

# SPFI NEWSLETTER

May/June 2002

"The Past Builds the Future"

Volume 15, Issue 3

## SPFI SPONSORED THE SECOND ANNUAL

### *EASTER EGG ROLL*

**Saturday, March 23, on the Spotsylvania Courthouse lawn.**

Over 90 children participated in events that included the Egg Roll, egg decorating, face painting, story telling and barrel rides. Deputies from the sheriff's office conducted finger printing and a K-9 enforcement demonstration. *Many thanks* to the following SPFI members for their hard work: George Bond, Donna Chasen, Donnelle Goplen, the Gustafsons, the Haydens, Capie Hubbard, the Jacksons, John Kahldal, Mary King, Diane Kuechler, Bob Kurtinitis, John LeFebre, the Nicoteras, Linda Normand, Michele Schiesser, Christine Walsh, and Merl Witt. *Special thanks* to Peek's Nursery, Toby Owens of the Sheriff's Department, Glen Jackson (the Bunny), Wade Gustafson (the Chicken) and the County Parks and Recreation Department.

**PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE "OLD JAIL" RESTORATION FUND !**

#### **"SHERIFF" BOB TO ORGANIZE "JAILERS!"**

Last summer over 500 visitors were welcomed to the Old Jail. We hope to repeat that performance in summer 2002 by opening the Old Jail on Saturdays from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., Memorial Day to Labor Day. Board Member and "Sheriff" Bob Kurtinitis will be organizing "Jailers" from our membership to open and close the Old Jail and welcome visitors for two hours on a Saturday of their choosing. "Sheriff" Bob will be scheduling days/times at the Jail, reminding "Jailers" just before their days, making sure information (which will be provided) is available as well as a key, and will be ready to solve last minute schedule changes. This program is critical to raising community awareness and interest in the Old Jail. If you're interested in serving as a Jailer and have not heard from Sheriff Bob, give him a call at 582-8016 or email at [firfam@infi.net](mailto:firfam@infi.net).

#### **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

As we have done for a number of years, the SPFI Board of Directors has asked the Spotsylvania Board of Supervisors to proclaim May 2002 as Historic Preservation Month in Spotsylvania County. "*Preserving the Spirit of Place*" is the theme of this year's celebration co-sponsored by the National Trust and SPFI. Since 1971, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has sponsored a major preservation event in May to showcase grassroots preservation activities in communities nationwide. Because of Spotsylvania's nationally significant historic resources, it is especially appropriate for SPFI members and the citizens of Spotsylvania to remember the importance of historic preservation during this month. I'd like to call your attention to the special events of the Civil War Weekend, "*Lest We Forget*," sponsored by the County Tourism Department from the 24<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup> of May. There will be many activities going on in the Courthouse

*(Continued on page 2)*

**President's Corner** (Continued from page 1)

Historic area that will be fun and educational for the whole family--and please come by the Old Jail, which will be open on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

I am pleased that the Spotsylvania Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has written to the County Board of Supervisors supporting SPFI's request for the Historic Preservation Month proclamation. The Commission and SPFI have related interests and their support for this recognition of the importance of historic preservation is most welcome. The HPC is charged with reviewing proposed development or alterations to properties within historic districts and issues Certificates of Appropriateness when such activities preserve historic character. Members of the Commission are appointed from each County District by that District's Member of the Board of Supervisors. Battlefield's HPC member is Sally T. Stewart, Berkeley is represented by Katherine Young, Chancellor by Brenda S. Partain, Courtland by Don C. Forrester, Lee Hill by Agnes McGee, Livingston by George Bond, and Salem by Ted Kamieniak. If you are not already familiar with your District's representative on the Commission and the Commission's charter, I encourage you to visit the County's website at [www.spotsylvania.va.us/hpc](http://www.spotsylvania.va.us/hpc). If you are not an internet user, the County Planning Department can provide much detailed information.

*Helen Springer, President*

**NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS**

SPFI welcomes the following new members and extends a 'thank you' to renewing members and to our new Life Member. Without you, we cannot succeed. At last count our we have over 70 people, including all individual and family members, involved in SPFI.

**Life Member:**

Randall Brooks

**New Members:**

Sheryl & Robert Bennett  
Kristi & Larry Gross  
Dr. and Mrs. John C. Roy

**Renewing Members:**

Rebecca Light  
William & Mary Holloway  
Betsy Taylor  
Susan & Richard Harrison  
Ken, Kay & Melanie Loucks  
Wanda Parrish

Jeanne Waite  
Donna Chasen  
William Chaddock

*For New and Renewing members interested in becoming active in SPFI, please be in touch with any of the Board members listed below--or if you prefer to email, you may reach the President of SPFI at [Helen\\_Springer@msn.com](mailto:Helen_Springer@msn.com). SPFI Board meetings are held at the Snow Library Conference Room at the Marshall Center on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm and everyone is always welcome. There is much to be done and we always need more working hands and creative minds!*

**SPFI BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2002**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	HELEN SPRINGER	
	891-8756	
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	CAPIE HUBBARD	
	786-6736	
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	CHRISTINE WALSH	582-7404
<b>TREASURER:</b>	BOB KURTINITIS	
	582-8016	
<b>BRICKS &amp; MORTAR:</b>	MICHELE SCHIESSER	898-8444



**OLD JAIL RESTORATION PROJECT  
ADVANCES**

Jody Lehandro, restoration architect working with SPFI, has submitted to the Board a final version of his Condition Survey of the Old Jail, an integral part of Phase 1 of SPFI's project. The Bricks and Mortar Committee, Chaired by Michele Schiesser, met on May 1 to discuss preliminary concerns and plans. Members in attendance were Caroline Hayden, John Lefebre, John Springer and Michele Schiesser. Barring unforeseen events, this year will mark the beginning of actual construction on the building, beginning with stabilization and repairs. Upon the eventual completion of all three phases, the Old Jail will house a museum featuring its role in Spotsylvania County history and an interpretive program will be

*(Continued on page 3)*

*Old Jail Restoration Project Advances* (Continued from page 2)  
developed through research, object acquisition, systematic exhibit design and funding.

**Phase 1. Architectural Review and Condition Survey** - This phase began with a review of existing conditions, concentrating on issues of structural integrity and water protection. Analysis focused on determining the root cause of deterioration, damage and failure. Findings have been documented on existing drawings and in a report. Problems will be prioritized according to their threat to the building.

**Phase 2. Restoration and Adaptive Reuse Plan** - An initial design for the jail's adaptive reuse will be prepared which will include upstairs offices and downstairs museum and interpretive areas. This phase will incorporate repair work along with a design and fabrication plan for the building's missing features.

**Phase 3. Construction** - A cost budget will be developed for each phase of proposed work. Project construction schedules will be established in line with projected funding. Qualified construction firms with historic preservation experience will be selected to perform the work.

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### **ADVOCACY REPORT**

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In appearances before both the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors, SPFI supported the application of the Westebbe Family for a bed and breakfast at Fairview, the late Federal home built by Samel Alsop, Jr. The request was approved by the Board on March 26, 2002. Fairview has been a small oasis in the Breezewood development and now, in addition to serving as a gathering place for visitors to the area, will be open to the public for special events.

The Commonwealth Transportation Board has officially accepted Guinea Station Road in Spotsylvania and Caroline Counties as a *Scenic Byway*. Signs will soon be erected by the state and an article by Edie Gross, Free Lance-Star Transportation Reporter, will be published. SPFI wrote a letter in support of this designation.

*Caroline Hayden, Advocacy Chair*

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### **MAY REGIONAL CALENDAR:**

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**May 11 - 18:** National Trust for Preservation's Preservation Week: 'PRESERVING THE SPIRIT OF PLACE'

**May 23 - 27:** 'Lest We Forget' Sponsored by National Park Service, Fredericksburg Area Tourism, and CVBT. **Old Jail will be open May 25 and 26.** For detailed information on the many activities to take place during

this five-day event, visit [www.fredericksburgvirginia.net](http://www.fredericksburgvirginia.net) or call Fredericksburg Area Tourism at 891-8687.

**May 25:** Luminaria in the Fredericksburg National Cemetery, 8-11 p.m.

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### **HISTORICAL MARKERS**

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The Virginia Department of Historic Resources has again received federal funding to replace missing, damaged and outdated historical markers on Virginia roads. Six missing markers dealing with the Civil War along the Route 1 corridor in Spotsylvania will be replaced this year. The marker text is currently undergoing editing by Don Pfanz, historian at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. In early May the proposed text will be reviewed by the marker editorial committee at the Department of Historic Resources. We will keep SPFI members up to date on the replacement of these important reminders of our county's past.

*Michele Schiesser*



Check out the expanding county website for helpful information. It provides direct links to departments as well as important county news:

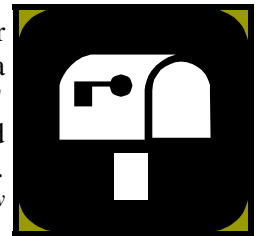
[www.spotsylvania.va.us](http://www.spotsylvania.va.us)

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### **ON TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES:**

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The U.S. Travel Data Center estimates that every mile of a designated "scenic highway" generates between \$30,000 and \$35,000 in tourist spending annually. *Balancing Nature and Commerce in Gateway Communities, Howe/McMahon/Propst*



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### **FOOD LION'S MVP PROGRAM FOR ORGANIZATIONS!**

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The grocery store chain, Food Lion, has an interesting program which supports local community non-profit programs. According to their web site, groups can earn up to **\$350 PER QUARTER** when members use their MVP cards which have been registered in the program. Please, if you are a Food Lion customer, go to their site, FOOD LION, and look for SPFI! Register your MVP card to allow benefits to accrue to SPFI!





**Spotsylvania Preservation Foundation, Incorporated**

**WWW.SPFI.ORG**

*The Old Jail*

P. O. Box 1875

Spotsylvania, VA 22553

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF SPFI?

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP/Postal Code

\$15.00 Individual/Senior Citizen Family  
\$25.00 Family  
\$50.00 Business  
\$350.00 Individual Lifetime  
\$500.00 Family Lifetime

Send to:

**SPFI**

*The Old Jail*

P. O. Box 1875

Spotsylvania, VA



**SPFI'S ANNUAL FAMILY  
PICNIC  
&  
PRESERVATION AWARDS**

**S** PFI's *annual family picnic* and *preservation awards* program will be combined this year. The event will be held at La Vista Bed & Breakfast Inn, Guinea Station Road, on *Sunday afternoon, September 29, 2002 from 2:00 until 5:00 p.m.* This will be an opportunity to enjoy a delicious potluck picnic, games on the lawn for children, a tour the beautiful house and grounds at La Vista, to honor organizations and people who have made special

contributions to Preservation in the past year, and spend quality time with SPFI members and friends.



**TREASURE'S REPORT**

AS OF APRIL 2, 2002:

GENERAL FUND: \$ 3332.80

JAIL FUND: \$17334.92

SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

\$2000.00

Balance \$22667.72

**SPFI NEWSLETTER**

Spotsylvania Preservation Foundation, Inc.

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