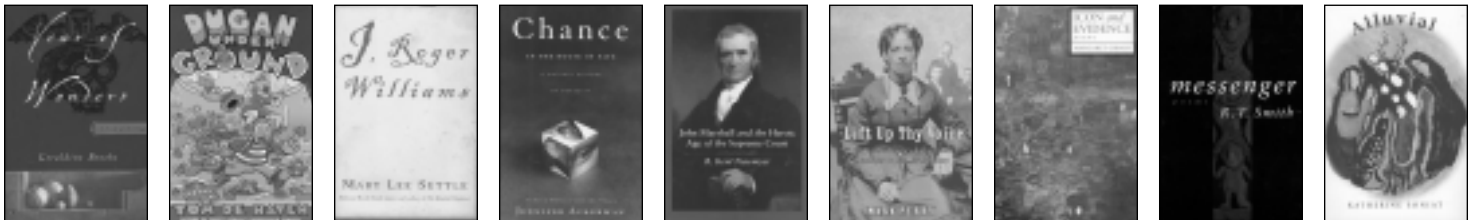




NINE BOOKS ARE FINALISTS FOR THE 5TH ANNUAL LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA LITERARY AWARDS

Mary Lee Settle is Lifetime Achievement Recipient



The Library of Virginia, the Virginia Center for the Book and the Library of Virginia Foundation are pleased to announce the finalists for the 5th Annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards.

The finalists for the best work of fiction by a Virginia author are:

- Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague*, Geraldine Brooks, Viking
- Dugan Under Ground*, Tom De Haven, Metropolitan Books
- I, Roger Williams*, Mary Lee Settle, W. W. Norton

The finalists for the best non-fiction about Virginia or by a Virginia author are:

- Chance in the House of Fate: A Natural History of Heredity*, Jennifer Ackerman, Houghton Mifflin Company
- John Marshall and the Heroic Age of the Supreme Court*, R. Kent Newmyer,

- Louisiana State University Press
- Lift Up Thy Voice: The Grimké Family's Journey From Slaveholders to Civil Rights Leaders*, Mark Perry, Viking

The finalists for the best book of poetry by a Virginian are:

- Icon and Evidence: Poems*, Margaret Gibson, Louisiana State University Press
- Messenger: Poems*, R. T. Smith, Louisiana State University Press
- Alluvial*, Katherine Soniat, Bucknell University Press

Fiction finalist Geraldine Brooks, author of *Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague*, spent more than a decade as a foreign correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal*. *Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague* is her first novel. She is the author of two acclaimed works of non-fiction, *Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women* and *Foreign Correspondence: A Penpal's Journey from Down Under to All Over*. During 11 years as a correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal*, she covered some of the world's most troubled areas. Born and raised in Australia, she lives with her husband, writer Tony Horwitz, and their son in rural Virginia.

Tom De Haven, author of *Dugan Under Ground*, teaches at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. A nationally recognized expert on the history of comics, Tom De Haven is also the author of science fiction

and novels for young adults. *Dugan Under Ground* completes a raucous tour of America in the 20th century told through the world of comic strips and their creators, which began with *Funny Papers* and *Derby Dugan's Depression Funnies*, the latter a recipient of the American Book Award. De Haven is also a licensed private investigator.

Mary Lee Settle, author of *I, Roger Williams*, is a highly acclaimed novelist and formerly a teacher at the University of Virginia. She was born in Charleston, West Virginia, and attended Sweet Briar College. She worked as a model in New York City before World War II and then served in England with the Women's Auxiliary Air Force until 1945. Several of her novels are partly based on those early experiences.

Non-fiction finalist Jennifer Ackerman, author of *Chance in the House of Fate: A Natural History of Heredity*, is a former staff writer in the book division of the National Geographic Society. She is a writer specializing in natural history and the biological sciences. She was editor-in-chief of *The Curious Naturalist*. Her first book, *Notes From the Shore*, was a memoir of life at the edge of the ocean. *Chance in the House of Fate: A Natural History of Heredity* is also a series of natural science essays, which a reviewer described as "a sweet hybrid of popular science and expansive prose." She lives in Charlottesville with her husband, novelist Karl Ackerman, and their two daughters. ...see **Finalists**, pg. 7



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Janice M. Hathcock, *Editor*
Amy C. Winegardner, *Graphic Designer*
Gilbert E. Butler, Jr., *Board Chair*
Nolan T. Yelich, *Librarian of Virginia*

Library To Sponsor Teacher Workshops

The Library of Virginia will sponsor two one-half day teacher workshops in conjunction with the *Virginia Roots Music: Creating and Conserving Tradition* exhibition. The first of the two, held at the Library of Virginia on Saturday, October 5, 2002, will be open to music and history teachers in northern, tidewater and central Virginia. The second workshop, scheduled for November 16 at the Blue Ridge Institute, Ferrum College, will serve music and history teachers in southwest and piedmont Virginia. Space is limited for the workshops and registration is required.

The workshops will include an introduction to the exhibition and presentations on various musical styles including blues, gospel and old-time. Workshop participants will receive the Virginia Roots Music exhibition brochure and exhibit-related activities and materials for the classroom use. Participants also will qualify for recertification points.

The teacher workshops are one of several programs to be offered in partnership with the Richmond Public Schools' Arts and Humanities Center with assistance from Diana Covington-Greer, lead instructor for music. Also part of the collaboration is a lecture and demonstration of old-time music by Mike Seeger for select Richmond Public School students, on October 25, 2002.

Mike Seeger is a musician and collector of traditional music. A founding member of the New Lost City Ramblers, Seeger has received five Grammy nominations. He sings a wide variety of traditional rural songs and plays the banjo, fiddle, guitar, mandolin, autoharp, lap dulcimer, harmonica and pan pipes. There will also be an evening reservation-only performance by Mike Seeger open to the public at the Library.

For more information on the Virginia Roots Music workshops, please contact Shirin Spencer, educational programs director at the Library of Virginia, 804/692-3745 or sspencer@lva.lib.va.us.

—submitted by Shirin Spencer,
Publications and Educational Services Division

FOUNDATION DIRECTOR DEPARTS

Library of Virginia staff were recently saddened to learn that Sandra Roger Peterkin, executive director of the Library of Virginia Foundation, will be stepping down from her post in mid-August in order to spend more time with her family. Peterkin joined the Library of Virginia as director of development in 1993, commuting to Richmond daily from her home in Williamsburg. The Board of Directors of the Library of Virginia Foundation named her executive director in 1999.

The Library of Virginia Foundation experienced significant growth during Peterkin's tenure. The Foundation Board expanded its membership substantially during the past several years, and Board members have worked closely with Peterkin to increase the Foundation's endowment and its vital support of Library programs. Peterkin's efforts have been critical to the Foundation's securing numerous grants and contributions, which have made it possible for the Library to purchase dozens of rare and otherwise unattainable books and manuscripts, to preserve and reformat many irreplaceable collections, and to sponsor several outstanding exhibitions, publications and special programs. Among the signature projects she has assisted with are *The Common Wealth: Treasures from the Collections of the Library of Virginia* book and exhibition, the *Virginia in Maps* atlas and symposium, the annual *Library of Virginia Celebration Honoring Virginia Authors and Friends* and the spectacular *All Virginia Reads* salute to Virginia author William Styron. Peterkin has also been an integral part of the Library's management team, lending her strong organizational skills and creative solutions to all of the Library's endeavors. Under her leadership, the Foundation's staff has grown to include an annual fund coordinator, a prospect researcher, a planned-giving associate and a staff for the Library Shop, which opened under the Foundation's auspices in 1997.

"Sandy Peterkin has given the Library and Foundation nine years of exceptional service. We have benefited tremendously from her friendship and expertise, and we wish her the best in her future endeavors," said Nolan T. Yelich, Librarian of Virginia. "It will be difficult to find another director with Sandy's dedication and skills."

The Library of Virginia Foundation was established in 1984 to promote and coordinate private support for the Library of Virginia, its mission and programs. The Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization, receiving grants, bequests and donations from individuals, businesses, foundations and others in support of the Library of Virginia.

Library Foundation Annual Fund Exceeds Last Year's Total!

The Library of Virginia Foundation Board and staff wish to thank all donors for their very generous support of the 2001-2002 Annual Fund. The total amount raised was ten percent greater than the prior year, with more than \$141,000 being pledged or received as of June 30. These donations have already been used to help purchase the newly released 1930 Census report and will be used during the next year for a variety of Library needs, including subscription renewals, preservation, conservation, acquisitions, exhibitions and special programs.

The Foundation Board congratulated Melinda Skinner, Annual Fund Director, who attributed the success of the campaign to

- The Foundation Board Development Committee chaired by Sallie Belle Benedetti of Smithfield;
- A dedicated, knowledgeable and enthusiastic Library staff; and
- Increased visibility of the Library and access to its collections—resulting in more visitors to both the building and the comprehensive Web site;

It was a challenging year for the Library of Virginia Foundation during this time of fiscal crisis and budget cuts. However, as awareness and use of the Library continue to increase, the support of its substantial mission continues to grow as well. The Foundation has already begun its 2002-2003 campaign and looks forward to another successful outcome...with your help!

LIBRARY HELPS PRESERVE VIRGINIA'S WASHINGTON MONUMENT

In his *Life of Washington*, Washington Irving described it as “the grand trophy and ornament of her Capitol,” and the “crowning achievement” of sculptor Thomas Crawford. Henry James also noted its “high elegance.” Virginians have shown affection for Virginia’s Washington Monument, and for Washington himself, in many ways. In the 19th century, citizens gave money for the monument’s construction. Although not completed it was featured on the Great Seal of the Confederacy, and in the 20th century the monument appeared on the seal of the city of Richmond. The monument has also served as a backdrop for significant political and social events since its construction began. Throughout, the equestrian monument has been a constant reminder of the achievements of Washington and other great Virginians of his generation.

The first equestrian statue of Washington ever to be commissioned, it was originally intended to serve as a grand funerary monument. Planning by the Virginia General Assembly began just after Washington died in 1799. In 1817, in an effort to raise money, the Governor’s Council of State sent out a call for public subscriptions. By 1848, funds were sufficient to hold a national design competition. The winner was an internationally known sculptor, Thomas Crawford, an American expatriate based in Rome.

Crawford’s design was for a multi-level stone base topped by a bronze equestrian Washington, dressed in a Revolutionary-era military uniform. Below this figure are full-length bronze portraits of six colonial-era Virginians who played pivotal roles in the founding of our nation. Beneath each figure is a bronze allegorical group representing the principle or event associated with each figure. The first portraits completed and placed onto the granite monument were Patrick Henry (representing Revolution), Thomas Jefferson (Independence) and the equestrian figure of Washington. Crawford died, however, in 1857, just before the Washington figure was cast into bronze. His drawings are in the collections of the Library of Virginia.

Crawford’s associate in Rome, sculptor Randolph Rogers, was hired to complete Crawford’s models for John Marshall (Justice) and George Mason (Bill of Rights). He also created the statues of General Andrew Lewis (Colonial Times) and Thomas Nelson (Finance).

The cornerstone for the monument was laid with grand ceremonies on Washington’s Birthday, February 22, 1850, and the Washington statue was placed on the stone base amid similar festivities on February 22, 1858. The monument was completed in 1868. Washington’s body was never moved from Mount Vernon, so the crypt area inside remains empty.

The Library of Virginia recently assisted with preservation efforts at the Washington Monument. In collaboration with the Department of General Services and the Capitol Square Preservation Council, the Library’s curator of state art collections, Tracy Kamerer, coordinated conservation of the bronze statuary. A crew led by Andrew Baxter, of local



Lee Aks and Andrew Baxter clean the bronze statue of George Washington.

firm Bronze et al Fine Art Conservation, treated the statues during the months of May and June. Conservators gave the bronzes a thorough cleaning, carried out minor repairs, then applied a protective coating to preserve their appearance and protect them from the elements. The Department of General Services funded the conservation treatment.

—submitted by Tracy Kamerer, Collection Management Services

BUTLER TO LEAD LIBRARY BOARD

Gilbert E. Butler, Jr., of Roanoke, has been elected chair of the Library Board of the Library of Virginia. Butler is a graduate of Episcopal High School in Alexandria, and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Virginia and his juris doctorate from the T. C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond. He is the former chair of the Roanoke City Republican Party and former president of the Virginia Electoral Board Association. Currently he serves as a member of the Roanoke Planning Commission and Roanoke Electoral Board. He was appointed to the Library Board in 1996 by Governor George Allen and reappointed by Governor Jim Gilmore in 2002.

Peter E. Broadbent, Jr. was elected vice chair. He is a partner in the Richmond law firm of Christian & Barton, L. L. P. He is a graduate of St. Christopher School in Richmond and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Duke University and his juris doctorate from the University of Virginia.

The next meeting of the Library Board will take place on September 23. Board members are appointed by the governor and serve five-year terms and are eligible for reappointment.

September Symposium Features Jefferson and the Capitol of Virginia

The Williamsburg Institute will present “Jefferson and the Capitol of Virginia,” a two-day symposium that will examine Thomas Jefferson’s role in creating the monumental Richmond edifice that serves as the Capitol of Virginia. This special opportunity, offered September 27–28, complements the exhibition of the same title now appearing at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum and featuring the Library of Virginia’s original 18th-century Capitol model.

Keynote speaker James D. Kornwolf, professor of art and art history, College of William and Mary, will discuss “Thomas Jefferson’s Gift of Modern Architecture to Virginia and America.” Other speakers will include professors John J. Dobbins, of the University of Virginia, Charles E. Brownell, of Virginia Commonwealth University, and Mark R. Wenger, architectural historian at Colonial Williamsburg. Architect Joseph D. Lahendro will look at Fiske Kimball’s interpretation of Jefferson’s design. Conservators F. Carey Howlett and John Watson will share secrets revealed by the 1786 model Jefferson commissioned. Observations by Mr. Jefferson himself, portrayed by Colonial Williamsburg character interpreter Bill Barker, will conclude the program.

The \$100 registration fee includes the reception on Friday and coffee breaks on Saturday. An optional pre-conference tour will take symposium participants on-site to Capitol Square and the Executive Mansion in Richmond. Tour leaders are Jim Wootton, of the Capitol Square Preservation Council, and John Paul Hanbury, architect for the recent renovation of the mansion. The cost of the pre-conference tour, which includes a box lunch, is \$30. For registration information, contact the Williamsburg Institute toll-free at (800) 603-0948 or by e-mail at tdailey@cwf.org.

The Library of Virginia and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation co-sponsor both the symposium and the exhibition. The Center for Palladian Studies in America and Virginia Commonwealth University have provided generous support for symposium programming.

—submitted by Sophie Hart,
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Exhibit Celebrates 75 Years of Virginia Highway Markers

A small case exhibit highlighting 75 years of Virginia’s historical highway marker program—those silver and black signs dotting Virginia’s roadways—is on display at the Library of Virginia. The exhibit provides a short history of the marker program and representative examples of these signs throughout the state. Currently there are approximately 2,000 official state markers. The exhibit is a collaborative effort of the Library of Virginia, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Virginia highway markers highlight historical sites, events and people important to the history of the commonwealth and the nation. These signs cover a number of different topics including Booker T. Washington’s birthplace, Mount Vernon, Virginia’s Indian tribes, Robert Russa Moton High School in Prince Edward County, author Marion Harland, Nike missile sites, the Barter Theatre in Abingdon and events related to the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. The program began after the creation of the State Commission on Conservation and Development in 1926. The first Virginia historical highway markers were erected along Route 1 from Fredericksburg to Richmond by the end of 1927.

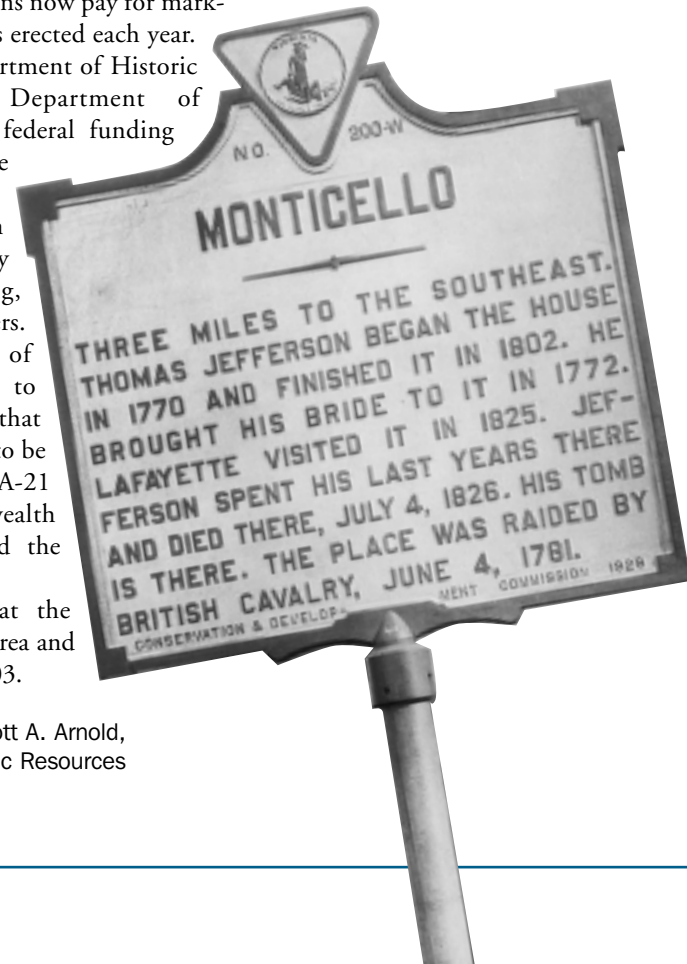
Responsibility for the placement and maintenance of markers was transferred from the State Commission on Conservation and Development to the Virginia Department of Highways in 1949 and the Virginia State Library (now the Library of Virginia) in 1950 was assigned to research and approve new markers. The state library continued to manage the marker program until 1966, when it was transferred to the newly created Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, the predecessor of the current Department of Historic Resources that still manages the program. The Virginia Board of Historic Resources approves the texts. The Virginia Department of Transportation retains responsibility for the markers’ placement and maintenance.

After 75 years, Virginia’s historical highway markers continue to educate the public on the commonwealth’s history and to promote Virginia tourism. The program’s success is evident in the correspondence the state receives, the number of media stories that appear about markers and the current best-selling edition of *A Guidebook to Virginia’s Historical Markers*.

In 1976, the commonwealth stopped funding new markers. Private organizations, individuals and local jurisdictions now pay for markers, with about 40 new markers erected each year. Since 1996, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and Virginia Department of Transportation have received federal funding through the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) and Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) to replace missing, damaged and outdated markers. This year, the Department of Historic Resources hopes to replace more than 35 markers that are missing, damaged, or need to be updated through federal TEA-21 funding that the Commonwealth Transportation Board awarded the marker program in 2001.

The exhibit is located at the Library of Virginia café-eating area and will run through March 22, 2003.

—submitted by Scott A. Arnold,
Department of Historic Resources



LVA and MCV Hospitals of the VCU Health System Prescribe Reading

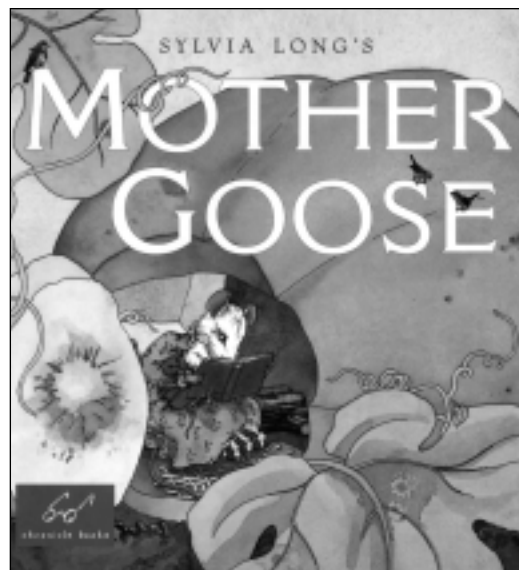
The Library Shop at the Library of Virginia is participating with the American Booksellers Association (ABA) in partnership with the Pizza Hut® BOOK IT!® Program and Chronicle Books in support of ABA's 2002 Prescription for Reading program. The Library Shop is pairing with the MCV Hospitals of the VCU Health System to sponsor Prescription for Reading, an effort to remind parents and caregivers about the importance of reading to very young children.

Prescription for Reading is based on the successful work of a Boston-based organization, Reach Out and Read (ROR), which found that reading to very young children enhances overall intellectual, emotional and physical development. The Library Shop will give away copies of Sylvia Long's *Mother Goose*, a colorful, special-edition paperback book filled with rhymes and wonderful illustrations, to each parent who brings a prescription form to our location at 800 East Broad Street. The Shop is open from 10 AM to 5 PM Monday through Friday and from 11 AM until 4 PM on Saturday.

The Library Shop at the Library of Virginia has worked with MCVH for several years on the reading initiative. This year physicians in both Primary Care areas, the Nelson Pediatric Primary Care and Pediatric Group Practice, the Pediatric Pulmonary Center, the Pediatric Emergency Department, the Nelson Pediatric Specialty Clinic and St. Mary's Pediatric Specialty Clinic are 'prescribing' reading for their young patients. The Library Shop's name and address appears on the "prescription" coupons that MCVH doctors give to parents as a "Prescription for Reading" during well-baby check-ups. Doctors receive posters for their waiting rooms (one is on display in the Shop).

Library Shop staff also hand out Pizza Hut®BOOKIT!® coupons when the parent or guardian comes to our store to claim their free copy of *Mother Goose*. Sylvia Long's *Mother Goose* was chosen for the 2002 Prescription because of Reading for its wonderful rhymes and whimsical illustrations.

Lee Kimball, Library Shop manager, has participated in the program many times.



"The Prescription for Reading program is a great opportunity to encourage reading and to bring people into the store," she stated. The program runs through December 31, 2002.

Church Folk, Freeman, Dixie Dictionary and An Unclean Act Elicit Crowds at LVA's Noon Book Talks

The noon book talks and signings at the Library of Virginia sponsored by the Virginia Center for the Book are attracting large crowds of book lovers. In June David E. Johnson introduced Richmonders to the journalist and award-winning historian Douglas Southall Freeman and Michele Andrea Bowen enchanted her audience with a reading from *Church Folk*, her lively story of romance, scandal and redemption in the black church in the 1960s.

In July Tom Howard explained the Southern language to his listeners while giving numerous examples from his book, *The Dixie Dictionary*, and retired librarian Dean Burgess discussed his book, *An Unclean Act*, a story of love, faith and intolerance in Puritan Massachusetts during that colony's first divorce trial.

Noah Andre Trudeau got August off to a good start with his discussion of *Gettysburg: A Testing of Courage*, a masterful explanation of this pivotal struggle. Trudeau peppered his account of the slaughter and drama of this decisive battle with new information and insights.

Join us on September 4 when Charlene Boyer Lewis will discuss her new book, *Ladies and Gentlemen On Display: Planter Society at*

Virginia Springs and on Halloween Eve when L. B. Taylor, author of ten books on ghosts in Virginia, will tell about Virginia ghosts.

The Virginia Center for the Book at the Library of Virginia promotes reading, books and the literary heritage of the Commonwealth. It promotes literary programs at the Library and throughout the state. Each year in cooperation with the Library of Virginia and the Library of Virginia Foundation, it sponsors the annual Library Literary Awards.

For a complete schedule of Library of Virginia events check our calendar of events at www.lva.lib.va.us.



Michele Andrea Bowen, author of *Church Folk*

Graduate Intern Works to Complete 1850–1851 Constitutional Convention Newspaper Supplements Indexing Project

This summer, a graduate intern from the University of Virginia's Institute for Public History is helping to make one of the Library of Virginia's little-known treasures more easily accessible to contributors to the ongoing *Dictionary of Virginia Biography (DVB)* and other researchers. Cheryl Collins, a doctoral student in American history, is working with the staff of the *DVB* to complete a finding aid for the proceedings of Virginia's constitutional convention of 1850–1851.

This pivotal reform convention met to resolve sectional differences. Key issues of contention included internal improvements, public education, restructuring the judiciary, reduction of legislative powers, method of selecting the governor, taxable property and the basis for representation. The resulting new constitution established in the state for the first time universal white male suffrage and provided for direct popular election of the governor.

The convention, which met from October 14 to November 4, 1850 and from January 6 until July 31, 1851, contracted with a Richmond publisher to record and print the verbatim debates in supplements to the Richmond newspapers, beginning with the January resumption of the proceedings and continuing through the end of the convention. The same publisher issued a volume of the debates, *Register of the Debates and Proceedings of the Va. Reform Convention*, but this volume covers only January 6 through March 7, 1851.

These newspaper supplements are the most complete record of what went on in the convention. Ninety-two supplements were printed; of these, the Library of Virginia holds all except Supplements 56 and 57, by far the most complete collection available. Fifty of these supplements exist in original format and have been encapsulated in mylar. The remaining supplements are negative photostatic copies, obtained by the Library sometime between 1910 and 1930, bound in two large volumes. The originals and the photostats are preserved in the Library's Special Collections.

The *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* project currently is using these supplements to



Cheryl Collins and Brent Tarter study one of the newspaper supplements containing the verbatim accounts of the debates at the Virginia constitutional convention of 1850–1851.

provide accurate information about the delegates who participated in the convention. Because the supplements span hundreds of pages, the staff is creating an index of the delegate's participation to aid researchers.

As the indexing progresses, a general picture of the convention has emerged. Contentious debates over emancipation, taxation and representation in the convention occurred in the form of lengthy speeches (some lasting for five days!), witticisms and maneuvering through parliamentary procedure. The reporter who took notes at the convention and obtained written speeches from the delegates carefully noted the name of each speaker and recorded the discussion nearly always verbatim. In keeping with the protocols of the day, humor and politeness generally prevailed, although occasionally the debates turned openly acrimonious.

Of particular interest in terms of the indexing project, the delegates regularly debated the issue of the supplements themselves. Many believed that it was an unnecessary expense and wanted to abrogate the contract with the publisher. Early in the summer of 1851, the publisher wrote a letter to the convention arguing for continued publi-

cation and outlining the original plan for creating a historical record of the convention, along with an index. When a member of the committee appointed to consider whether the supplements should be completed began the discussion "upon this most interesting subject," he was greeted with laughter. A delegate from Franklin County who was particularly opposed to the continued publication declared, "It is too late to remedy the evil we have drawn upon ourselves and the country by the publication of the supplement. . . . They are to be a deadweight in the library of Virginia for the next century or longer."

A century and a half after the discordant debate, the publisher's work is finally done through the completion of a name index this summer. This index will give researchers ready access to delegates' speeches and opinions at the 1850–1851 convention. The completed finding aid will be added to the Library of Virginia's Web site with full public access.

—submitted by Cheryl Collins
and Sara B. Bearss,
Publications and Educational Services

Storm Warriors Wins 2002 Jefferson Cup

Storm Warriors by Elisa Carbone and published by Alfred A. Knopf is the recipient of this year's prestigious Jefferson Cup from the Committee on Youth Services Forum, a division of the Virginia Library Association. *Storm Warriors* is a tribute to the African-American crew of the Pea Island Life-saving Station on the Outer Banks in the 1890s. The book was one of more than 350 titles published in 2001 submitted for consideration for the award by publishers throughout the United States.

The Jefferson Cup award, established in 1982, honors outstanding books written for young people in the areas of United States history, historical fiction and biography. The award seeks to encourage writing for young people and the reading of books about America's past. Two honor books also were named: *Under A War-Torn Sky* by Laura Elliott (Hyperion Press) and *Freedom Summer* by Deborah Wiles (Atheneum).

Library Receives Additional Gates Grant

The Library of Virginia has received a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for \$139,950 to provide training for public library staff and patrons. The Library will work with SOLINET, the Southeastern Library Network, and TechRiders, a free community-based computer and Internet training program, to provide numerous training opportunities throughout the state. Training sessions will cover Web development, hardware and software security, Internet searching and periodic review of recent releases of Microsoft software. The classes will be held at the Washington County Public Library, Pittsylvania County Public Library, Library of Virginia, Hampton Public Library, Massanutten Regional Library, Potomac Community Library (Prince William) and the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library. Much of the training is geared for library public service staff who are not technical staff.

Finalists...

R. Kent Newmyer, author of *John Marshall and the Heroic Age of the Supreme Court*, is professor of law and history at the University of Connecticut School of Law. He is also emeritus professor of history at the University of Connecticut, where he taught for many years. Newmyer's books include *Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story: Statesman of the Old Republic*, which received the Littleton-Griswold Award from the American Historical Association in 1985 for the best book on law and society. Reviewers have acclaimed his *John Marshall and the Heroic Age of the Supreme Court* as setting a standard for judicial biography.

Mark Perry, author of *Lift Up Thy Voice: The Grimké Family's Journey from Slaveholders to Civil Rights Leaders*, lives in Arlington and has written on history, the Middle East conflict and American foreign policy. Perry is on the staff of the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, where he has worked on the global campaign against landmines. His *Lift Up Thy Voice: The Grimké Family's Journey from Slaveholders to Civil Rights Leaders* is a family saga spanning 150 years that illustrates how the issue of race dominates American history. Perry is the author of *Conceived in Liberty: Joshua Chamberlain, William Oates, and the American Civil War*, *A Fire in Zion: The Israeli-Palestinian Search for Peace* and *Eclipse: The Last Days of the CIA*.

Margaret Gibson, author of *Icon and Evidence: Poems*, is a graduate of Hollins College and the University of Virginia and teaches at the University of Connecticut. Gibson is a widely published poet whose style a reviewer described as "ornamental, elegant, and deftly worded without exaggeration or affectation." She has taught at James Madison University, George Mason University and Virginia Commonwealth University. Since 1993 she has been on the faculty of the University of Connecticut. *Icon and Evidence* is her seventh book of poems. One of the poems, "Archaeology," won a Pushcart Prize in 2001. Her book, *The Vigil: A Poem in Four Voices*, was a finalist for the National Book Award in 1993. Gibson was included in the Virginia Center for the Book's 1994 "20th-Century Virginia Authors" map. She is also a student of Zen Buddhism.

R. T. Smith, author of *Messenger: Poems*, lives in Rockbridge County and has edited *Shenandoah: The Washington and Lee University Review* since 1995. He was born in

Washington, D.C., and grew up in Georgia and North Carolina. He served as Alumni Writer-in-Residence at Auburn University, where he was also co-editor of *Southern Humanities Review*. He has published a collection of stories, *Faith*, and 11 books of poems. Smith also finds inspiration and subject matter in Ireland, where he travels frequently.

Katherine Soniat, author of *Alluvial*, teaches in the English department at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. *Alluvial* is her fifth collection of poems. She wrote many of the poems while living for three summers on the Chesapeake Bay, and they concern both the present-day landscape and the region's history. Her fourth collection, *A Shared Life*, won the Iowa Poetry Prize. Soniat's poems have been published in numerous journals, and she has received a Fellowship in Poetry from the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

The recipient of the Library of Virginia Lifetime Achievement Award is Mary Lee Settle. She is the author of *O Beulah Land*, *Know Nothing*, *Prisons*, *The Scapegoat*, *The Killing Ground*, *Fight Night on a Sweet Saturday*, *Water World*, *Celebration* and *Charley Bland*. She has been awarded two Guggenheim fellowships and in 1994 received the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award.

In 1954, she began work on the Beulah Quintet, five novels, which treat the settlement of West Virginia from the 1750s to the present. Her eighth novel *Blood Tie*, set in Turkey, won the National Book Award in 1978. The recipient of many awards herself; she is the founder of the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction. After many years in Charlottesville, Settle now lives in Corinth, Vermont and the Northern Neck of Virginia.

This year's judges stated that, "Mary Lee Settle's commitment to the craft of writing for over five decades is an inspiration to all who love good literature." Settle is the first living Virginia writer chosen for this honor.

The winners of the fiction, non-fiction and poetry awards will be announced on Saturday, September 21, 2002 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the *5th Annual Library of Virginia Awards Celebration Honoring Virginia Authors & Friends*. First Lady Lisa Collis will host this year's Celebration. Winners will receive a monetary award and a crystal replica of a book. Tickets are available at \$50 per ticket. For ticket information, please call 804-371-4795.

Bill of Rights on Rare Public Display For Day of Remembrance

On September 11, 2002, the Library of Virginia will join museums across the nation in a Day of Remembrance of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The Library will display Virginia's 1789 manuscript copy of the proposed United States Bill of Rights, with its original 12 amendments. This priceless document is a testament to the important individual rights Americans enjoy as citizens of the United States. Virginia's document is one of only 12 surviving original signed copies of the Bill of Rights. This 1789 manuscript on parchment is one of the treasures held in trust by the Library of Virginia for the citizens of the commonwealth.

Virginia's copy of this affirmation of the individual rights of citizens was last on public display in December 1991. The Bill of Rights will be on view in the grand lobby of the

Library of Virginia, from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM, for one day only, on September 11, 2002, to offer visitors a chance to reflect on this tragic anniversary and remember the enduring importance of the Bill of Rights. At noon on September 11, there will be a public reading of the Bill of Rights on the staircase landing of the Library, announced outside the building by an 18th-century town crier.

The staff and administration of the Library invite citizens, school groups and patrons to join us in this solemn day of reflection and affirmation. The Library is grateful to have the support of *Style Weekly* in publicizing this unique opportunity to view the Bill of Rights. Please see our Web site www.lva.lib.va.us or call 804/692-3592 for more information.

HENING SOCIETY ATTRACTS INTEREST IN FOUNDATION

The Library of Virginia Foundation is pleased to announce that the William Waller Hening Society is off to a great start! It's been just a month since the Hening Society was established and already several community leaders have accepted membership. The Library of Virginia Foundation is delighted to have the opportunity to recognize the commitment these individuals have made to support the Library of Virginia's programs and services beyond their lifetimes.

If you are interested in accepting charter membership in the Hening Society or learning more about the opportunities to support the Library of Virginia Foundation through your estate, please contact Ruth White at 804-692-3593 or rwhite@lva.lib.va.us.



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