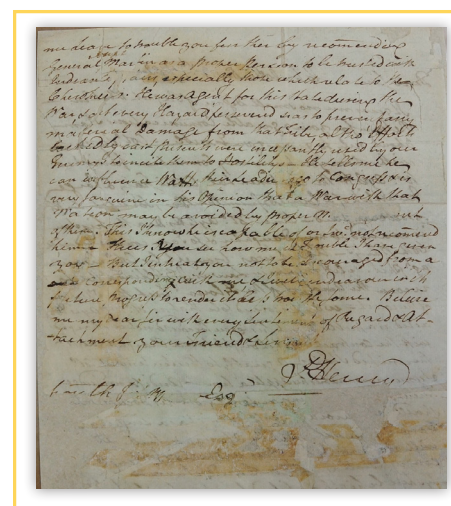
been conducted on the letter, as professional infills are present, which render some text illegible.

The greatest threat to this letter was that while it was stored in plastic, it was not sealed in any manner. Plastic does not prevent against ultraviolet light damage while displayed. Without proper framing to keep the letter housed tightly, moisture and other pollutants were at risk of harming this letter.

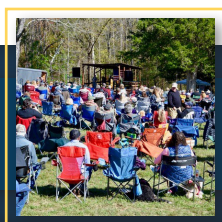
(continued on page 4)



Front of Letter



Back (with signature)



PHFS LAND (CONT.)

(Continued from page 1)

acreage as a "living memorial" to Patrick Henry and his values. The Boys' Home would adhere to Patrick Henry's moral values, and provide training to at-risk boys. In March of 1950, the agreement was struck—giving Rev. Bellwood control over much of the land, apart from the historic buildings and gravesite.

The deal was seen as mutually

beneficial to both organizations, allowing them to work together while keeping separate finances and leadership. "This agreement is entered into in the belief herein expressed by both parties that the work of the two parties can be separated and defined, and yet that in spirit and ideals, each party can and will foster and aid in every appropriate way the undertakings and plans of the other..." In 1957 the Foundation reconstructed Patrick Henry's home.

In 1959 the Boys Plantation completed construction of a small house.

In October of 1968, the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation deeded 843 acres of Red Hill to Patrick Henry Boys Plantation. Although the two organizations shared the same namesake and had very close ties to one another, they realized they had different missions. While Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation is dedicated to preserving Patrick Henry's legacy through

From the Red Hill Collection

EDWARD HENRY ROLLING PIN

This rolling pin made its way back to Red Hill in 1979 as a gift from Mr. Edward Henry. It is significant in telling the full history of Red Hill because it was made and used by members of the enslaved population at both Red Hill and Winston-on-the-Staunton, Patrick's son Edward Winston Henry's neighboring plantation. This rolling pin was hand-carved from pine by an enslaved carpenter at Red Hill around 1820. It has carved handles on each side that are polished from use. One handle is significantly longer than the other for an unknown reason. One handle is 3 ¼" long while the other is 6" long. In total, the rolling pin is 21 7/8" long and has a 3" diameter.

Studying enslaved life at Red Hill, specifically life on the Quarter Place has been challenging. Compared to other founders, very few of Patrick Henry's written documents survive. This summer, Red Hill had the pleasure of hosting two full-time interns to



study enslaved life exclusively. James Stanton Camp from Hampden-Sydney College and Sasha Erpenbach from the University of Mary Washington spent six and ten weeks, respectively, completely immersed in Red Hill's archives and grounds learning and researching as much as possible about what slavery looked like during Patrick Henry's years at Red Hill, as well as after his death through emancipation. Based on their research, we already have a richer understanding of the uniqueness of enslaved life at Red Hill.

At the time of his death, Henry owned 67 enslaved people at Red Hill.

Of the 67, only 32 were considered able-bodied, as the rest were infirm or too young. Around 13-14 enslaved workers at the most would have been working to produce tobacco. Critty and Dinah worked within the kitchen for the Henry family and it was normal for enslaved people to pass between the Henry plantations frequently. While unsure if this rolling pin was used by Critty or Dinah, this tangible piece of history connects Red Hill to its complex past. 🍃

“...continuing our efforts to preserve the Henry legacy...”

education and historic preservation, Patrick Henry Boys Plantation honored Henry through a strong character-based residential care program for youth in need. Therefore, both organizations felt it was in their best interest to separate the deeded property.

Through the years, both organizations continued to have a mutually beneficial relationship and worked well together. On two occasions there were parts of the Plantation property deeded back to

the Foundation. The Patrick Henry Family Services model has changed from the days when it was strictly a home for at-risk boys to learn farm skills. Their mission now is focused on providing counseling to children and families, as well as facilitating fostering opportunities.

We are excited to have part of Henry's original estate back and looking forward to continuing our efforts to preserve the legacy of Patrick Henry. 🍃



ENDANGERED ARTIFACT COMPETITION (CONT.)

(Continued from page 2)

Upon conservation, Red Hill will highlight this artifact in the E. Stuart James Grant Museum Room at Red Hill as an example of Patrick Henry's understanding,

compassion, acceptance, and advocacy of a minority group during a very tumultuous time in American history. The truth of his words are very relevant to today's political

and cultural climate. By conserving this artifact, Red Hill will continue to further our mission of educating the public on important learnings from one of our



Living History at Red Hill



Hearth Cooking

During Living History presentations, the kitchen is a popular, if usually a hot (and sometimes smokey) station that the students enjoy very much. It is worlds away from what they know as a kitchen. We've seen many confused and astounded facial expressions at this station, and we love educating our young visitors about it while answering their many questions.

During Living History, the odors of wood smoke and cooking are noticeable at quite a distance, so by the time the children arrive at this particular station they often report that they've been wondering what smells so good! They get to see us

cooking chickens in tin ovens, browning and roasting pork, wonderful stews and soups cooking in large soup pots on the iron crane, and bread cooking in Dutch ovens. While the smells and cooking demonstration are tempting to the kids, alas, their lunch isn't provided by the hearth cooking. However, the staff and docents are always anxious to see what is being served for lunch and very appreciative of the hard work it takes to prepare a meal for 20 or more out of the open hearth kitchen!

The kitchen at Red Hill is a separate building from the house and students find this fascinating. We explain that one of the main reasons


for it being separate is the fact it was very common for kitchens to catch fire and burn to the ground. Controlling house fires in Patrick Henry's time was nearly impossible. Another lesson for our students: there was no fire department! The best way to guard the house against kitchen fires was to build the kitchen as a separate structure. There were also issues with the smoke, odors, and heat produced by the kitchen. The fire for cooking generates a tremendous amount of heat as the fire is never allowed to go out.

The hearth at Red Hill is level with the floor and we do a large amount of *(continued next page)*

In each issue "Living History at Red Hill" will introduce our readers to one of the living history programs that our visitors encounter.

Founding Fathers and preserving Patrick Henry's legacy as a supporter of individual liberties.

Additionally, the Lynchburg Chapter of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, generously donated \$200 toward the restoration of the letter as

well. Patrick Henry's granddaughter was one of the charter members of the chapter. We are very grateful for their support. 

...they've been wondering what smells so good!

(Continued from previous page)

cooking on the hearth itself. This is accomplished with embers from wood that has burned for a number of hours and then raked onto the hearth. Dutch ovens or other cookware are then placed directly on the embers. In the case of Dutch ovens, embers are also placed on the lipped pot lid as well. Direct heat under the oven and on the lid works very well as an oven. With some pans we may use a trivet on the embers and place the pan on the trivet. It is not unusual to have several mounds of embers on the hearth. Some mounds will be hotter or cooler than others depending on what is being prepared and the number and size of embers. Hearth cooking was and is a major hazard for the cook as the long skirts worn by women in the colonial area can easily catch fire.

We also cook in the fireplace using the iron swinging crane. The crane can be swung away from the fire to check on the contents of the pots and to stir the contents without being burned by the heat of the burning wood. We hang pots from the crane to cook soups, boil vegetables, and heat water, as well as for browning and stewing meats.

At the end of the day, when all cooking was complete, the cook would rake the hot coals to the rear of the fireplace and bank them using ashes or cover them with a brass or copper device called a curfew. In the morning the coals would be raked out and used to start a new day's fire.

The basic utensils of the kitchen are much like ours today: long handled forks, skillets, different sized pots, tea kettles, a spider pan with long legs, griddles, ladles and kettles. These utensils were made of iron, tin,

copper and brass and were so valued that they were often named in wills and passed from one generation to another.

Reflector ovens were made of tin, one to four feet in length, and reflected the fire's heat, reducing cooking time and saving coals. The meat was impaled on a spit that ran the length of the oven and was turned on a crank at one end of the oven. These also could be used to bake fruit such as apples and pears.

Fireplaces often had ovens built into them on one side of the fireplace. These were usually domed with a separate flue. The flue at Red Hill features a "Virginia chimney" where the stack sits away from the siding to reduce the chance of fire. Ashes and embers were stacked in the oven, and when the interior was determined to be hot enough, these were raked out so the residual heat from the bricks

(continued on page 10)



PATRICK HENRY: OPPONENT TO THE CONSTITUTION— ADVOCATE FOR THE BILL OF RIGHTS

“They will see that I have done my utmost to preserve their liberty.”

—Patrick Henry at the Virginia Ratifying Convention, June 5, 1788¹

When most modern Americans think of the Constitution, they believe it to be a sacred, resilient, and inviolable document. The prescription of the oath of office for the swearing in of all federal public officials lends proof to these deep feelings of commitment. That solemn pledge, that all in service of the United States “will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic... [and] bear true faith and allegiance to the same,” is a testament to the genuine value that American society places on the Constitution.² Yet, when the Constitution was first ratified in 1788, it did not include vital protections for the people and states of the nation. It was not until December 15, 1791, when the Bill of Rights was approved by ten of the thirteen states, and entered into law, that liberty under the new Constitution was fully secured.³ It is important that all Americans today remember those men who voiced *opposition* to the Constitution as it was originally conceived. The rights that all Americans freely enjoy today – freedom of speech, and religion, the right to assemble peaceably, be free from unreasonable searches or seizures, and bear arms – all may not have been guaranteed had it not been for a group of true patriots.

Patrick Henry, who served five terms as Virginia’s governor, was prime among those who worked diligently to “assure the survival and the success of liberty.”⁴ He dissented to the suggestion that the Constitution should be ratified quickly by the Commonwealth of Virginia. A steadfast advocate for states and individual rights in his time, Henry once described himself to be a “sentinel of the people.”⁵

This essay will seek to answer the question of *why* Patrick Henry was among the staunchest opponents of the ratification of the Constitution. Consideration will also be given to how Henry’s service at the Virginia Ratifying Convention of 1788 enabled him to demand that a Bill of Rights be attached to the Constitution. Primary source material, including private correspondences, and speech transcripts from the period, as well as secondary sources for context, will be utilized. This study will ultimately reveal that Patrick Henry could not bring himself to support a Constitution that lacked explicitly stated protections for the states and people of America and established a central government that he felt was vested with excessive power.

Patrick Henry’s influence at the Virginia Ratifying Convention of 1788 was enormous in creating a sense of foreboding in the minds of those eager to enact a new federal government. James Madison, one of the most notable federalists of the era, was concerned with Henry’s power on January 10, 1788. He wrote Governor of Virginia, Edmund Randolph, to let him know of his concern. Madison felt that Henry intended to establish “a southern confederacy.”⁶ It was his opinion that Henry’s “real designs” were to use his advocacy for amendments to undo the plan for new government.⁷ Henry stated plainly in his opening remarks at the convention, that all in attendance “ought to be watchful of [their] liberty – for instead of securing [their] rights, [they] may lose them forever.”⁸ While he was concerned about the overall trajectory of the nation, Henry traveled to the convention primarily to fight for the rights of the states and the people. According to George Morgan’s *The True Patrick Henry*, “With Henry, liberty was an emotion, a passion; he was republican to the core, and when stirred was intensely imaginative.”⁹ Henry was so determined to defeat the constitution as it was conceived that he was even willing to

risk agitating a long-held friendship with George Washington. He wrote Washington of his reluctance on October 19, 1787.¹⁰ Henry’s motives and conscience were clear when he traveled to Richmond in June of 1788.

The root of Patrick Henry’s dissatisfaction with the Constitution was the fact that the Bill of Rights was not originally included in it. The ability to amend the Constitution was apparently not as possible either. Richard Henry Lee, one of Virginia’s first senators, and a man closely aligned with Henry’s views, stated in a letter to George Mason on October 1, 1787, that “though a right to amend [the constitution] existed, it would be highly inexpedient to exercise.”¹¹ In the same line of thought as Lee, Henry addressed Governor Edmund Randolph on June 7, 1788. Henry was particularly concerned with “maxims” on this day. He spoke to say “that all men are by nature free and independent and have certain rights.”¹² Henry was referring to the Virginia Declaration of Rights, and the guarantees within. On June 16, 1788, Henry laid out his reasoning to the convention very directly. He felt that without the rights of the people being directly spelled out as part of the Constitution, liberty could not be guarded. Henry’s insistence was based in an innate, and long studied knowledge of human nature.¹³ He felt that whatever rights that were not forbidden from government intrusion would eventually be assumed irrelevant by the new, much more powerful, central government. Indeed, Henry stated that “all rights not expressly and unequivocally reserved to the people are impliedly and incidentally relinquished to rulers.”¹⁴ While Henry undoubtedly placed primacy on the fates of his fellow Virginians, the aforementioned quote shows that he was concerned for the liberties of all Americans under a new system of government.


On June 25, 1788 the “ayes” of the Virginia Ratifying Convention were taken to be eighty-nine, and the “noes” seventy-nine. Virginia

BY CHRIS SIEFKE

had ratified the Constitution. Patrick Henry was noble in the face of defeat and addressed the floor of the convention accordingly.¹⁵ Largely due to the work of Henry and his fellow patriots, George Mason and Richard Henry Lee, the *Virginia Ratifying Journal*, penned on June 25, 1788, included numerous conditions for future amendments. It was hoped that they would all be adopted into the Constitution. Even though the Bill of Rights only ended up including ten amendments, the influence of the Virginia Convention is evident in them. The sixteenth provision of the *Virginia Ratifying Journal* states that “the people have a right to freedom of speech... and that the freedom of the press is one of the greatest bulwarks of liberty, and ought not to be violated.”¹⁶ The differences between this statement when compared to the very first amendment to the Constitution are only stylistic. Henry’s, and Virginia’s influence were profound.

Patrick Henry’s fight against ratification seems at first to be an aspect of the patriot’s history which would be condemnable. However, upon learning more of the end that he hoped to achieve, and ultimately did, by opposing the Constitution, one can glean Henry’s virtue. Being the political man that he was, Henry likely foresaw that the Constitution would pass whether he opposed it or not. He may have opposed the Constitution primarily because he knew that by doing so, this would lead to its passage with a Bill of Rights. After all, Henry did insert several of his most trusted allies into the first national Congress to fight for the passage of the first ten amendments. One of which was the prior mentioned gentleman, Richard Henry Lee. Henry wrote Lee on November 15, 1788 upon his election to the Senate. He informed him of his continued insistence that “the American Union depends on the success of amendments.”¹⁷

Modern Americans can learn a great deal from Henry’s persistence

towards a goal, and the rights of all people. His political mastermind led him in playing a crucial role in protecting the rights of Virginians and all Americans. Patrick Henry should not be thought of as a confederate. He cherished the hard-fought union which he had helped establish. According to Morgan, Henry once stated “I mean not to breathe the spirit nor utter the language of secession... separate confederacies will ruin us.”¹⁸ Whenever it is said that Henry opposed the Constitution’s ratification, it should also be noted that he did so because he wanted to ensure that it would be the best document that it could be. The Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution on December 15, 1791 after lengthy debates in the first Congress.¹⁹ Henry had achieved the same fundamental goal for which he had fought his entire life - protect liberty. As he wrote to Governor Randolph on June 7, 1788: “I can never believe, sir, that it is too late to save all that is precious.”²⁰ 

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6. *The Debate on the Constitution: Federalist and Antifederalist Speeches, Articles, and Letters During the Struggle over Ratification, Part I*, (New York: Library of America, 1993), 745.
7. *The Debate on the Constitution, Part I*, 745.
8. Patrick Henry and James Elson, *Patrick Henry in His Speeches and Writings*, 120.
9. George Morgan, *The True Patrick Henry*, (Bridgewater, VA: American Foundation Publications, Original: J.B. Lippincott Company, 1907), 338.
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13. Patrick Henry, and James Elson, *Patrick Henry in His Speeches and Writings*, 30-31.
14. Patrick Henry, and James Elson, *Patrick Henry in His Speeches and Writings*, 133.
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Christopher Siefke interned with Red Hill in the summer of 2019 as an undergraduate student from Longwood University in Farmville, Virginia. Though his main internship duties involved research, he also assisted with our Naturalization Ceremony and Independence Day Celebration. Aside from these events, he completed research on Patrick Henry as an advocate for the Bill of Rights, the result of which is published in this edition of “News from Red Hill.”

PHA TWELFTH NIGHT DINNER

The Patrick Henry Auxiliary, our faithful group of dedicated volunteers, traditionally hosts a Twelfth Night Dinner on the Sunday evening closest to the twelfth night after Christmas. This year the dinner was held on January 5th, 2020, when the Auxiliary members and Red Hill Staff gathered together at the Eugene B. Casey Education and Event Center. Auxiliary members came and decorated the great room at the Casey Education and Event Center on Saturday and Sunday right after lunch. After a wonderful dinner, Auxiliary members and Red Hill staff pitched in together to clean up.

The evening started with a social hour consisting of hors d'oeuvres, Red Hill wine, and sparkling grape juice from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. A total of 31 Auxiliary members and their guests attended this traditional event. At 4:00 pm a blessing was offered by Max

Sempowski, and then all shared a bountiful array of covered dishes and desserts prepared by Auxiliary members.

Traditionally, Twelfth Night, also known as Epiphany Eve, marks the celebration of the end of the Christmas season. In colonial America, a Christmas wreath was always left on the front door for the entire Twelve Days of Christmas, and a special meal was made for the final night of celebrations. Decorations wouldn't be taken down until after this final evening of feasting.

At Red Hill, the annual Twelfth Night Dinner is a time to reflect on the past year and to enjoy delicious food in good company. It's a chance for our volunteers from the Auxiliary to celebrate everything they've done in the previous year, as well as to look ahead to the one to come. 🦋



COVID AT RED HILL (CONT.)

(Continued from page 1)

spring weather after those first several weeks of uncertainty in quarantine. Admission during this time was free of charge, knowing that everyone could benefit from the chance to be outdoors.

In June, we were able to reopen the historic buildings for limited viewing, with safety measures in place as recommended by the CDC and Virginia Commonwealth guidelines to help keep all of our visitors healthy. Some of the changes we've adopted as a result of those recommendations and mandates include requiring face masks, hand sanitizing stations at every door (including the historic buildings), and metering the number of visitors allowed into a building at one time, along with vigilant cleaning of all the touchable surfaces throughout the day.

Apart from necessary considerations about how to amend our normal operations in light of new guidelines, we at Red Hill have turned our attention as much as we can to giving back to our community during these difficult times. We have held two


Red Cross Blood Drives in the Casey Education Center—at which our staff both volunteered and gave blood.

We also tried to get creative! With our usual kind of events off the table for the summer, we instead hosted two Outdoor Movie Nights, sponsored by Francis Oil and Heritage Hall. We welcomed 50 cars onto the grounds and projected a movie onto a big screen which allowed for social distancing. One night we screened *Night at the Museum—Battle at the Smithsonian*, and another the film *Hidden Figures*, both provided by Nomad Movies.

Sadly, we were not able to host any of our tours for students or adults, including Living History Days. Instead, we explored other ways to fulfill our mission of education by creating materials to be used by parents and educators engaged in online learning. We created lesson plans adhering to the Virginia Commonwealth Standards of Learning for parents and educators to utilize, and designed and printed over 1,500 activity books which were distributed to

local students. And we took the magic of Red Hill virtual! We filmed online videos of history lessons and readings of Henry books, and offered Zoom classes to Continuing Care Communities and groups who were unable to come for in-person visits.

Other projects, too, have moved forward here. Two artifact cases were redesigned in the Visitor Orientation Room to showcase artifacts discovered at Studley and Winston-on-the-Staunton as well as display historic photographs of Red Hill prior to the fire in 1919. We have begun working on new signage for the historic grounds.

All in all, we're working hard to make sure that the mission of Red Hill moves forward despite these new challenges! 

“...we took the magic of Red Hill virtual!”



HEARTH COOKING (CONT.)

(Continued from page 5)

could be used to bake bread and pies, as well as for browning foods.

Here at Red Hill, Mrs. Henry would meet each morning with Critty, the enslaved woman who worked as the family's cook here at Red Hill, to discuss the meals of the day. She and Critty would determine the spices, tea, coffee, sugar and salt that was needed for the day, portioning them out and then locking the rest away because the items were imported and very expensive. It was not that Critty wasn't trusted with these items, but because it was common to have a spice cabinet or closet of some sort that was locked to keep these items carefully rationed.

The cooking method in Critty's time was very much like our own. She would have fried, braised, sautéed, stewed, boiled, broiled and baked. However, as you see, her appliances were not what we use today. If you visit the kitchen today you

will see reproductions of some of the items that Critty would have used. For example, there are "sugar nippers" which were used to cut pieces of sugar off the hard cone that sugar came in. Instead of pouring sugar out of a bag, it was cut off the block in a chunk that could be crushed with a mortar and pestle or mallet. You will also see brooms which look very similar to our modern brooms, as well as a version of a mop made with corn husks that would have been wonderful for scrubbing brick as well as wood floors. There are tin lanterns and candles that would have been used as lighting, crocks for storing food and drinks, and a reproduction tea brick that would've been imported from China. It is likely that the rural areas of the colonies would have drunk "Dutch tea." When tea imported from England was boycotted, the colonists used the plant *Monarda*, which is known as Bee Balm, and made a tea

they called "Oswego Tea".

We are always so happy to share the kitchen with all visitors when we are doing Living History and especially with the children. It is a favorite with our student tour groups and such a wonderful opportunity for educating them on a facet of colonial life that they probably have never encountered before—or even thought about. During Christmas Open House the smell of hot cider being cooked in a huge copper kettle, with the odors of cinnamon, apple, clove and allspice coming from the kitchen is always a delicious way to welcome visitors on a cold winter day! 🍂



20% OFF BOOK TRIO

Set One includes: The Bill of Rights, The Constitution of the United States of America, and The Declaration of Independence

OR

Set Two includes: George Washington's Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation, The Star Spangled Banner (A Handbook of History & Etiquette), and The American Flag (A Handbook of History & Etiquette)

Valid in person or by phone order. To receive this discount by phone, please ask for Melissa or Bonnie. Not valid for website purchases.

VALID THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2020

FACES OF RED HILL

11

ELSIE ROSE



It takes a village worth of skills and interests to help keep Red Hill humming along, from our Hearth Cooks to our Historians. In this issue, we want to highlight the particular skillset of Elsie Rose, who has worked for many years with Red Hill's finances. Elsie Rose, a Richmond-based CPA, is the Business Manager for Agincourt Capital Management, LLC. Elsie has been a long-time supporter of Red Hill and worked with us in the past creating our financial statements with Yount, Hyde, and Barbour.

Elsie first found Red Hill in 2013, when she was brought in by the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation to work on an accounting project. She

says she was impressed then by the dedication of the Red Hill team, and fell in love with the beauty of the property. "The property itself is quite beautiful and the dedicated Associates and Volunteers have the biggest hearts in the world," she says. "They are a special group and it shows every time I visit. This group takes a genuine interest in getting to know the visitors. It feels personal." Not long after her initial introduction, she and her husband began volunteering their time in 2015, helping to develop financial management tools and reports for the Foundation. Recently, she's expanded her role at Red Hill by

joining the PHMF Board of Trustees.

When it comes to favorite moments at Red Hill, Elsie recalls especially her first time at the Bluegrass, Barbecue, and Brew Festival. Walking across the property, towards the river, Elsie says that "the views were spectacular, and I felt gratitude to those who had gone before. I had a deep connection, just being on the property with one of the first Americans that helped create so many opportunities in a new nation."

In an effort to recognize the people whose devotion and passion keep the site running, the Newsletter features a "Faces of Red Hill" series that introduces readers to the individuals who help Red Hill to thrive.

“...I felt a gratitude toward those who had gone before.”

NEW BOARD CHAIR SWORN IN

The Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation is pleased to announce a new Chair of the Board of Trustees: Col. Dabney T. P. "Dexter" Gilliam, Jr., who brings with him a wealth of experience from both his time in the military and in his civilian work as an Executive Officer in the banking sector.

Dexter Gilliam is a lifelong resident of the area, who shares that he has long enjoyed visiting Red Hill for its tranquility and history, calling the site "a true gem."

"Patrick Henry has always been one of my most admired American Revolution heroes," he says. "He was at the forefront of touting true democratic principles throughout his life, and I am certain he would be proud and pleased with what is taking place at his final resting place today." Dexter is particularly interested in the Quarter Place project at Red Hill, an undertaking to better understand the realities of enslaved life on the estate and to recognize the people who lived and worked there.

Mr. Gilliam, who retired with the rank of Colonel from the United States Army in 2003, is currently the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Bank of Charlotte County. He also brings both current and past experience on the Boards of the Sentara Halifax Regional Hospital, Virginia Bankers Association, the Virginia Association of Community Banks, and the Halifax County Chamber of Commerce, among several others. We are thrilled to have him joining us in our work and mission here at Red Hill.

Red Hill

the Patrick Henry National Memorial

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The Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation is a non-profit corporation devoted to education and preservation. The Foundation will promote through education and research programs the life, character, times, philosophy and contributions to posterity of Patrick Henry. As part of that mission, the Foundation is charged with maintaining and interpreting Red Hill, Patrick Henry's last home and burial place, as an historic site. A copy of the Foundation's most recent financial statement is available from the State Division of Consumer Affairs, Box 1163, Richmond, Virginia 23206.

Officers of the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation

Chair: Dexter Gilliam

Vice Chair: Jean Elliott

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Return Service Requested

WAYS TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH US DURING COVID

One of our priorities at Red Hill is to do our part to help keep our staff, volunteers, guests, and community safe. Unfortunately, for the time being, that means that our usual events and gatherings (including the Bluegrass, Barbecue, and Brew Festival) aren't happening as normal this year. Still, we would love to have you come visit with your family to enjoy the turning leaves, walk our new trail, or enjoy a picnic. You can also contact us at (434) 376-2044 or by email at info@redhill.org if you are interested in our educational tools to facilitate online learning about history from home!