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## **The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation Welcomes Three New Board Members**

JAMESTOWN, Va. (August 11, 2023) –

This year, Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation welcomed three new members to the Board of Directors. The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation was established in 2015 to manage daily operations of the original site of James Fort, which was discovered through archaeology in 1994. The Foundation's mission is to uncover, preserve, and share Jamestown's diverse history and highlight its significant contributions to the foundations of modern America.

The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation Board of Directors is made up of 17 members from across the country, who are advocates for the ongoing research, excavation, and preservation of Jamestown's history. Board members serve four-year terms, supporting strategic growth and overseeing the financial health of the organization.

Joining the Board this year are Shelby Hawthorne, Randy Hawthorne, and Alice J. Rybicki.

Shelby and Randy Hawthorne are longtime residents of Williamsburg, as well as William & Mary alumni. A true passion of Randy's throughout his educational and professional careers has always been running. In addition to participating in William & Mary's track and field program as a student, Randy also established and published *Track Talk*, a newsletter for track alumni, for over 30 years and raised funds for more than fifty endowed track and field scholarships to support student athletes. Randy is still a practicing CPA and member of the Virginia Bar. Shelby Smith Hawthorne has been a dedicated educator her entire life, working as a Reading Specialist in Williamsburg-James City County schools for over 40 years. Now retired, she mentors new teachers and sits on the boards of Literacy for Life, Williamsburg Community Foundation, and the Development Board of William & Mary's School of Education. Her accomplishments were recognized worldwide when she became one of the first women to be inducted into the international education fraternity, Phi Delta Kappa. Both Randy and Shelby have been awarded the William & Mary Alumni medallion for their devotion to their alma mater. As Williamsburg locals, they have been visiting Jamestown for over 30 years and are passionate about advocating for Jamestown's place in history and supporting the community through improved education.

Alice J. Rybicki grew up in New Orleans, LA where she developed an early interest in old buildings, diverse cultures, and great food. She earned her bachelor's degree from Tulane University School of Engineering. She was commissioned in the U.S. Navy, served from 1985 to 1997, and reached the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Alice was trained as a naval aviator, enjoyed serving her country, and later treasured her time teaching other young officers to fly. In 1997, she transitioned from the military to flying for the airlines, and has worked as a commercial airline pilot ever since. Although her work keeps her busy traveling, Alice makes time to support organizations close to home. Alice strongly believes in education as a means of

improvement and actively supports Northern Virginia public elementary school students and educators. Her efforts have secured instructional resources for classrooms and help to provide continuing education opportunities for teachers, including Jamestown's partnership with the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute, which allows educators to visit Jamestown and other area historic sites. Having spent her adult life working in fields that were non-traditional for women, Alice strives to encourage and support young people in exploring interests in science and technology that they might not otherwise consider or pursue. Alice was first drawn to Jamestown through her mother, CarolAnn Babcock, and her late stepfather James Babcock, who have been longtime supporters of the Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation. Alice has a particular interest in the foundation's archaeological and conservation work, recently funding the acquisition of advanced technological tools used by Jamestown's field and laboratory staff members.

The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation is truly grateful for the incredible expertise, knowledge, and experience of the entire Board of Directors.

[Photos of the new board members may be found here.](#)

#### *About Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation*

*The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation preserves and shares the original site of James Fort and Jamestown, established in 1607. The Foundation is dedicated to uncovering, preserving, and sharing Jamestown's diverse history, and highlighting its major contribution to the foundations of modern American society. Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation is a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit. JRF jointly administers Historic Jamestowne alongside the National Park Service. Admission includes the James Fort site, New Town, and the Voorhees Archaearium Archaeological Museum, as well as walking tours, living history, and public programs. For more information about visiting Jamestown, please visit [www.historicjamestowne.org](http://www.historicjamestowne.org) or call (757) 856-1250.*