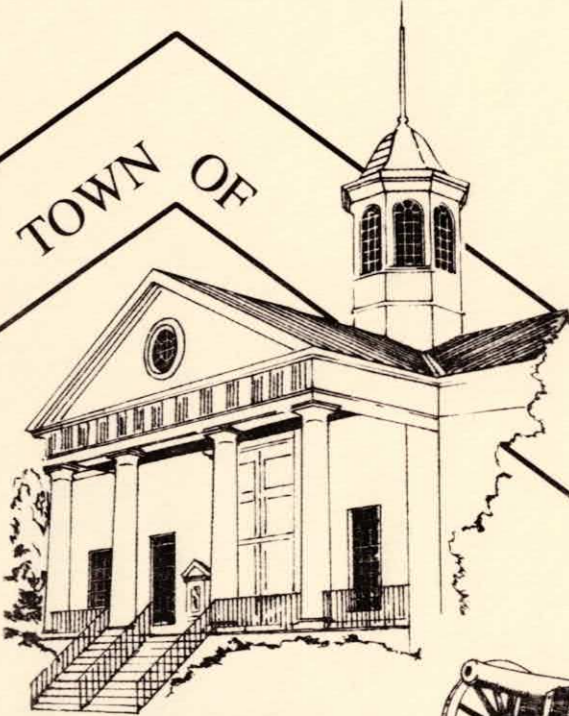
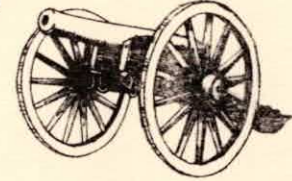


TOWN OF



75

YEARS



1925-2000

IN THE SHADOWS OF THE PAST

ALIGHT TO THE FUTURE

APPOMATTOX

**Member of Appomattox Town Council**

Ronald C. Spiggle, Mayor  
Richard L. (Dick) Bass, Vice Mayor  
Joyce B. Bennett  
Steven E. Lawson  
C. Lewis McDearmon, Jr.  
N. H. (Jimmy) Mayberry  
Marvin H. Mitchell

**Employees of the Town of Appomattox**

Jeffrey H. Elder  
Steven V. Ferguson  
Billy E. Franklin  
Charles E. Garrett  
David T. Garrett, Jr.  
Jean O. Goode  
Danette L. Jennings  
Sheila M. Johnston  
David Lambert  
Shirley W. Marshall  
Benjamin Mawyer  
Larry D. Mobley  
Nelwyn C. Morris  
Bobbie H. Mullins  
Roxanne W. Paulette  
John L. Spiggle



I am delighted to welcome you to our community and this event. Although the unincorporated community and name is much older, June 2, 2000 marks the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the incorporation of our Town.

We pause to give thanks and to honor those individuals and citizens who have given so unselfishly through the years to help our town grow and thrive. Our gratitude to community leaders and civic organizations who have constantly supported community ideals and projects. To our businesses who have contributed so much to our economy with steady employment and prosperity we thank you.

There is no better place to live, rear a family, work or retire than Appomattox. My heartiest congratulations to our Town Council, Town Employees and all our citizens on making Appomattox such a wonderful place throughout the years.

Ronald C. Spiggle, Mayor  
Town of Appomattox



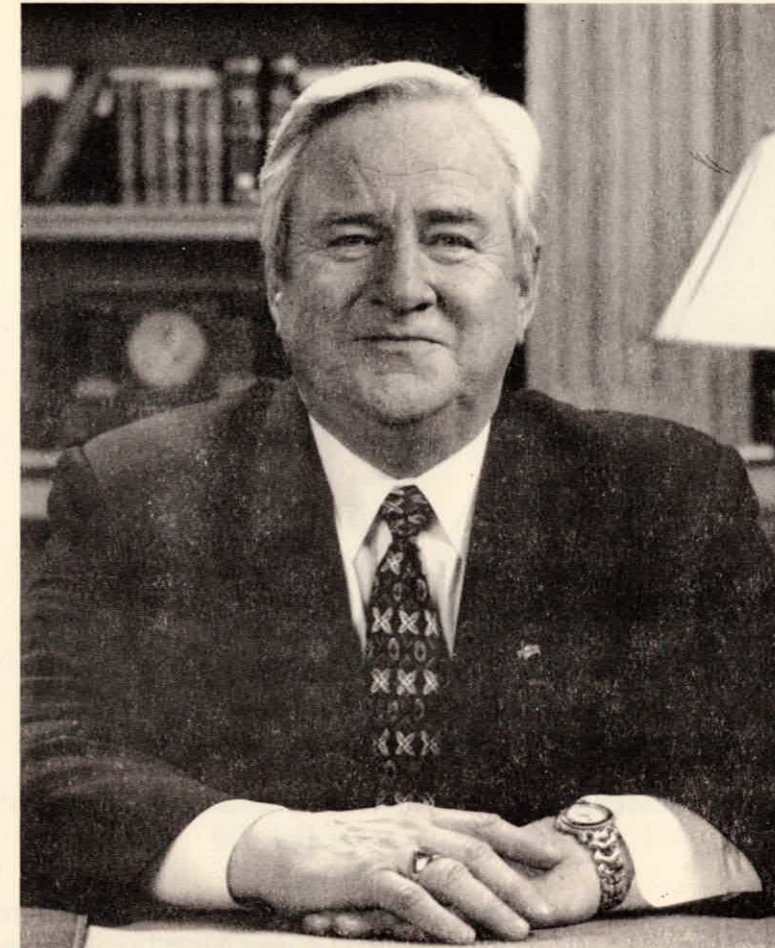
Grand Marshal  
Deborah Adair

Deborah Adair was born in Lynchburg, Virginia, to Mr. and Mrs. G. Russell Miller (Anne Taylor) Miller who are natives of Roanoke and Gladstone, Virginia, respectively.

Ms. Adair graduated from the University of Washington, Washington State, with degrees in marketing and business. After graduating, she resided in Seattle, becoming one of only two female announcers in the area.

Ms. Adair moved to California, and made a quick move into the entertainment industry, where she appeared in the T.V. shows: "The Young and Restless", "Dynasty", "Finder of Lost Loves", "Rich Men, Single Women", "Days of Our Lives", "Gore Vidal's Lincoln".

In 1987, she married James William (Chip) Hayes. They are the parents of two children, Lucy and Jackson. They reside intermittently in their homes in California and in Virginia.



The Reverend Dr. Jerry Falwell

Jerry Lamon Falwell was born on August 11, 1933, in Lynchburg, Virginia. He has roots in Appomattox County, as his mother was the former Helen Beasley of the Hollywood area of the county.

Dr. Falwell attended Lynchburg College, graduating in 1956 from Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Missouri, with a degree in Theology. He then founded the Thomas Road Baptist Church and the Old Time Gospel Hour, Inc. He has continued for 44 inspiring years to become the founder of many Christian institutions, specifically Liberty University, of which he is the Chancellor. Dr. Falwell continues today to be active in numerous activities and religious endeavors.

In 1958 he married the former Macel Pate of Lynchburg. They are the parents of two sons; Jerry Falwell, Jr., an attorney in Lynchburg; Jonathon Falwell, Executive Pastor of Thomas Road Baptist Church, and associate to his father; and daughter Jeannie F. Savas, a surgeon in Richmond, Virginia.

Many things might be said about Dr. Jerry Falwell, but it cannot be said that he has allowed controversy, criticism, or adversity discourage him nor lessen his desire to do Christian work in our world today.



Lieutenant General Samuel Vaughan Wilson  
(United States Army-Retired)

Lieutenant General Samuel V. Wilson, a native of Southside Virginia, retired from active military service on August 31, 1977, having served during his 37-year career in every enlisted and commissioned rank from infantry private to Lieutenant General. A highly-decorated combat veteran of World War II, he spent part of that period in the Office of Strategic Services and subsequently in the 1944 North Burma Campaign with "Merrill's Marauders."

General Wilson is a graduate of the Infantry Officers Advanced Course, the Army Command and General Staff College, the Air War College (where he was recognized as Distinguished Graduate of the Class of 1964,) and a number of more specialized training courses.

Since military retirement he has remained active on the lecture circuit with various colleges and universities and Armed Forces educational institutions. He has also continued to serve as a part-time governmental consultant on Russian and East European affairs and related matters of sensitive Special Operations and national level intelligence interest.

In private life, he is an accomplished musician and a former dues-paying member of the Screen Actors Guild. He also writes as an avocation, contributing occasional articles to contemporary publications, primarily, magazines dealing with outdoor sports.

General Wilson became the 22<sup>nd</sup> President of Hampden-Sydney College in Southside Virginia on July 27, 1992. He retired this year from the presidency of Hampden-Sydney.

The General and his wife, the former Virginia Massey Howton of Fort Walton Beach, Florida, currently reside at the Wilson Farm, "Windy Hollow", near the village of Rice, Virginia.

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

June Chenault, Chairman	Alfred Jones	C. T. Moses, Jr.
Bobbie Mullins, Secretary	Dr. Mark Landry	Cheryl Rychkova
Tom Chalfant	Sandra Landry	Honorable Ronald Spiggle
Ann Dixon	Cheryl McDearmon	Franklin Vaughan
Betty Drinkard	Marvin Mitchell	Ruth Webb
David Garrett	Jon Montgomery	

Sub-Committees

<u>Logo Art Contest</u>	<u>Publicity</u>	<u>Program Book</u>
Beth Reynolds	Cheryl Rychkova	Tom Chalfant
		June Chenault
<u>Parade</u>	<u>Time Capsule</u>	Jon Montgomery
Ann Dixon, Chairman	Lewis McDearmon, Chairman	Franklin Vaughan
Bill Burke	Virginia Doss	Ruth Webb
John Caldwell	Frances Guill	
Carlton Guill	Ben Marshall	
Wayne Lee	Neola Smith	
Clarence Smith		

THANKS

For individuals, seventy-five is old, but for a town it is relatively young. We felt young as the Town of Appomattox began a year long celebration to commemorate receiving its charter. The celebration began in February with a concert sponsored by the Appomattox Schools which was held in the Appomattox Elementary School.

It has taken hundreds of volunteers to plan and execute the year-long celebration. It would be impossible to name and recognize each of them without omitting someone, but please accept the heartfelt thanks of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for all of your contributions. The celebration would not have happened without the support of the employees of the Town and members of the Town Council.

June Chenault, Chairman

This program is printed courtesy of  
Babcock Manor, Inc. and Robinson Funeral Home, Inc.

The Town of Appomattox, much like the legendary Phoenix, sprang from the ashes of a fire. In 1892, the original Appomattox Courthouse, located at the present National Historical Park, burned. Citizens of the village, weary from the ravages of the aftermath of the Civil War, made the decision to relocate to an area west of the village. It was the era of the railroad, and tracks ran right through the nearby community with the intriguing name of "Nebraska."

Back before the war, an Appomattox resident named Col. Samuel McDearmon had decided to take his family and move west to the Nebraska frontier. The life of a pioneer apparently did not appeal to McDearmon, because, after travelling only two miles, he had had enough. He decided to stay put right there and promptly named the place Nebraska, where he started a post office. For several years the place retained Nebraska as its official name.

When the new courthouse was constructed in the Nebraska settlement in 1892, residents began calling the place Appomattox Court House. The resulting confusion between the new and the old villages resulted in a name change. Nebraska became West Appomattox, and as more and more people abandoned the old village for the new, the new village assumed the name of Appomattox.

During the 30 years that followed, the little town grew by leaps and bounds. Church spires were among the first architecture to grace the landscape, along with homes ranging from tidy cottages to proud Victorian mansions.

The town's Main Street offered everything the residents required - from a bank to mercantile stores, a hardware store, auto dealerships, a drug store and livery stables. Several bars provided color to the little town, the Times-Virginian newspaper kept the citizen's informed and the Appomattox Hotel provided dining and rooms for rent. The railroad brought people and goods from all around the country.

Residents were proud of their town's growth and accomplishments, but they were ever mindful and proud of their heritage. In 1906, amid cheering crowds and dignitaries, including the Governor of Virginia, Appomattox dedicated a Confederate Solider statue in the Courthouse Square.

Two years later, a fine brick high school was built, and many county families relocated closer to town so their children could attend.

By 1925, the settlement had fully established itself as permanent, and citizens felt it was time to make their town official. On June 2, 1925, Appomattox resident and Times-Virginian publisher A. H. Clement ascended the courthouse steps and applied for a town charter, which was granted that day. The Town of Appomattox was officially born.

The following year, 1926, a town government and council were established, and a local merchant, James W. Cawthon, was elected Mayor.

During the ensuing years, the Town of Appomattox continued to prosper. More businesses were established, the school system became well known for turning out excellent graduates, and the crime rate was extremely low. Word traveled and the town continued to bring in people who sought a good place to raise a family.

All was not blissful, however, Appomattox sent its sons away to two world wars, and Hurricane Hazel ripped through the area in 1954, damaging property and toppling the beloved Confederate statue from its pedestal. The Town's citizens remained stalwart and endured their losses and disasters with an eternal optimism.

A growth spurt in the Town occurred during the 1970s. Major industry - and jobs - came to the area when Thomasville Furniture built a factory in Appomattox. Many more homes were built, and suburban shopping centers and fast food restaurants sprouted up. People from other states, hearing of the growing but still quiet, little town, fled the cities and settled here, bringing a new mix of culture and their own contributions.

These changes and growth might have completely changed a little southern town - but not Appomattox. Ties of kinship and friendship remained strong, and Appomattox became that rare combination of modern conveniences and small town charm.

Today the town continues to grow and prosper - but always with people, rather than progress, at the forefront. There is more than just geography involved when Appomattox is referred to as "The Heart of Virginia." Perhaps the town's current Mayor, Ronnie Spiggle says it best: "Appomattox is the greatest place on earth."

Morning Program  
June 3, 2000

Parade - 10:30 a.m.	
Band Concert begins at 11:00 a.m.	Virginia Brass
Program begins at the Courthouse at 11:30 a.m.	
Master of Ceremonies and Welcome	Hon. Ronald C. Spiggle Mayor, Town of Appomattox
Invocation	Dr. Jerry L. Falwell
Presentation of Colors	Sons of Confederate Veterans
National Anthem	Virginia Brass
Introduction of Distinguished Guests	Hon. Ronald C. Spiggle, Mayor
Presentation and Dedication of Land for Watkins M. Abbitt, Sr. Memorial Park	The Abbitt Family
Reenactment of Charter	
Introduction of Speaker	Hon Watkins M. Abbitt, Jr.
Address	Lieutenant General Samuel V. Wilson United States Army-Retired
Benediction	Dr. Jerry L. Falwell

*The flowers at the podium are placed in memory of the late  
Congressman Watkins M. Abbitt, Sr. by Mary S. Abbitt.*

Former Mayors of Appomattox

1926	Mr. J. W. Cawthron*	1953-1954	Mr. C. F. James*
1927- 1932	Mr. W. L. Brown*	1955-1957	Mr. R. D. Robinson*
1933-1944	Mr. C. S. McDearmon*	1958-1960	Mr. C. T. Moses, Jr.
1945-1946	Mr. C. S. James	1961-1964	Dr. S. R. Lawson*
1947-1952	Mr. G. D. Buchanan*	1965-1977	Mr. H. B. Pack*

\*Denotes Deceased Former Mayors

Afternoon Program  
at Courtland Field

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	The Funky Bunch Cloggers Local Entertainers
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	One Way Home
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Dustin Williams & the Falling River Band
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	The Ageless Wonders

Anniversary Stamp Cancellation will be available at the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library on Saturday, June 3, 2000 from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Food, Arts and Crafts, Antiques and Pony Rides  
Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the afternoon.

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Program  
June 4, 2000

2:00 p.m.	American Heritage Dancers (Cloggers) Courtland Field Stage
3:00 p.m.	Kim and Jimbo Cary Courtland Field Stage
4:00 p.m.	Planting of Time Capsule Appomattox Municipal Building
4:30 p.m.	Cutting of Birthday Cake Appomattox Municipal Building
5:00 p.m.	Vesper Service Liberty Baptist Church

You are cordially invited to join us in the cutting of the Town's Birthday Cake at the Appomattox Municipal Building. Cake will be served to all.

This program and celebration are dedicated to the memory of those people who served our Town, as Mayors, Council Members, and employees. It was through their dedication and contributions that our town has flourished and progressed. We, therefore, express our sincere appreciation for their distinguished service to this community.