



*A*LEXANDRIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2011

APRIL MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, April 27, 2011

PLACE: The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

SPEAKER: Vola Lawson, Retired Alexandria City Manager

2011 Annual Alexandria History Awards

The 2011 Alexandria History Awards will be presented by
Senator Patsy Ticer

Barb Winters
will receive the
2011 T. Michael Miller History Award

Special Awards will be given to Donald C. Hakenson and
Benjamin Franklin Cooling III & Walton H. Owen II

Alexandria Historical Society High School History Awards
will be presented to:

Lee Anderson — T.C. Williams High School
Sadiq Abubakar — Episcopal High School
Sarah Olsen — Bishop Ireton High School
Shannon Lin — St. Stephens/St. Agnes High School

Short Lecture by Vola Lawson

Vola Lawson, Alexandria's City Manager from 1985 until her retirement in 2000, will be the guest speaker.

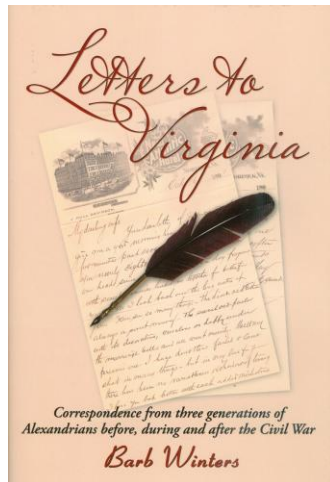
A reception, with refreshments, will follow the program.

Alexandria History Award Selections

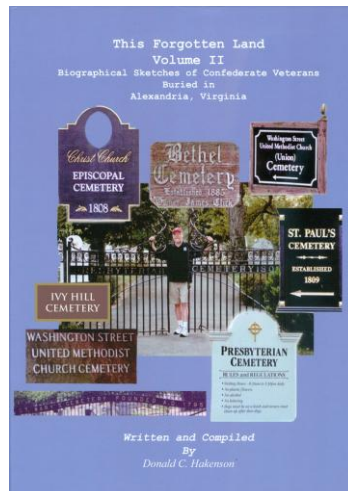


Courtesy: Elza Photography

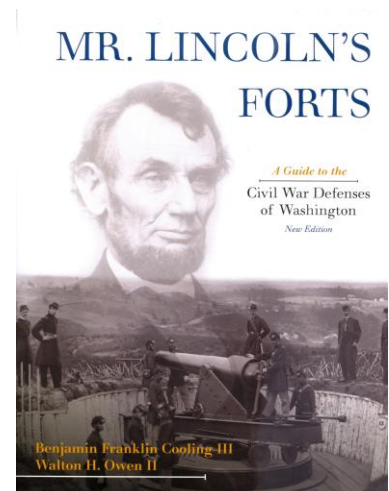
Author Barb Winters (left) will receive the 2011 T. Michael Miller Alexandria History Award on Wednesday, April 27, for her book, *Letters to Virginia*. Winters patiently and thoroughly processed, read and organized a collection of hundreds of family letters in the Alexandria Library Local History Special Collections. These letters, written by members of the Eaches, Fendall and Tackett families, spanned three generations, two major wars, and more than one hundred years. Winters recognized the collection provided detailed insight into Alexandria's history and compiled the letters into a compelling narrative that revealed Alexandria's past by people who lived it. Since the publication of *Letters to Virginia* last fall, Winters has eagerly shared the stories of the Eaches, Fendall and Tackett families by speaking with community groups and heritage organizations. She worked for ten years for the Alexandria Library, including nine years in the Local History Special Collections, before retiring last year.



Courtesy: Acclaim Press



Courtesy: Donald C. Hakenson



Courtesy: Scarecrow Press

Special Award honorees are authors of important works researching intriguing local aspects of the Civil War. Donald C. Hakenson is being recognized for *This Forgotten Land Volume II: Biographical Sketches of Confederate Veterans Buried in Alexandria, Virginia*, and Benjamin Franklin Cooling III and Walton H. Owen II are being honored for *Mr. Lincoln's Forts: A Guide to the Civil War Defenses of Washington*.

Alexandria High School History Award recipients are Lee Anderson of T.C. Williams High School, Sarah Olsen of Bishop Ireton High School, Sadiq Abubakar of Episcopal High School, and Shannon Lin of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Upper School.

About the Speaker

Vola Lawson (right) served as Alexandria's City Manager from 1985 until her retirement in 2000. Lawson joined the City government in 1971 as Assistant Director of the Economic Opportunities Commission and in 1975, became the Assistant City Manager for Housing. At the time of her appointment to City Manager in 1985, Lawson was one of three women in the country to hold such a position for a city with more than 100,000 residents. During her decades of public service, Lawson was the recipient of countless awards and honors including being named a "Washingtonian of the Year" for 1999 by *Washingtonian* magazine, recipient of the 1997 National Award for Innovative Leadership and Accomplished Professionalism from the American Society for Public Administration, and recipient of the 2000 National Public Service Award in recognition of her outstanding career in public service. In 1993, she was inducted into the Virginia Women's Hall of Fame. As the chair of the Alexandria Ad Hoc Committee on Women in 1973, she was instrumental in the establishment of Alexandria's Commission on Women which now presents an annual award in her name, and as a breast cancer survivor, she initiated the City's annual Breast Cancer Walk to raise funds to provide free mammograms for women who cannot afford them. Lawson's devotion to animal welfare was recognized when the City's animal shelter was named in her honor. In 2007, she was named to the inaugural class of Living Legends of Alexandria.



Courtesy: City of Alexandria

AHS Board Elections

At the May 25 meeting, the Alexandria Historical Society members will vote on a slate of candidates for AHS officers and open Board of Director seats for the 2011-2012 terms. After serving three years as president, Audrey Davis is stepping down from that position but will continue to serve on the Board. Following many years of dedicated service, Amy Breedlove and Katy Cannady, both current Board members whose terms are expiring, will not seek additional terms, although Katy will continue to attend Board meetings as a representative of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission.

The nominating committee, chaired by Mary Ruth Coleman, is submitting the following slates of nominees for consideration:

President	Bill Dickinson
Vice President	Peggy Gross
Secretary	Ted Pulliam
Treasurer	Jackie Cohan

For Board of Directors:

David Cavanaugh	Term to end 2014
Adrienne T. Washington	Term to end 2014

**ALEXANDRIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
NEWSLETTER**

201 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

President: Audrey Davis, 703.746.4706

Newsletter Editor: Amy Bertsch, 703.746.4701

The AHS Newsletter is published by the Alexandria Historical Society, Inc., and mailed free to members. To join the Society, submit your check made payable to "Alexandria Historical Society," together with your name, address, and telephone numbers, to the Alexandria Historical Society, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Annual dues are: \$10.00, Student; \$20.00, Single; \$30.00, Couple; \$50.00, Sustaining; and \$100.00, Patron. The membership year is July to June. Dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The purpose of the Society shall be to promote an active interest in American history and particularly in the history of Alexandria and of Virginia.

The Society is organized exclusively for educational purposes.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.alexandriahistorical.org



**201 South Washington Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314**