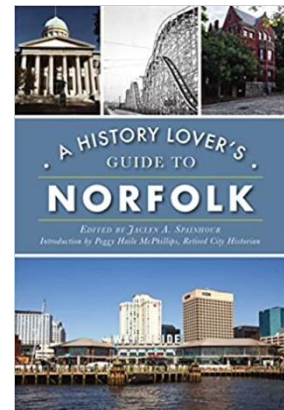


ALUMNI  
IN THE NEWS



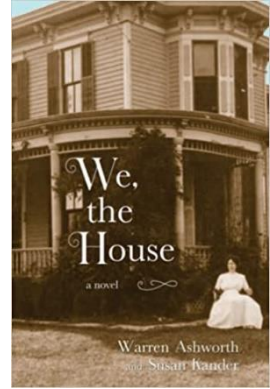
Jaclyn “Jackie” Spainhour (Newport 2013) will start serving as the President of the Historic Congressional Cemetery in Washington, DC Cemetery on November 1. Jackie is a writer, researcher, nonprofit professional, and special needs mom living in Alexandria, Virginia. She is an alumna of Old Dominion University and sits on the Board of Directors for the Victorian Society in America. Her first book, *Gilded Age Norfolk, Virginia: Tidewater Wealth, Industry, and Propriety*, was published in 2015 by the History Press. She serves as the Chair of the

VSA Book Awards Committee and the Copy Editor for the VSA’s peer-reviewed journal *Nineteenth Century*. A life-long lover of historic places, she spent over a decade on staff and as the Director of the Hunter House Victorian Museum in Norfolk, Virginia. Her second book, *Museums and Millennials: Engaging the Coveted Patron Generation*, was published in October 2019 through the American Association of State and Local History. She has given numerous presentations on the local and national level and her third book, *A History Lover’s Guide to Norfolk*, was published in 2021 and is available on Amazon at: [A History Lover’s Guide to Norfolk \(History & Guide\): Spainhour, Jaclyn A., Retired City Historian, Peggy Haile McPhillips: 9781467147170: Amazon.com: Books](#)



**Warren Ashworth** (Newport 2009 and Chicago 2015) in collaboration with his wife, Susan Kander, has written a book of historical fiction which has recently been published by Blue Cedar Press. The protagonist is a Victorian house in Kansas and the other protagonist is an early-nineteenth-century portrait.

*We, the House* begins in 1878 in a frontier town on the Kansas prairie where a battered Civil War Union veteran builds his new wife her dream house, an Italianate glory she names Ambleside. Soon an early American portrait of Mrs. Simon Peale arrives from Hartford, Connecticut to dignify the dining room wall. When the portrait's existential yelp causes house and painting to discover each other, Ambleside is a perfect 'tabula rasa,' almost literally born yesterday, and Mrs. Peale is a devastated young widow, a starchy professor of Latin, who has been dead since 1841. Together, through the lives and generations of 'their' family, this disarming odd couple witness and try to comprehend the panorama of American social history—from women's suffrage, three wars, the ice box, photography, and the invention of the two-by-four, to indoor plumbing and electrification, the Dust Bowl, the Depression, and Dachau, foxglove, the Love That Dare Not Speak its Name, the song of the catbird, and Little Women. Over the decades, a most unusual love develops between them and quietly deepens, until one day in 2010 an art historian from New York happens to see the portrait of Mrs. Peale and, abruptly, everything changes.



Author blurbs praising the book use words like “superb,” “playful,” “moving,” “A page-turner,” “a romance so unique and so poignant that the reader will never forget it.” The book may be ordered from your local bookstore or from Amazon at:

[We, the House: a novel: Ashworth, Warren, Kander, Susan: 9781736911259: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/We-the-House-a-novel-Ashworth-Warren-Kander-Susan/dp/9781736911259)



The Victorian Society in America has announced a second season of free Zoom lectures which will continue to explore the themes of great nineteenth-century styles, modern masters, and artists and architects at home, while also including lectures addressing craft and conservation and women artists, designers, and architects. For more detailed info see: [Lectures 2 - Victorian Society in America](#)

On October 19 at 6:00pm Pacific Time, the American Decorative Arts Forum will present free webinar entitled, *Beautiful Sister Cities: Boulevards and Buildings in San Francisco and Newport*. Registration info is available here: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

## **BUTTRICK CHALLENGE DONORS**

*Contributions processed April 1, 2019 through February 2, 2021. Every effort is made to accurately report all donations. However, there was a flurry of donations at the last minute to meet the 12/31/2020 deadline so this listing may not be complete. Errors and omissions may occur. If you see an error, please bring it to our attention so that a correction can be made in future listings.*

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**The Heritage Society of the Alumni Association** was established to allow the Alumni Association to recognize those who have made thoughtful provisions in their planned giving documents, wills, trust, and bequests. These provisions will help to ensure that the Alumni Association will continue to have the resources necessary to fulfill its missions in support of the VSA. We are extremely grateful to the following members and friends who so thoughtfully and generously included the Alumni Association in their wills or trusts. Their gifts will make a huge difference to deserving scholars for years to come.

**John C. Freed**, a longtime VSA and Alumni Association supporter made provisions for a \$10,000 bequest to the Alumni Association in memory of his partner, **Paul Duchscherer**. **Paul Duchscherer** very thoughtfully made provisions in his trust for a \$10,000 bequest to the Alumni Association as well as designating the Alumni Association as the beneficiary of all future royalties from his many books and other publications. The **Bob and Carole Chapman Fund** very generously awarded a grant of \$10,000 to the Alumni Association Chapter in memory of **Carole Chapman**. **Darrell Lemke & Maryellen Trautman** made provisions for a bequest to the Alumni Association

Including the Alumni Association in your estate plans is an effortless way to support the Schools. Please consult with your attorney and consider this sample language: *I give and devise to the Alumni Association of the Victorian Society Summer Schools all (or state percentage) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, to be used for its general support (or for the support of a specific fund or program)*. If you are interested in and require further details about including the Alumni Association in your will or trust, please contact President David Lamdin at (703) 243-350 or at [dalamdin@aol.com](mailto:dalamdin@aol.com).

The Officers and board members of the Alumni Association are extremely grateful to all alumni who help support our mission. We offer our special thanks to those listed below who made additional contributions—above and beyond their membership dues—to the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

**Paul Duchscherer Memorial Scholarship**

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Special thanks also to those members at the Supporter (\$125) level and above.

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*List as of June 15, 2021. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of our contributor lists, but errors may occur. If you see an error, please report it to David Lamdin at [dalamdin@aol.com](mailto:dalamdin@aol.com) or Membership Secretary Sara Durkacs at [membership@vsaalumni.org](mailto:membership@vsaalumni.org)*