

Harrisonburg—Rockingham



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Shenandoah Valley Folk Art & Heritage Center

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John Sellers & Seymour Paul *Editors*

Notes on the Early History of Broadway

By Harold Wood

Linville Creek begins with the Springmount Springs in southwestern Rockingham County. Twelve miles to the north it enters the north fork of the Shenandoah River at Broadway. Along Linville Creek were many flourmills. At least one was established before 1739. Royal Governor William Gooch issued the area's first land patent or grant in 1739 to Hite, McKay, Duff & Green. It was for a total of 7009 acres and extended from above Edom to just north of present day Broadway. This was known as the Linville Creek grant, the creek being named after William Linville. He settled about ½ miles below the site of Edom and had a gristmill. In 1746, he purchased 1500 acres from the original grant.

Broadway's first settler was James Robinson. In 1746 or 1747, Robinson obtained a deed of 400 acres from Robert McKay. His tract was Lot # 1 of the Linville Creek grant of 1739. James Robinson built a home just north of the mouth of Linville Creek near where the Jacob Miller farm (now Gray farm) and the Tom Knupp farm (now Kyger farm) are located. This area today can be reached by driving north on Shenandoah Avenue, crossing the river over the submerged bridge, and following the dirt road along the river. In modern times, the Gay and Kyger families have built private roads into their farms from state route #617 (Spar Mine Road).

(Continued on page 5)



This 1900 photograph shows J.C. Beard & Co., a general store located at the corner of Main and Miller Streets in Broadway. It was built in 1897, then bought by the Whitmore brothers in 1937. The frame buildings at the left were restaurants.

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Calendar of Events

January 18 - April 8: Exhibit. "Tools that Built the Shenandoah Valley: Aspects of its Early Technology". A variety of wood working tools used in the 18th and 19th centuries. (see back)

February 27: Lecture. 7 pm HRHS Auditorium. Speaker: Col. Forrest Tolson. *World War 11 Memories of a B-17 Pilot* (See page 4).

April 18 - June 10: Exhibit. "Virginia Roots Music". An exhibit loaned to HRHS from the Library of Virginia that celebrates the history of music from Virginia.

March 29: Brocks Gap Heritage Day (see page 7)

March 29: A Children's Program: Lewis & Clark the Shenandoah Valley Connection at the Museum. 10 AM to 12 PM.

April 12: Shenandoah Co. Heritage Day 2003
11-4 PM held in Edinburg, Va.

April 17: Spring banquet (Details later)

May 9 & 10: Dayton May Fair and Longrifle Show.

May 22: HRHS Lecture; Speaker: James Wilson. *The Mossy Creek Iron Works*.

Christmas at HRHS

On the afternoon of December 23rd the HRHS staff had a Christmas party for the volunteers who work at the Historical Society. Those in attendance were as follows: Lois Emswiler, Joan Sipe, Janet Downs, Alpha Spitzer, Harry Byrd, Gail Noble, Harold & Vicki Wood, Janet Detamore, Rosemary & Noble Sheatley, Dorothy Boyd Rush, Mitzi MacAllister, Kathleen McChesney, Dawn Glick, Ruth Nissley, Al Saufley, Wayne Angleberger, Bob & Jane Ritchie, David Knighting, Larry Bowers, Ann Hill, Pat Messick, Hugh & Barbara Hutchens, Rosalie Leake, Edgar Flora, Seymour & Barbara Paul, Margaret Tysinger, Richard Martin, Glenn Huffman, and Arlene Way.

Hours of Operation

Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 (Office is closed Saturday)
 Office / Library (540) 879-2616 Museum: (540) 879-2681
 Internet site: <http://www.heritagecenter.com>
 Email: heritag1@shentel.net

Acquisitions

The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society appreciates the following acquisitions received since the Summer newsletter was issued:

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

- Eleanor Edmondson donated to the library a timeline for Otto Rudolph Crecelius who lived for a short time in West Gap at a place called the Doctor's Lick C.1782 in Rockingham County. This was placed in the surname file under "C" miscellaneous.
- Diane Miller donated to the library pedigree charts for the descendants of Johann Michael Miller, Conrad Huber, Ulrich Wissler, Henry Frey, Christian Hinecker and Peter Sauerwein.
- Harold Wood donated to the library two papers entitled *A Brief History of the RCLB* and *Notes on Early of Broadway*.
- Charles and Arline Peckham donated to the library a copy of a book written by them entitled *The Beason Family Genealogy*.
- John F. Byerly donated to the library his recently written book entitled *Rumsey Family of Virginia*.
- Harry Byrd donated to the library the book *Known Military Dead During War of 1812*.
- Robert H. Moore donated a copy of his book *Avenue of Armies* to the library.
- Dorothy England donated *The Fudges of Madison Co., Iowa, Kentucky and Virginia* written by Patricia A. Moore.
- Franklin A. Zirzle donated his book *Life Along the Winding Smith* to the library.
- S.L. Simmons donated the book *Descendants of Marcus Cupp and Margrette Hannah* written by Hattie Hess Simmons & S.L. Simmons

MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS

- Lois Stover donated copies of County League baseball photographs (Ottobine Club) for reproduction.

Frances Ore

The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society was saddened to hear of the death of Frances Ore on December 7, 2002. Frances was a faithful volunteer to the Society for many years. Our condolences go out to her family and all of her many friends.

The American Civil War

Never has an event affected us more, past or present, than the American Civil War. The tumultuous time between 1861 and 1865 changed forever our country's way of life. Following are some examples of how this event affected the essence of our lives today:

- The National Income tax was originated to help pay for the war.
- Chartered (national) banks and national paper money were instituted.
- Our motto "In God We Trust" was formed.
- The trans-continental railroad began, encouraging the growth of corporations and industrialization.
- Railroads were used for military purposes for the first time.
- The art of war devised rifled guns, breech loading guns and repeating rifles.
- Land mines, submarines, torpedoes and aerial warfare (balloons) were originated.
- The secret service was developed.
- Compulsory military service, the conscientious objector and the Congressional Medal of Honor became a part of our national culture.
- The "Letterman System" of field evacuation, triage, and field hospitals was established.
- The U.S. Sanitary Commission began, as did Veterans Hospital and pensions for ex-soldiers.
- Tending to the injured combatants on the battlefield led Clara Barton to later organize the Red Cross.
- Women were liberated as nurses, teachers, factory workers, and many took over the management of farms while their men were away.
- Citizens picked up their mail at the post office at that time. When notified of a loved ones death, these buildings soon became a place of wailing and sorrow. Therefore, home delivery of the mail was established so that this would be a private, not a public experience.
- Postal money orders were established so that soldiers could send part of their pay back home to their families.
- Battlefield photographs were put on public display for the first time.
- Standard time, labor unions, dehydrated vegetables, canned goods, Memorial Day, Thanksgiving Day and even the first sketch of our all American figure Santa Claus were all results of this time.
- Pre-sized clothing, (S, M, L, XL) was initiated along with the idea of replacing the single straight generic shoe with one that was formed specifically to the right and left foot, thus beginning shoes in pairs.
- Finally, with the deaths of Stonewall Jackson and President Lincoln, Americans were so overcome with grief and emotion that they felt a need to express their sympathy in some way, hence beginning the tradition of sending flowers to a funeral.

We thank Irvin and Nancy Hess for this article.

Book Reviews

The HRHS has received a number of new books in the bookstore. These books are now available and can be purchased. If you are purchasing your book by mail, please include \$4.00 for postage for the first book and \$1.00 for each additional book (unless otherwise indicated). Virginia residents add 4.5% sales tax. Make checks payable to HRHS and mail your check to the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society, PO Box 716, Dayton, Va. 22821. Following are reviews of several of these newly purchased books.

Avenue of Armies by Robert H. Moore. The author provides the reader a glimpse of the town of Luray and Page County, Virginia and how its history is tightly interwoven with the American Civil War. As a part of the wonderful tapestry that is the Shenandoah Valley during the Civil War, *Avenue of Armies* offers a glimpse into the past through thirteen tours; each offering different stories of over 70 different historic sites, buildings, and roadways that are woven together to form a unique historic experience. The book contains many photographs and a beautiful cover. The book has 144 pages, index, soft cover, and sells for \$19.95.

Port Republic: The History of a Shenandoah Valley River Town by George Elliott May. Long time resident of Port Republic, George Elliott May worked relentlessly during his 90-year life span to collect the stories, facts and figures from his home town and compile that information in a manuscript about Port Republic. In celebration of the 200th anniversary of the charter of the town, The Society of Port Republic Preservationists has published his works for the first time. The book tells the story of family survival through war, floods, and economic hardships from its colonial beginnings to the 1930s. Many names of long time residence of Port Republic are listed in the index for easy look up for family histories and information. The book contains some photographs, it has 311 pages, index, soft cover, copyright 2002 and sells for \$25.00.

Rumsey Family of Virginia and Early Immigrants by John F. Byerly, Jr. The story of the Rumsey family begins with Rumsey immigrants to America in the middle of the 17th century, especially to the Chesapeake Bay area, and continues with those who came to Virginia, especially Rockingham County. Mr. Byerly's great granddaughter, Sarah "Sally" Frances Byerly married a John F. Rumsey. Relationships between the two families has spanned the years which has spurred the interest of the author in writing this book. Mr. Byerly states, "The spotlight is upon family members, but the question one poses about these people identifies them, clothes them properly, defines their features, and places them on the current stage of history". The book contains pictures and maps, it has 108 pages, index, hard cover, copyright 2002 and sells for \$28.00.

Life Along the Winding Smith by Franklin A. Zirkle. Mr. Zirkle, a retired Roanoke County real estate appraiser, recalls early 20th-Century farm life in Shenandoah County, near New Market, in an illustrated book, *Life Along the Winding Smith*. His family photos and text tell of threshing, hay-making, saw milling and sheep and hog farming along Smith Creek, a tributary of the Shenandoah River.

Zirkle has an interesting story of the rediscovery of an old Conestoga wagon found at Colonial Williamsburg 53 years ago after his mother sold it for display at the New York World's Fair. A master wheelwright at Williamsburg could not open the toolbox until Zirkle showed him how to slide a metal ornament on the side.

Zirkle writes of six generations of Lewis Zirkles, Civil War activities near his family farm, and other topics such as math exercises from his great-grandfather's 1832 journal

This book is now available at HRHS, it has 73 pages, softcover, copyright 2002 and sells for \$13.95 (This review taken from George Kegley, a retired business writer for The Roanoke Times).

The Rodeffer Family of Rockingham County, Va. A Record of the Descendants of Conard & Nancy Showalter Rodeffer 1805 - 1948 by Carrie Rodeffer Power. This book provides a record of the descendants of Conard and Nancy Showalter Rodeffer and traces their journey from the Rhine River to the Shenandoah Valley. Families covered in the book are: Bowman, Cline, Diehl, Gilkerson, Hildebrand, Hogshead, Long, Meuerhoeffer, Trobaugh, and Wilton. The book is now available at the HRHS bookstore. Copyright 1948, 267 pages, softcover, and sells for \$26.95.

WW II LECTURE

Colonel Tolson began his service in WWII in the 116th Infantry Regiment. He first transferred to the Army Engineers and then to the Army Air Corps. After two missions in Europe he was shot down and severely injured. A year later he returned to the skies of Europe as a captain in the 15th Air Force. He flew 28 missions in B-17s and became Commander of the 341st Bomb Squadron, 15th Air Force.

(Broadway, continued from page 1)

James Robinson had three sons and left 200 acres south of the Shenandoah River to his son David. On this land was built the town of Broadway. As far back as 1808 what today is known as Broadway was known then as Custer's (Kuster) Mill. A grist-mill made of stone was located at the approximate site of the later Broadway Iron Foundry and Machine Shop. This mill was owned and operated by Conrad Custer (Kuster). Some writers show the location of this mill along the creek several hundred yards south and opposite from the Winfield house. Custer's Mill was burned during the Civil War and was never rebuilt.

The old Winfield house was built as early as 1760, most likely by the Salvage family. Dr. Winfield purchased the homestead around 1834 and today this is believed to be the oldest house in Broadway.

The Tinker house is another early house in Broadway built by Rudolph Yount around 1800. In modern times, this house was purchased from the Zigler family by the Rev. S.D. Lindsay and restored to its original appearance, and is now the present home of Jean Lindsay.

Another early house in Broadway is the old stone house that is still standing and adjoins the Winfield property on the south side. Conrad Custer (Kuster) married Elizabeth Cristman in 1799. In 1833 and 1834 Conrad Custer (Kuster) sold land south of Broadway to Fredrick Kline, Samuel Yount, and John Bare, whose 400 acres joined the James Robinson property. A Robert C. Thompson had a general merchandise store in the old stone house as early as 1850. One of his sons was William G. Thompson. Another older William G. Thompson built a fine home in Timberville and also had a store there as early as 1833; he was also Timberville's first postmaster when the town was established in 1835. Thompson was born in 1799 and was listed in an early census as owning 12 slaves. He died in 1885. The old stone house in Broadway was also called Thompson's store before the Civil War. Other early settlers in the Broadway area were the Thomases, Branners, Showalters, Bares, Homans and Winfields who occupied the house just north of the old stone house for many years.

On January 29th 1853, Robert C. Thompson and wife Elizabeth Yount along with William G. Thompson and Dewitt Coffman sold 40 acres of land at the mouth of Linville Creek to John Q. Winfield. Other early settlers south of Broadway were Cornelius Riddle, John Rife, Joseph Bowman, George Kline, and the Ziglers. Another prominent early settler was Elder John Kline whose homestead was just north of the Tunker house across what is now Springbrook Road. Both the Kline house and the Tunker house were used as early church meeting houses until the building of the Linville Creek Brethren Church. The Kline house could have been built as early as 1820. In 1865 from Hardy County, West Virginia came P.W. Pugh, Sr. Phillip T. Shearer and John W. Basore. In 1867, Phillip Shearer purchased the old stone house and in 1869 John Q. Winfield sold land on the east side of Linville Creek and the railroad track. This railroad was completed from Mt. Jackson to Harrisonburg in 1868. This became the new Broadway and businesses began to be established along what is now Main Street.

Mrs. Lille M. O. Basore was postmistress at the Broadway Depot from 1869 until 1882. During this period, the name was changed to Broadway. By 1885, Mr. P.W. Pugh had a store at Main and Mason Streets and built a fine house on the corner of Mason and Central Streets.

In my life time, Sallie and Minnie Pugh lived in this house and operated a boarding house. The house was razed in the 1970's. Legend suggests that this new Main Street was sometimes a rough and rowdy scene after daily working hours were over. Some of the local residents stated that these "riffians" were on a broad way to destruction. Thus the name stuck and the "new Broadway" was incorporated as a town in 1880. By 1885, there were at least 12 named streets in Broadway and Mr. Basore became mayor and was living in the old stone house. The following businesses had been established by 1885: John Q. Winfield (doctor), Charles Winfield (attorney), Broadway Mfg. Iron foundry and machine shop (two of these buildings are still standing, remodeled and used by the town for storage and shops), John Beard (merchant & postmaster), George Beaver and C.F. Evans (Shoemaker), Sam Williams (R.R. depot agent), E.E. Bargebaugh (teacher and principal), Michael Zigler (tanner) Enos Hulvey (furniture store), Broadway Milling Co., G.S. Aldhizer (druggist) and two weekly newspapers.

Also, other businesses and establishments included a pottery business, planning mill, creamery, tannery, lime kiln, a barrel factory, two wagon manufacturers, three churches, an opera house, Masonic and Templars Hall, and five general stores.

The future looked promising for the "new" Broadway. Around 1880, a Mr. E.D. Root came from Connecticut and organized the Virginia Valley Land & Improvement Co. He promised great things for Broadway such as a population growth to eight to ten people in 2 to 3 years. Also that it would become the largest railroad shipping point between Harrisonburg and Winchester. The Land Co. failed and very few of their promises of a "boom" town materialized. Instead Broadway became a typical small conservative valley town, a good place to live and raise a family. My parents moved to Broadway from Mayland in 1914. The town's population then was approximately 500. It has grown steadily over the years and today numbers about 2,000 residents. After many families, the old stone house became the home of Laney and Gladys Hoover and family in the late 1930's. They purchased the property from the Abram Miller estate and continued living there until their deaths. The old Winfield house stood vacant for many years.

Note: Harold Wood is a volunteer at this Society and a long term resident of Broadway.

Rockingham Post Offices And Postmasters From 1792-1932

(This is the third installment of the list of Rockingham postoffices and postmasters from 1792 to 1932, as compiled by the author from microfilm of the National Archives and Records Service in Washington.)

by John W. Wayland

Article III

COOTES STORE: late Brock's Gap; Samuel Cootes, January 30, 1858; John G. Cootes, September 17, 1860; William K. Gailey, November 4, 1865 or 1868; John G. Cootes, February 28, 1872; Noah Hoover, June 20, 1889; John G. Cootes, April 3, 1893; Ida E. Cootes April 10, 1895; Noah Hoover, June 23, 1897; Ida C. Hoover, July 6, 1897.

Edward W. Cootes, March 12, 1914; Mrs. Emma J. Breneman, April 10, 1922; relegated July 1, 1923; Mrs. Emma J. Breneman, September 18, 1923; John R. Breneman October 1, 1924; John A. Fawley, April 7, 1925; relegated July 1, 1925; John A. Fawley, July 16, 1925;

COWAN'S DEPOT: Eugene West January 7, 1875; John Stinespring, March 25, 1878; Franklin M. Stinespring, August 6, 1883. Renamed Daphna, August 10, 1904.

CRIDERS: William R. Crider, January 17, 1881; Robert Wilson, November 24, 1902; Israel Dove, November 26, 1904; Felix A. Yankey, May 29, 1905; Samuel A. Crider, April 3, 1909; William D. Lowry, January 25, 1910; Benjamin E. Lantz, April 14, 1911; Joseph W. Stultz, April 1, 1912.

CROSS KEYS: established January 4, 1926; Rodham Kemper, January 4, 1826; John I. Bloser (or John T. Blow), March 20, 1828; still serving in 1832; Rodham Kemper; Franklin Pence, July 31, 1845 or 1848; Edward S. Kemper, June 12, 1858; Joseph B. Webb, September 30, 1865; Miss Maggie E. Kemper, October 24, 1863; Edward B. Kemper, March 24, 1875 (?); James R. Kemper, June 25, 1877; John F. Heneberger (or Hensberger), March 6, 1879; James E. Emmerich, March 9, 1880; Norval W. Owens, December 20, 1881; Charles R. Coffman, May 10, 1882; Annanias Swartz, December 14, 1885; Johnston W. Tyler, May 11, 1886; Otis J. Yager, June 20, 1889; Johnston W. Tyler, June 21, 1895; Willie J. Shenk, May 17, 1901, Post Penn Laird, October 31, 1902. William J. Shenk, November 8, 1902. Mail to Harrisonburg, June 15, 1907.

DALE ENTERPRISE: Christian H. Brunk, February 2, 1872; John W. Minnich, December 29, 1873; Lillie F. Minnich, October 4, 1917; Anna B. M. Whitmer, July 30, 1919.

DAPHNA: late Cowan's Depot; Franklin M. Stinespring, August 10, 1904; Mrs. Daphna Chenault, October 26, 1925; re-appointed January 11, 1926. Daphna is probably the only postoffice now in the county named for a person still living.

DAYTON: established as Rifeville, June 22, 1832; Samuel H. Coffman, June 22, 1832. Name changed to Dayton July 20, 1832. John S. Carlisle, July 13, 1836; Michael B. Cline, October 24, 1840; John Niswarner, December 21, 1844; Samuel Hedrick, November 4, 1865; James Black, November 28, 1865; Dennis A. Rhodes, May 3, 1866;

William McK. Fishback, August 28, 1869; E. W. Pollard, January 14, 1873; Daniel S. Harrison, August 6, 1880; Mrs. Mary V. Devier, July 13, 1885; George W. Hedrick, June 13, 1889; Samuel L. Cootes, September 4, 1893; John L. Thomson, December 14, 1897; re-appointed June 7, 1904; Charles A. Funkhouser, January 31, 1914; William H. Ruebush, January 11, 1923; re-appointed January 10, 1927.

DIANA (?) MILLS: Clement K. Fontaine.

DOVESVILLE: Ulrick Wittig, July 24, 1850; discontinued June 28, 1866; reestablished; George Wittig, December 4, 1872; Charles L. Souder, September 4, 1907, "Now West Gap."

EDOM: late Linville Creek; Thomas H. Holewell (?), May 13, 1852(?); Abraham B. Mahson (Melhorn?), June 19, 1856; Michael Shank, September 28, 1857; Herman Heller, March 24, 1860; Noah Shank, October 24, 1865; Mrs. (?) May K. Rice; John C. Berry, July 16, 1867; Miss Bettie McInturff, September 29, 1871;

Benjamin W. McKeavor, February 9, 1880; Adam Chrisman, July 27, 1882; William R. McKeavor, October 6, 1885; Wilmer E. Swank, April 2, 1890; John P. Swank, March 20, 1891; Charles H. Masters, June 12, 1897; Dora B. Wenger, April 21, 1914; John W. Myers October 23, 1918; Mrs. Lizzie Myers, April 4, 1931.

(To Be Continued)

Contributed to the HRHS Newsletter by Pat Ritchie



Pictured at the 4 - H Alumni Day Open House in November at the HRHS are Mrs. Margaret Strate, Mrs. Libby Custer, Mr. & Mrs. Dan Brubaker, Carolyn Rabunsky and Bonnie Lou Wampler,

Volunteer Opportunity

The Historical Society has the Post Office microfilm on loan from Pat Ritchie and would like to have a volunteer make paper copies of the information for the Historical Society files. The film contains the applications to establish most of the Post Offices in Rockingham County. The application gives detailed information about the number of people in the community of the proposed Post Office, distance to the nearest Post Office, how often the mail is delivered, and other information. For instance, the Fulks Run application in the 1870s shows that the first choice for the community name was Mount Pleasant, but that name was already taken in Virginia. The second choice was Fulks Mill, but the third choice of Fulks Run was the final name. Each time the Post Office changed locations, a new application had to be filed.

Volunteers do not have to live in the Harrisonburg area, but do need access to a microfilm reader/printer (libraries usually have one). For more information, please contact:

Pat Ritchie
1559 Moffett Dr.
Winchester, VA 22601
Pritchie2@earthlink.

Queries

The Society receives many requests from all over the country concerning families of the Rockingham County area. If you have any information to pass on, please contact the inquirer, Mrs. Edith H. Garrison of 11114 Port Republic, Va. 24474, who has sent the following queries and is looking for the descendants of the following people, mostly buried in the cemetery at Port Republic Methodist Church:

Wagner, Monie S. Wife of G.L. Wagner and daughter of Capt. George Eutsler and wife Mineva (St. Clair Kertly).

Wagner, Monie. Died April 5, 1889 - Aged 27 yrs. 3 months.

Wagner, Henry M. Son of G.L. Wagner and M.S. Wagner. Died June 19, 1889 - Aged 2 months, 29 days (Infant).

Eutsler, Capt. George R. - Age 75

Eutsler (St.Clair), Mineva - wife of George Eutsler-wife of George Eutsler - age 67 years.

Haines, Rev. James Mann. Born 8/17/1820 in New Castle Co. Delaware. Died Nov. 13, 1874 and buried at the cemetery beside Port Republic Methodist Church.

Lewis, William -died Dec. 29,1826 -age 56. Wife Martha Lewis - died Mar. 16, 1860 at age 71.

May, Adam. Died June 14, 1886 and his wife Nancy Raines May died April, 29, 1845.

May, Katherine. Died August 25, 1917 -at 787 years.

May, Sarah B. Daughter of David Peer and wife of George W. May. Died Mar. 27, 1856.

Woods, Rev. David. Born Feb. 2, 1805 (May be black). Licensed to preach in 1825. Joined the Methodist Conference Methodist Church in 1829. Died Mar. 27, 1851 - 46 years.

The thirteenth annual **Brocks Gaps Heritage Day** will be held at Fulks Run Elementary School, Fulks Run, on Saturday, March 29th, 2003 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The purpose of the afternoon is to encourage people to bring in their old family letters, Bibles, tax receipts, etc. relating to Brocks Gap residents. Copies will be made to preserve the material and to use in future books on the Brocks Gap families. An additional copy is given to James Madison University Library for further safe-keeping.

Many old photos will be on display on 120 different posters, and Pat Ritchie's library of genealogies, local and regional histories will be available to use for research. The Harrisonburg Rockingham Historical Society will have books for sale as well as various local authors.

The day is sponsored by Pat Turner Ritchie and Garnett & Lena Turner, and there is no admission charge. Donations are accepted to buy tombstones for local family cemeteries. If you would like to have a table or have other questions, please contact Pat Ritchie before March 21st.

Last year 325 people came from 16 different states from as far as Washington state.

TOOL COLLECTION EXHIBIT

Starting January 18, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society will present the temporary exhibit: "The Tools that Built the Shenandoah Valley: Aspects of its Early Technology". A majority of this exhibit will feature items from the Armentrout Tool Collection, donated to HRHS by Melvin and Betty Armentrout, as well as tools from other individuals and from the HRHS collection. Featuring a number of unusual and rare items, a notable piece is a rare 18th century felling axe called a Holtzaxt, marked "J.D. Boone" on both sides of the bit, which originated in the western part of Rockingham County close to the town of Bergton. Preliminary research suggests that J.D. Boone may have been a relative of Daniel Boone.

Other interesting items will be a Conestoga wagon grease bucket from the Shirley Estate, New Market, Virginia; a wooden millstone jack from Turner's Mill located in Edom, Virginia; and a hand-wrought iron herb chopper from the Lloyd Miller sale in Singers Glen, Virginia.

It is anticipated that in the future some of the tools will be moved into the permanent exhibit on a rotating basis. This exhibit presents to the public an interesting glimpse into the past and how creative craftsmen and everyday folk invented and used tools in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Lewis and Clark the Shenandoah Valley Connection

A Children's Program at the Museum

March 29, 2003 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Follow the footsteps of the Corps of Discovery on its incredible journey to the Pacific Ocean. This program is designed to help children understand through visual references the events and discoveries made during this extraordinary time in the history of the United States. The participants will take on persona of one of the members of the corps and reenact their trail experiences.

Please call the museum at 879-2616 to make your child's reservation to participate in this exciting program by March 21, 2003.

The Harrisonburg — Rockingham Historical Society

P.O. Box 716

Dayton, Virginia 22821

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