

May 20, 2020

TO: Friends and Everyone Involved in the JRBF and VC & NS:

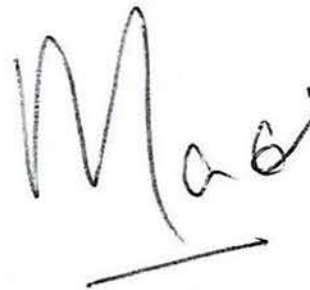
Today I was delighted to get Holt's May 2020 edition of **The Sweep** and to read about all the progress being made, as reported by VC & NS President Brian Coffield and others. It is gratifying to read and hear of the many, many volunteers who are propelling us forward. We have certainly come a long way down stream since the Canal Basin dig in 1983.

Many of us were there during the "big dig" and still feel its impact, some of us have been down River with the Festival for 30 or more years now. I no longer remember which years on which boats, but have had the pleasure of crewing on many bateaux with a lot of illustrious and well experienced captains. (See list below.)

Three years ago Bill Trout challenged us all to join him in making a \$1,000 gift or pledge to the Virginia Canal and Navigation Society for the benefit of our museum and preserving our history. Considering all the pleasure I've gotten from the batteau experience over the years, it was an easy challenge to accept. It's also a challenge that hopefully others will accept. **I'D LIKE TO RE-STATE THE CHALLENGE TO ALL FRIENDS OF VC & NS and the JAMES RIVER BATTEAU FESTIVAL TO CONSIDER JOINING IN MAKING A \$1,000 PLEDGE for our MUSEUM and PRESERVATION OF OUR HISTORY.** By the way, I paid my pledge in 4 annual installments of \$250 each, which made it relatively easy to do. But however you might wish to do it, it would certainly help insure the JRBF and the history of the James continues to be shared well into the future.

The best of all our river folks!

Mac Sammons



My List of Bateaux Crewed

Captains

Minnie Lee

Joe Ayers

Nekoosa

Big Island boat

Frank Padgett

Patsy

Pride of Campbell County

I, II and II

David Haney

Governor Henry

Paul Thomas

Fluvanna County

Chauncey Hutter

Rockfish Runner

Brian Roberts

Spirit of the James

Ellen Clark

Queen Anne

Brian Coffield

Cc: Dr. Bill Trout, Brian Coffield, Holt Messerly