

The ALEXANDRIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

VOLUME XXXIII

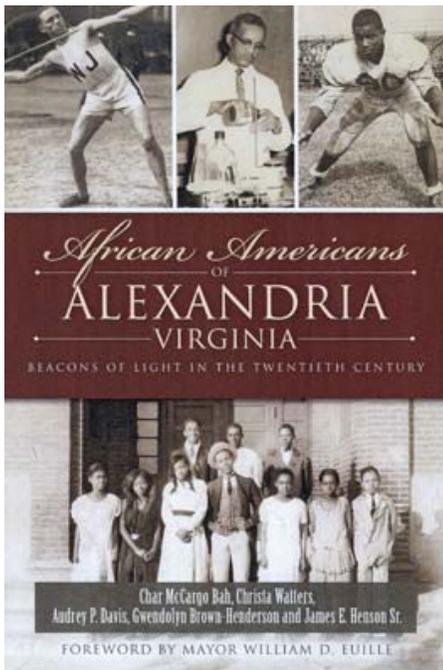
NUMBER 6

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2014

DATE: Wednesday, June 25, 2014
PLACE: The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
TIME: 7:30 PM
SPEAKERS: Char McCargo Bah, Christa Watters, Audrey P. Davis, Gwendolyn Brown-Henderson and James E. Henson, Sr.

“African Americans of Alexandria, Virginia: Beacons of Light in the Twentieth Century”



Sitting just south of the nation’s capital, Alexandria has a long and storied history. Still, little is known of the city’s twentieth-century African American community. Please join us on June 25th and welcome the authors of this new book on Alexandria’s African American heritage. Experience the harrowing narratives of trials and triumphs as Alexandria’s African Americans helped shape not only their hometown, but also the world around them. Rutherford Adkins became one of the first black fighter pilots as a Tuskegee Airman. Samuel Tucker, a twenty-six-year-old lawyer, organized and fought for Alexandria to share its wealth of knowledge with the African American Community by opening its libraries to all colors and creeds. Discover a vibrant past that, through this record, will be remembered.

Char McCargo Bah is a professional genealogist for the Alexandria Legacies—Freedmen’s Cemetery Descendants Project of the City of Alexandria, an author and



a public speaker. Audrey P. Davis is the director of the Alexandria Black History Museum where she has been employed since 1993. Gwendolyn Brown-Henderson is a native Alexandrian and retired United States government worker. James E. Henson, Sr. is a retired attorney who grew up in Alexandria. Christa Watters is a freelance writer and editor who has lived in Alexandria for thirty years. This group came together to document the history of African Americans who were agents of change and served as Beacons of Light in Alexandria in the twentieth century.

The event is free but please arrive early—seating is limited. The book will be available for purchase.

The Alexandria Historical Society Board for 2014-2015

Here are the results of last month's elections for the Alexandria Historical Society's officers and board members for 2014-2015:

Officers:

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| President | Debbie Ackerman |
| Vice President | Audrey Davis |
| Secretary | Ted Pulliam |
| Treasurer | Tal Day and HARC Representative |

Board of Directors:

| | |
|--|--|
| Kay Cannady | Term to end 2015 |
| Jackie Cohan, <i>Newsletter</i> editor | Term to end 2016 |
| Sarah Coster | Term to end 2016 |
| Helen Wirka | Term to end 2017 |
| Linda Greenberg, <i>Chronicle</i> editor | Term to end 2015 |
| Mark Whatford | Term to end 2017 |
| Mark Hill | Term to end 2015 (completing Audrey P. Davis's term as director) |
| Dennis Hensley | Term to end 2017 |
| James Mackay | Term to end 2016 (completing Tal Day's term as director) |
| Julie Randle | Term to end 2016 |

Other Events

June 28: Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum Training

The museum is seeking individuals 14 and older who enjoy meeting and talking with people of all ages, love history and want to learn more and share this knowledge with others. The museum is noted for its outstanding collection of medicinal herbs, shop furnishings and apothecary bottles and equipment, many still in their original location. The training process is very simple and made easier through a 3-hour class from 9:00 am to noon (105-107 South Fairfax Street) that will fulfill half of the training requirements. To apply to become a docent, please complete an application at www.apothecarymuseum.org or email michele.longo@alexandriava.gov. Those who cannot attend are still encouraged to apply as alternate arrangements can be made. 703.746.4739.

July 12-13: Civil War Reenactment Weekend at Fort Ward

In recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Stevens, the only battle fought in a Defense of Washington fort, Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site will host a Civil War Reenactment Weekend in July. There will be Union and Confederate camps and Living History activities. Saturday's schedule features a skirmish interpreting the historic battle at 2:00 pm and Sunday's schedule includes a concert by the Federal City Brass Band at 2:00 pm. The entire event takes place from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday and 10:00 am to 3:00 pm on Sunday at 4301 West Braddock Road. Please call 703.746.4848 or email FortWardMuseum@alexandria.gov for more information. Suggested donations are \$2/adults or \$5/family.

August 31: War of 1812 Commemoration at the Alexandria Waterfront

Following nearly a year of festivities, the Office of Historic Alexandria will commemorate the bicentennial of Alexandria's involvement in the War of 1812 with a grand event along the Potomac River featuring exhibits, food vendors and waterfront activities plus a rematch between Alexandria residents and the British Embassy. The event will take place from 12:00 to 5:00 pm on the Alexandria Waterfront and is free.