



Virginians on the Monument Nominations

WORKING DOCUMENT: NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

1. The Reverend John J. Jasper, (July 4, 1812-1901), founder of Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church, Richmond.



First located on Brown's Island.

2. Gabriel and Gabriel's Rebellion of 1800, which, had the conspiracy been undiscovered, would have been the largest slave insurrection in North America.
3. Lucy Goode Brooks, who, with her husband, Albert Royal Brooks, were dedicated to securing their family and gaining their freedom. After the Civil War ended, Ms. Brooks raised money and mobilized support on behalf of displaced and orphaned African American children by founding the Friends' Asylum for Colored Orphans in 1872, which still operates today as The Friends' Association for Children.
4. Resistance by enslaved men and women of Fauquier County, such as Anthony Burns, who escaped to Boston in 1854 only to be re-captured and tried under the Fugitive Slave Act, returned and imprisoned under isolation at Lumpkin's Jail, where he nevertheless found ways to communicate with other inmates about his escape experiences and smuggle out letters to abolitionist allies, ultimately regaining his freedom once again.
5. Margie Jumper--On a Sunday afternoon in 1946, Margie Jumper, an African American housekeeper working in an all-white neighborhood, boarded a crowded — and segregated —Roanoke streetcar to go home. The streetcar was crowded. White passengers sat in the middle and front of the trolley. African American passengers sat in the back. If there was no room to sit, the African American passengers stood. In that day and age, Mrs. Jumper was not allowed to sit where she wanted. Jumper sat in the reserved-for-white-passengers middle seats. She went unnoticed for a few miles, and in the heart of downtown Roanoke, in front of City Hall, the conductor stopped the trolley and ordered Jumper to leave her seat. She refused. The police were called and removed her from the trolley. She refused to reveal her identity. She hired a lawyer, an African American, who advised her to plead guilty and pay a fine. It wasn't until nine years later when another African American woman, Rosa Parks, refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, that sparked the movement that ended unfair segregation throughout the South. While her arrest didn't spark a national outcry, Mrs. Jumper's refusal to give up her seat prompted a discussion on segregation and racial inequality throughout the Roanoke Valley.

It was this reason that the Commonwealth Coach and Trolley Museum Inc., a partner of the Virginia Museum of Transportation Inc., dedicated the 1958 GMC TDH 3714 Roanoke City Bus 102 — a bus that was in service when Roanoke City integrated public transit in 1963 — in her honor. “We wanted to honor Mrs. Jumper and her fight against racial inequality,” said Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., president of the Commonwealth Coach and Trolley Museum in Roanoke, Virginia. “By dedicating the bus — and reserving the best seats in front of the bus — in honor of this local hero, we hope it serves as a reminder of the negative effects of racial inequality and how ordinary citizens can spark important change.” The Commonwealth Coach and Trolley Museum Inc., is a non-profit that educates Virginians about the history, use and efficiency of public transit and provides low-cost group transportation to area non-profit organizations and public events. The CCTM’s collection has almost 30 vintage buses and trolleys that served the public through transit throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia — from a 1934 Dodge Brothers Bus to a 1998 New Flyer Coach from Blacksburg, Virginia. “We feel that public transit tells part of our history,” Fitzpatrick said. “Transportation — like almost everything — was segregated throughout the South. Honoring those who fought against segregation are true American heroes.” Fitzpatrick said that Mrs. Jumper continued to fight for the rights of African Americans in Roanoke. “She was fair to people of all races, a great friend and activist for her neighbors, and a powerful mentor to local children,” he said. Jumper served on the executive committee for the Roanoke NAACP. In the 1980s, she voiced her concerns about apartheid in South Africa. In 2003, Margie Jumper received the Reverend R.R. Wilkinson Memorial Award in Social Justice. Jumper passed away at age 92.

SOURCE: COMMONWEALTH COACH AND TROLLEY MUSEUM INC. FEB 27, 2015

5. Reverend Dr. Raymond R. Wilkinson -- “(1923-1993), was President of the NAACP Chapter in Roanoke, Virginia from 1959 to 1969. Reverend Dr. Raymond R. Wilkinson, known also as the Rev. R. R. Wilkinson preaching at a NAACP Civil Rights Rally meeting on May 25th 1963 while fighting for freedom, justice, equality, integration, and desegregation!!!! While serving as Pastor of Hill Street Baptist Church for 33 years. He was also President of the NAACP Chapter in Roanoke, Virginia from 1959 to 1966. My grandfather, Reverend R. Wilkinson, spearheaded the charge for equal rights for African Americans in Roanoke, Virginia during the 1960s Civil Rights Movement. Also, in 1960, my grandfather, the Reverend Raymond R. Wilkinson, established a biracial Committee made up of Black and White preachers and doctors whose main purpose was to desegregate and integrate department drug stores and lunch counters in the City of Roanoke, Virginia and achieve equal rights for all races of color!!!! My grandfather would hold secret meetings at night daily with white business owners and City leaders to negotiate plans to help smooth over the integration process in Roanoke, Virginia!!!! My grandfather, the Reverend R. Wilkinson’s legacy as a brave strong leader who led the struggle for equal rights, justice, and desegregation for African Americans in the Valley of Roanoke, Virginia will always be remembered and honored forever!!!! My grandfather, the Reverend Raymond R. Wilkinson, was a pioneer and a warrior for the people of Roanoke, Virginia during the Civil Rights Movement and that is why I am very proud of my great-grandfather’s great leadership and bold courage!!!! My grandfather Reverend Dr. Raymond R. Wilkinson, 1923 - 1993 (R.I.P.) Source: Nathaniel Raymond Benjamin. www.blackplanet.com/Natedoggg84/”

Martin Dulaney

John Mercer Langston-- VSU President

Governor L. Douglas Wilder

Senator Henry L. Marsh, III

Barbara Johns

Gregory Swanson

Jean Louise Harris, M.D.

Irene Amos Morgan Kirkaldy

Reverend James Kilby

Betty Ann Kilby



Andrew Heidelberg



The Honorable Roland J. "Duke" Ealey

The Honorable William M. Ferguson Reid, M.D.

Nurturing the Roots: 90for90 and Black Political Power



Posted: July 15, 2016

[Tanner Jean-Louis](#)

Images courtesy of [90for90](#) and the Reid family. Slider [image](#) courtesy Kheel Center, Cornell University.

Dr. William Ferguson Reid has been at the vanguard of the fight for voting rights since 1955, the year he and other activists launched their battle against racist voting restrictions in the state of Virginia.

That was the era of poll taxes, literacy tests, and ballot stuffing. Segregation was the law of the land, and hate groups such as the Klu Klux Klan were far more active and dangerous than today.

Despite these challenges, Reid became the first African American elected to the Virginia General Assembly since Reconstruction. With that victory he paved the way for greater African American political participation in the state. Reid continues his sixty year struggle today through [90for90](#), a voting rights campaign that seeks to engage activists across the country.

The initiative was founded by Virginia activists inspired by Reid's life of public service, began in Virginia and has now gone national. The name 90for90 was chosen in honor of Reid's 90th birthday, with the goal of registering 90 voters in each precinct in Virginia. Dr. Reid's son, Dr. William Reid Jr., expects to exceed this goal by 250,000 new voters before the fall election.

The volunteers at [90for90](#) share information about how to get out the vote, and also provide information to candidates and organizations across the country committed to voter's rights.

Fighting "Massive Resistance"



The elder Dr. Reid, or “Fergie” to his family and friends, began his civil rights work after serving as a Navy surgeon in Korea. He returned to his hometown of Richmond, Virginia and found it embroiled in a dispute over desegregation. One year after *Brown vs Board*, Virginia was closing public schools under desegregation orders instead of integrating them—part of a strategy known as “[Massive Resistance](#).”

The NAACP led the fight against segregation, largely through lawsuits, but members of the organization also realized that one of the most effective ways of ending Massive Resistance was to elect African Americans to office. This aim was frustrated by the numerous schemes in place at that time to suppress the vote of the state’s large African American population.

To register to vote, Virginians had to successfully complete a “blank sheet” registration form, which functioned as a sort of literacy test. Would-be voters were given a blank sheet of paper and told to write the answers to the seven questions on it, but African Americans weren’t told what the questions were. White voters knew to write their address, Social Security number, and other personal information.

Virginia also had a [poll tax](#), but even black voters who could afford to pay couldn’t register if they missed the unadvertised deadline. Poll taxes had to be paid in person, six months before the election, three years in a row. Whites who paid the poll tax late were typically not penalized.

Sophisticated [gerrymandering](#) and [at-large elections](#) further diluted the black vote.

Dr. Reid joined the Virginia NAACP’s voter registration committee, and worked to educate black Virginians on the state’s secretive voting procedures and requirements. This drew the ire of Virginia Senator Harry Byrd Sr. and other Democrats, who according to Reid Jr. conspired to “put the NAACP out of business” by introducing legislation demanding a membership list from the organization, putting members’ jobs and lives at risk in an area with an active KKK syndicate. Predictably, NAACP membership [plummeted](#).

To take heat off the NAACP, the voter registration committee disbanded and the members formed a new organization: The Richmond Crusade for Voters. Led by Dr. Reid, Dr. William S. Thornton, and John M. Brooks, the organization helped create independent civic groups in 28 precincts in Richmond where the black population was large enough to tip the vote. Crusade for Voters provided training to each civic group, which conducted voter registration and education. The concept was so successful it was expanded statewide.

After ten years of dedicated effort, the black vote in Virginia grew large enough for Reid to run for state assembly. He narrowly lost his first attempt, in 1965, but was elected two years later. He served three terms, representing a portion of Richmond, the former capital city of the Confederacy.

In 1970, when Virginia’s heavily gerrymandered electoral maps came due for redistricting, Dr. Reid negotiated with conservative Democrats, who agreed to draw a state senate district encircling a predominantly black portion of Richmond. A friend of his, Lawrence Douglas Wilder, won the seat and went on to become lieutenant governor of Virginia and later the first black governor elected in the United States.

Reid Jr. believes Wilder’s election paved the way for candidates like Deval Patrick, first black governor of Massachusetts. Indeed, he says, “Barack Obama may have never considered running for President if there had never even been a black governor.”

Continuing the Fight



Today, Reid sees the new voting restrictions [popping up](#) across the country as a continuation of the same oppressive laws he began fighting sixty years ago. For these new laws, just as with the old laws, he believes that grassroots level, bottom-up action is the surest way to secure long term gains.

Organizing into small, local groups that can stay committed is the best way to activate voters, he says. And make sure there is a progressive candidate running in “*every single election.*” If you can’t find somebody to run, he advises, “then consider running yourself.”

“You need to elect people on the down ballot: county boards, school boards, city councils, the people who can solve your day to day problems. You need to work at the local level, that’s where the energy is, that’s where the voters are.”

“From the base of the pyramid you can build up,” he advises. “Tell your county board member to run for the state assembly, tell your state senator to run for U.S. Congress.”

State representatives have the power to redraw gerrymandered districts or appoint independent redistricting commissions. They also have the ability to undue restrictive voting laws.

Even if a progressive candidate hasn’t won a seat in years, you need to start running candidates five, or ten years before redistricting comes up. With time, you can build your strategy. If Reid is known for one saying, it’s this one: “Each election is a dress rehearsal for the next one.”

Tanner Jean-Louis is an editorial assistant at The Progressive.

Dr. William Thornton, M.D. -- late Richmond podiatrist William S. Thornton co-founder of the Richmond Crusade for Voters to mobilize black voting power.

The Richmond Crusade for Voters grew out of an interracial group called “the Committee to Save Public Schools, formed to oppose a January statewide referendum which would allow local government to block integration of public schools.

The measure passed statewide by about 4-1 margin. Black voter turnout in Richmond was disappointing, with less than a 50 percent turnout of approximately 8,500 blacks then registered.

About one dozen blacks from the Committee To Save Public Schools decided after the referendum that a voter education organization devoted to black people was needed in Richmond. Thus, the Richmond Crusade for Voters was founded.

The founding meeting was held at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church on North First Street in Jackson Ward. In attendance were Dr. William S. Thornton, Dr. William Ferguson Reid and Mr. John M. Brooks. They were thereafter known as the Founders of the organization.

The name “Crusade for Voters” was suggested by one of Richmond’s senior citizens, named Mr. Christopher J. Foster, Sr.

In 1956, the objectives of the organization were:

- 1. To increase the Negro votes in Richmond, Virginia through year round voter registration activities.*
- 2. To increase Negroes political awareness.*

3. To study the records of candidates and give recommendations.
4. To push for equal job opportunities in City Hall.

Founded in 1956. Dr. William S. Thornton was the first President of the Richmond Crusade for Voters.
SOURCE: <https://sites.google.com/site/richmondcrusadeforvotersinc/home/history>

Ella Fitzgerald

Ralph Sampson



Ruth Brown

Ruby Clayton Walker-- tutored African American students in defiance of Massive Resistance when Prince Edward



County schools were closed.

Gloria Genato -- integrated Richmond schools (check?)

Mrs. (first name?) Holloway-- protested Thalheimer's policy prohibiting African American women from buying shoes and clothes (check?)

Couple who first helped develop diversity here local couple with affiliation in Burke--Lynn Swann

Richard and Mildred Loving

William Henry Sheppard-- nominated by Dr. Benedict Carton - his papers are at Hampton U. Became a missionary. One of the first major human rights advocates. Born 1865 in Waynesboro, VA. Spent part of life in Staunton. Educated at Hampton under Booker T. Washington.

William Henry Sheppard (1865–1927) was one of the earliest [African Americans](#) to become a [missionary](#) for the [Presbyterian Church](#). He spent 20 years in Africa, primarily in and around the [Congo Free State](#), and is best known for his efforts to publicize the atrocities committed against the [Kuba](#) and other Congolese peoples by [King Leopold II's Force Publique](#).

Sheppard's efforts contributed to the contemporary debate on European colonialism and imperialism in the region, particularly amongst those of the African American community.^[2] However, it has been noted that he traditionally received little attention in literature on the subject. Sheppard was born in [Waynesboro, Virginia](#) on March 8, 1865, to William Henry Sheppard, Sr. and Fannie Frances Sheppard (née Martin), a free "[dark mulatto](#)", a month before the end of the [American Civil War](#). No records exist to confirm William Sr.'s status as a slave or freedman, but it has been speculated that he may have been among the slaves forced to serve the Confederacy as Union troops marched upon the South.

Lucy Gantt-- wife

Source: Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Henry_Sheppard

Mary E. Branch (1881-1944)

James Wesley Douglas Bland

Dr. Robert Russa Moton (1867-1940)

Reverend Leslie Francis Griffin

Mary Elizabeth Bowser

Arthur Ashe

James Farmer

Yvonne Miller

Reverend Wyatt Tee Walker

African American Trailblazers (LVA)

2012

Michael L. Blakey (February 23, 1953–), Williamsburg

ANTHROPOLOGIST

Physical anthropologist Michael L. Blakey helped analyze and interpret the important evidence uncovered at the African Burial Ground in Manhattan

Noah Davis (March, 1804–April 7, 1867), Fredericksburg

AUTHOR OF AN EMANCIPATION NARRATIVE

Born into slavery, Noah Davis raised more than \$4,000 to free himself and his family members during the 1840s and 1850s.

James Farmer (1920–1999), Spotsylvania County

CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER

As director of the Congress of Racial Equality and as initiator of the Freedom Rides, James Farmer played a critical role in the national civil rights movement.

John Jasper (1812–1901), Richmond

BAPTIST MINISTER

An extraordinary orator who preached throughout the eastern United States, John Jasper in 1867 established Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church, in Richmond.

Willie Lanier (August 21, 1945–), Richmond

ATHLETE AND ENTREPRENEUR

Willie Lanier broke through racial barriers in professional football by becoming the first African American to play middle linebacker, the position that directs the defense on the field.

Oscar Micheaux (1884–1951), Roanoke

FILMMAKER

Often recognized as the country's first African American filmmaker, Oscar Micheaux established a film office in Roanoke, where he produced at least six silent movies.

Yvonne B. Miller (July 4, 1934–July 3, 2012), Norfolk

POLITICAL LEADER

The first African American woman elected to the House of Delegates and to the Senate of Virginia, Yvonne B. Miller worked tirelessly as a politician, educator, and advocate for underrepresented Virginians.

Irene Amos Morgan (1917–2007), Gloucester County

PRINCIPAL IN A CIVIL RIGHTS CASE

Irene Morgan's challenge to the Virginia law requiring segregated seating on interstate buses resulted in a landmark ruling by the Supreme Court of the United States.

2011

Resources: [Poster](#) | [Bulletin](#)

Henry Box Brown (1815 or 1816–June 15 1897), Richmond

ABOLITIONIST AND PERFORMER

After his family was suddenly sold out of the state in 1848, he shipped himself in a wooden crate to freedom in 1849.

Annie Belle Daniels, Newport News

ENTREPRENEUR

Annie Belle Daniels, the founder of the Madam Daniels School of Beauty Culture, is an influential civil rights and political activist in Newport News.

Robert Walter Johnson (1899–1971), Lynchburg

PHYSICIAN AND TENNIS COACH

Robert Walter Johnson was a driving force behind the integration of the sport of tennis.

Henrietta Lacks (1920–1951), Clover

PRINCIPAL IN A MEDICAL CAUSE CÉLÈBRE

Henrietta Lacks's cells, known in the medical world as HeLa cells, were the first human cells to be grown successfully outside the body for more than a short time.

John Rollison (d. 1780), York County

ENTREPRENEUR AND LANDOWNER

John Rollison negotiated the legal and social restrictions of men of color in colonial Virginia to become a well-respected, wealthy man in York County.

Wendell Scott (1921–1990), Danville

STOCK CAR RACER

Wendell Oliver Scott was the first African American to drive in the highest level of stock car racing and remains to date the only African American to have won a major NASCAR race.

Lucy Francis Simms (d. 1934), Harrisonburg

EDUCATOR

Born into slavery, Lucy Francis Simms was a highly respected elementary school teacher in Harrisonburg for more than fifty years.

John Arthur Stokes, Prince Edward County

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

As a student at Robert Russa Moton High School, John Stokes helped lead a strike by pupils to gain better education facilities, an act of defiance that contributed to the integration of public schools in the United States.

2010

Resources: Poster | Bulletin

Sara Bagby (ca. 1833–1906), Wheeling

PLANTIFF IN CAUSE CÉLÈBRE

With "a decided taste for freedom," Sara Lucy Bagby was embroiled in a celebrated legal case that tested the infamous Fugitive Slave Act during the secession crisis.

Florence Farley (1928–), Roanoke and Petersburg

PSYCHOLOGIST, EDUCATOR, ELECTED OFFICIAL, ARTIST

Florence Saunders Farley has fought against racism and bias to open doors in science and politics for African American women in Virginia.

Dorothy Hamm (1919–2004), Caroline and Arlington Counties

CIVIL RIGHTS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

Through legal and political actions, civil rights activist Dorothy Bigelow Hamm fought for African American equality.

Christopher Howard (1969–), Hampden-Sydney

24TH PRESIDENT OF HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE

Christopher Bernard Howard sets an example for Hampden-Sydney students—and for everyone—through his impressive résumé of service to the country and youth-enrichment efforts in Africa and the United States.

Henry Marsh, III (1933–), Richmond

CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY AND ELECTED OFFICIAL

Throughout his law career and the public offices he has held, Henry L. Marsh has committed his life to bringing equal rights and opportunities to African Americans.

Joseph Thomas Newsome (1869–1942), Newport News

LAWYER AND EDITOR

A leading figure in Newport News, Joseph Thomas Newsome struggled to bring education and voting rights to the African American community.

Gowan Pamphlet (ca. 1750–1807 or 1808), Williamsburg

BAPTIST LEADER

Gowan Pamphlet was born enslaved, but persevered to become a well-known preacher, gain his freedom, and establish a Baptist church in Williamsburg that continues as an active congregation today.

Mary Peake (1823–1862), Hampton

EDUCATOR

Mary Smith Kelsey Peake was an educator of both free and enslaved African Americans prior to and during the Civil War.

2009

Resources: Poster

Evelyn Butts (1924–1993), Norfolk

PRINCIPAL IN A CASE TO INVALIDATE THE POLL TAX

Evelyn Thomas Butts led a successful challenge of Virginia's poll tax all the way to the United States Supreme Court.

John Cephas (1930–2009), Caroline County

RENOWNED BLUES MUSICIAN

John Cephas has become a world ambassador representing the Virginia Piedmont Blues tradition.

Oliver White Hill (1907–2007), Richmond

ATTORNEY AND CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER

Oliver White Hill served as counsel in the groundbreaking *Brown v. Board of Education* case in 1954.

Edna Lewis (1916–2006), Orange County

CHEF AND AUTHOR

Edna Lewis created nationwide interest in southern cuisine and demonstrated that food could be more than just nourishment, but also a celebration of life.

Leland Melvin (1964–), Lynchburg

ASTRONAUT

Leland D. Melvin inspires young people and encourages them to aspire to careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Amaza Meredith (1895–1984), Lynchburg and Petersburg

ARTIST AND ARCHITECT

Amaza Lee Meredith broke through racial and gender barriers in architecture and artistic design.

Dangerfield Newby (ca. 1820–1859), Culpeper County

PARTICIPANT IN JOHN BROWN'S RAID

Dangerfield Newby was one of five African Americans who took up arms against slavery with fellow abolitionist John Brown at Harpers Ferry, Virginia, in October 1859.

Claudia Whitworth (1927–), Roanoke

HUMANITARIAN, PHILANTHROPIST, AND EDITOR AND PUBLISHER OF THE ROANOKE TRIBUNE

Claudia Alexander Whitworth has worked diligently over the decades to improve the quality of life in Roanoke.

2008

Blind Billy (ca. 1805–April 19 1855), Lynchburg

MUSICIAN

Janie Porter Barrett (1865–1948), Hampton and Hanover County

EDUCATOR

Aline Black (1906–1974), Norfolk

EDUCATOR AND CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCATE

Edna Meade Colson (1888–1985), Petersburg

EDUCATOR

Fields Cook (ca. 1817–1897), Richmond and Alexandria

BAPTIST MINISTER AND REPUBLICAN PARTY LEADER

Percy Casino Corbin (1888–1952), Pulaski County

PHYSICIAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCATE

John Wesley Cromwell (1846–1927), Portsmouth, Norfolk County, and Alexandria

EDUCATOR AND JOURNALIST

Pleasants "Snowball" Crump (1905–1995), Richmond

DANCER

2007

Arthur Robert Ashe (1943–1993), Richmond

TENNIS PLAYER, WRITER, AND HUMANITARIAN

Clara Olivia Byrd Baker (1886–1979), Williamsburg

EDUCATOR AND CIVIC LEADER

Leslie Garland Bolling (1898–1955), Richmond

SCULPTOR

Elizabeth A. Coles Bouey (1890–1957), Richmond

FOUNDER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINISTERS' WIVES

William Breedlove (ca. 1820–1871), Essex County

MEMBER OF THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION OF 1867-1868

Lucy Goode Brooks (1818–1900), Richmond

CIVIC LEADER

Isaac David Burrell (1865–1914), Roanoke

PHYSICIAN AND PHARMACIST

Esther Georgia Irving Cooper (1881–1970), Arlington County

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

Strong Men and Strong Women 2016 Honorees (Dominion)

Melody C. Barnes

Thomas Cannon

Clarence M. Dunnville

Leroy Rountree Hassell

Mamie Evelyn Locke

Claude Grandford Perkins

Michael Robinson

Anne Bethel Spencer

Suggestions from School Children (Supt's Memo)