

Mar 18, 2019 Friends of Esmont Meeting MINUTES

1. **Four properties in Esmont just sold as a package.**

School House + house on corner of Esmont Road and Boatwright Lane, and two houses on Esmont Road at Red Row Lane, purchased by John McGum and Micah Ruth for \$230,000. When asked about their plans for the buildings the response was: "As of now, we are not exactly sure what our plan for each property will be. I imagine we will renovate homes for resale and high-end rental properties. These projects will take us a lot of time to complete. The homes are in rough shape. Our renovations will be very tasteful, and we hope to contribute to the community."

The 160 acres across from the school, are listed at \$1.5 million, includes 3 ponds and 2 quarries. Listed by Re Max.

2. The **new Friends Marketplace Committee** is working on merchandise logos for hats, shirts, etc. Auto Decal are for sale now \$5 each. See attached. We will have these available at each meeting or you can call/text/email Friends of Esmont.

3. The **5 voted on Projects** now published on website under Activities/Projects, Updates will be added as they happen. Projects are (1) Rails to Trails (2) Purvis Store Salvage (3) Wildlife Refuge Along Ballinger Creek (4) Use of Fulfillment Farm acreage nearest Esmont (5) Replacing Esmont Depot

Another project going on is gathering Esmont's history.

4. Rob Peters ("Friend" and train enthusiast) is working on obtaining **Esmont Depot** drawings. He writes: "I've found basic plans for the depot built at Esmont. I suspect original plans were modified by builder Henry L. Lane, whose company was headquartered in Esmont (that building constructed in 1869) to fit the planned depot site built in the 1890's.

The plans help cover $\frac{3}{4}$ of the building: track side elevation, north end, and south end based on available photographs that show standard construction. What isn't clear is the west facing or road side elevation. There is limited detail from one photograph that supports the plans found that were used in depot construction for various railroads across the US. Good news is there is detail on inside floor plan that can support recreating plans for Esmont."

Rob will be visiting Esmont in June 2019.

5. In initial discussions with **CSX re property for trail and depot**, we have established contact with CSX, gave him background on Friends organization, told him about Trail Planning Grant application.
6. Central Virginia History Researchers representative, Jordy Yeager, has contacted us asking how he can assist in gathering **history of Esmont**. More on this as it develops.

Note: Scottsville Museum is holding a Spring Reception on April 7 from 2-4pm. Maxwell Johnson, a fourth-year student at UVA will speak on the research he did on Esmont while working as an Intern at the Museum.
<https://scottsvillemuseum.com/esmont/home.html>

7. **Interview with Marie Lane** (wife of Arthur Lane). Marie gave us a newspaper article written in 2005 from an interview with her and her husband Arthur. That newspaper article has been retyped and pictures of Lane family members and furniture, taken during our interview, will be embedded in the article entitled, "A Place for Hopes and Dreams."

A link to the article will be sent out under separate cover later this week. It is a great article giving much Lane Family and Esmont history with the addition of the pictures.... so, look forward to that. Meanwhile, enjoy the Lane Family Tree, compiled from information in the forthcoming article. Attached.

Spring Reception at Scottsville Museum
07 April 2019, 2-4 PM

The Scottsville Museum will open for the 2019 season on Sunday, April 7, at 2 pm. Shown below is our featured speaker, Maxwell Johnson, who will talk about research he did on the community of Esmont, while working as a Museum intern during the past year. Mr. Johnson studied all aspects of the town of Esmont, interviewing local residents, photographing historic buildings, and researching documentation on various properties. His research took him to Richmond, Charlottesville, and Washington, D.C. You can see some of the results of his project on the Museum website (<https://scottvillemuseum.com/esmont/home.html>). Mr. Johnson is a fourth-year student at the University of Virginia. He comes from Midlothian, VA, and graduated from Midlothian High School. At the University he is studying anthropology and American studies with a minor in French.

Maxwell Johnson

Join us for free refreshments and our program and celebrate the re-opening of the Museum. From April through October the Museum will be open on Saturdays from 10 to 5, and on Sundays from 1 to 5. All are welcome and admission is free. We also open for special tours at other times--just let us know when you want to visit (E-mail: smuseum@avenue.org, or Tel: 434-286-2247).



Lane Family

