

OCTOBER
2025



History, Archives & Special Collections

This month at Jones

Lecture: Who Was John Brown?

Wednesday, October 8
5:00 p.m.
JML Reading Room

Abolitionist, patriot, agitator? Who exactly was John Brown?

Learn about the man who planned an insurrection at Harper's Ferry that sought to overthrow American chattel slavery. In 2024, JML's John Brown pike was evaluated and authenticated (on display in the Reading Room). Learn how weapons like the pike were procured by Brown, and how the quest for freedom was foiled at the federal arsenal.

Due to unavoidable circumstances, Steven Schmit will lecture in place of Benjamin Greenbaum. Dr. Schmit is a retired military historian in Richmond.

The talk is free and open to all. JML lectures are also recorded and added to our [YouTube channel](#) approximately one month later.

October GLAM

Thursday, October 9
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Campbell County Museum

Are you a staff member or volunteer at a gallery, library, archive or museum in the Lynchburg area?

Lynchburg GLAM is a free networking group which meets four times a year. Area institutions sign up to host a tour and share updates on their collections and projects.

In October, Lynchburg GLAM will visit the Campbell County Museum. To learn more and sign up for our e-mail list, visit the [GLAM webpage](#).

FALL, 2025
Freedom Forward!

LECTURE SERIES

Jones Memorial Library
John D. Owen Jr. History Series

2301 Memorial Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501
www.jmlibrary.org 434-846-0501

10/8

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025
5:00 P.M.

Steven J. Schmit

Who was John Brown?

Abolitionist, patriot, agitator? Who exactly was John Brown? Learn about the man who planned an insurrection at Harper's Ferry that sought to overthrow American chattel slavery. In 2024, JML's John Brown pike was evaluated and authenticated (at right and on display in the Reading Room). Learn how weapons like the pike were procured by Brown, and how the quest for freedom was foiled at the federal arsenal.



Due to an unavoidable conflict, Steven J. Schmit will replace Ben Greenbaum as our October series speaker.

Steven J. Schmit is a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel with the 6th Armored Cavalry. He has a 21 year career as a Military Police Officer and was on Assistant Professor of Military History at the University of Richmond. A graduate of Friburne Military School, West Virginia University, the University of Tennessee, and Tennessee State University, Steve holds a Ph.D. from Virginia Commonwealth University.

The author of *Swords and Sabers of the Union Army* and other works, Steve has held positions with the Museum of the Confederacy, and the Marine Raider Museum. In his spare time, he restores artifacts for clients around the world and curates exhibitions for historical groups.

LYNCHBURG GLAM OCTOBER 2025



Join us for a tour and get together with
Campbell County Museum

Thursday, October 9, 2025
5:30 - 7:00 P.M.

Campbell County Museum At The Historic Courthouse
774 Village Highway (US 501/ Rt 24), Rustburg VA

Non-Fiction Book Group

Wednesday, October 22
10:30 a.m.
Westminster Canterbury

Join the Non-Fiction Book Group in October as we discuss *Midnight Rising* by Tony Horwitz.

The discussion group is free and open to the public. Chats are co-moderated by librarians from Jones Memorial Library and the Lynchburg Public Library. We meet at Westminster Canterbury in the Hume Room.

Read all of the book, or come to learn more about it! You can borrow a copy of the book from the Lynchburg Public Library or use the Hoopla and Libby apps to read or listen online.

Our upcoming titles are:

October 22
Midnight Rising by Tony Horwitz

January 28
Margaret Fuller by Megan Marshall

March 25
King: A Life by Jonathan Eig

May 27
The Exceptions by Kate Zernike

Workshop: Photo Care

Saturday, October 25
10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
JML Reading Room

Join us for a free workshop on caring for printed photographs.

Archivist Gwen shares best practices for handling, storing and preserving these visual treasures.

Bring your interesting photos and all of your questions. No reservation required.

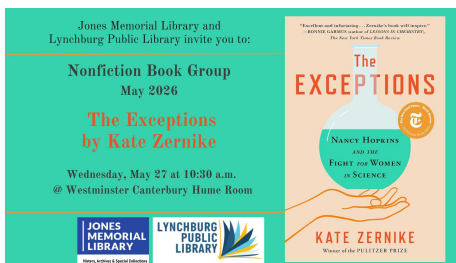
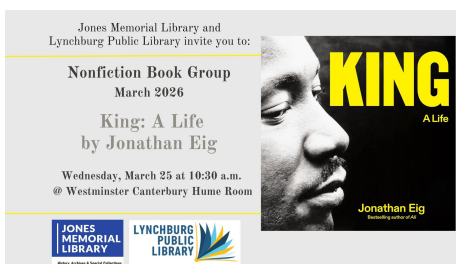
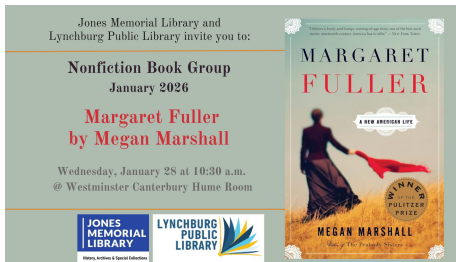
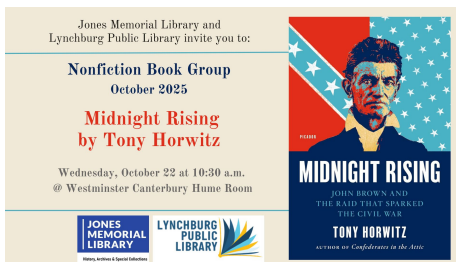


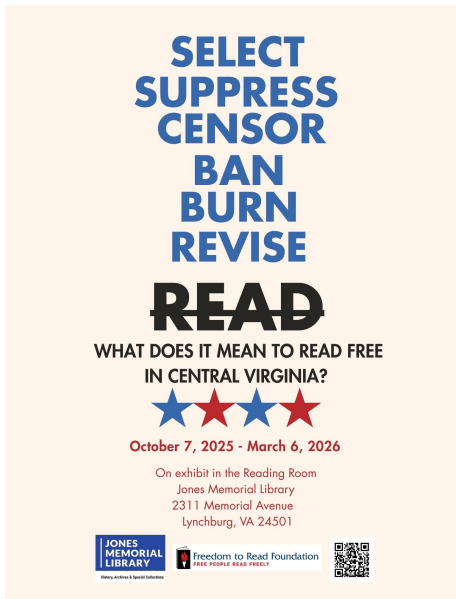
Exhibit: **READ**

Opening October 7, 2025
JML Reading Room

JML is launching an exhibit about the history of censorship in Central Virginia. The exhibit examines the historical frameworks for restrictive efforts that occurred from the 1660s to the 1960s. Covering issues related to religion, abolition, and communism, "READ" shares censorship examples from across the Commonwealth, including from JML's own history.

"READ" is supported by a Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund Banned Books Week Programming Grant from The Freedom to Read Foundation. In 2025 five awardees from across the nation were selected among a competitive pool of libraries, schools and nonprofit organizations to offer innovative and engaging programming for Banned Books Week. The exhibit will open starting that week and will be on display until March 6, 2026.

"READ" is free and open to the public in the JML Reading Room. Groups may contact the library to arrange a tour.



JML On the Road

Stop by our information booth at these events in October. We'll be highlighting our new grant-funded oral history project to document the lives of area residents. While we are on the road, services continue as usual at the library.

Saturday, October 4
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Day at the Point
Point of Honor

Information booth, plus record a short oral history interview

Saturday, October 25
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Fall Festival
ACWM - Appomattox



Information booth

JML staff will also be at these conferences in October:

October 3
Richmond, VA
Virginia Library Association

October 14 - 19
Atlanta, GA
Oral History Association



Tuesday Winter Hours

Our hours on Tuesdays start to align with daylight effective October 7. We will now be open on Tuesdays from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM.

Our weekly hours are:

Tuesday & Saturday
9:00 - 5:00

Wednesday/Thursday/Friday
1:00 - 5:00

We also offer research appointments outside of these hours, subject to staff availability.



Save the Date!

November Lecture

Save the date for our November history lecture on Lynchburg Quakers with speaker R. Chambliss Light, Jr.

November 12 @ 5:00 p.m.
Lynchburg's Friends & Families

In the early to mid 1700's Central Virginia emerged as the next frontier in westward expansion. A large percentage of the earliest settlers were members of the Society of Friends (commonly called Quakers). Learn about Lynchburg's Quaker families, whose names, homes, and plantations are familiar even 200+ years later.

Lectures are held at the JML Reading Room and are free and open to the public

FALL 2025
Freedom Forward!

LECTURE SERIES

Jones Memorial Library
John D. Owen Jr. History Series

2311 Memorial Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501
www.jmlibrary.org 434-846-0501

11/12

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2025
5:00 P.M.

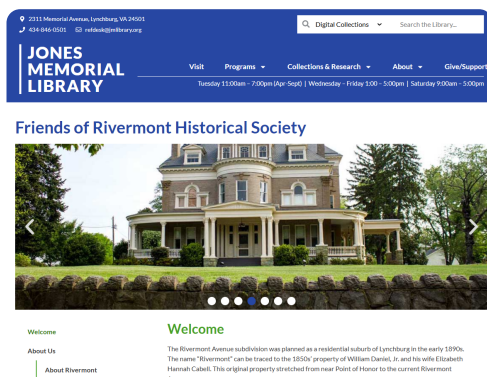
R. Chambliss Light Jr.
Lynchburg's Friends & Families



In the early to mid 1700's Central Virginia emerged as the next frontier in westward expansion. A large percentage of the earliest settlers were members of the Society of Friends (commonly called Quakers). Learn about Lynchburg's Quaker families, whose names, homes, and plantations are familiar even 200+ years later.

Robert Chambliss ("Cham") Light graduated from Virginia Episcopal School in Lynchburg, completed a B.A. in Speech at the University of Virginia in 1976, and earned a J.D. from the T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond in 1986. After five years in private practice, Cham spent 31 years with Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company in Lynchburg, holding many positions in their legal department. Cham is immersed in the cultural, social, and political life of Lynchburg and the state of Virginia, and has served on boards of non-profit organizations including the Library of Virginia, Jones Memorial Library, and the Free Clinic of Central Virginia.

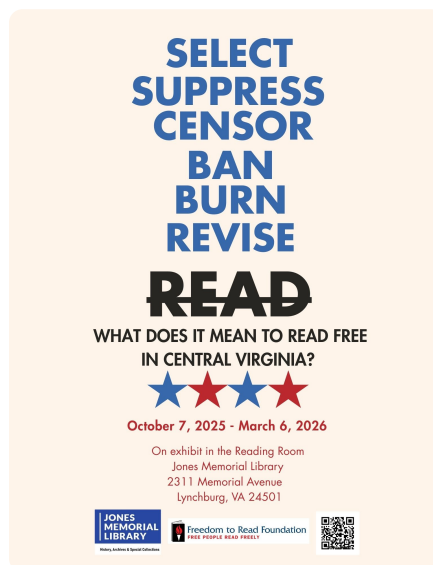
Now Online @ Digital Jones



Wayback LYH: Friends of Rivermont Historical Society

JML has launched **Wayback LYH**, a service to preserve websites and born digital information about Lynchburg's history.

In September, JML worked with the Friends of Rivermont Historical Society to archive and preserve their popular website. After the society disbanded, this website content was in danger of being lost to history.



Digital Exhibit: **READ**

JML's new grant-funded exhibit "READ" is also available online! View the exhibit panels and access the same news stories and historical sources that are on display in the Reading Room.

READ

JML worked with local consultant Elisabeth Mahler to bring FRHS content onto our new Wayback LYH page and into our Omeka-S digital repository. The content and site images are now preserved in perpetuity as they appeared in July 2025. The preserved data is freely accessible to researchers and the public via our Wayback LYH webpage.

Wayback LYH

Digital Exhibit about Central Virginia and censorship

Online and @JML

Annual Report

The JML 2024-25 Annual Report was mailed in late September and is now available [online](#) and at the library.

The report shares news and updates about the library's projects and initiatives. The honor roll of donors lists monetary donations and gifts of materials to the library received between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

The report is just one of the ways that we share our gratitude for your support!



MAKE A GIFT TO THE 2025-26
ANNUAL FUND

Jones Memorial Library

2311 Memorial Avenue, Lynchburg VA 24501