

The Botetourt Genealogy Club

invites you to attend its second annual Genealogy Fair on Saturday, October 11, 2008. The theme of this year's event is Westward Expansion and Botetourt County's role in Heritage Migration. The fair will take place at the Family Life Center of the Fincastle United Methodist Church in Historic Fincastle, VA.

Fincastle United Methodist Church
Family Life Center



Program and Speakers

Vendors of books, software, forms and other items of interest will be available all day. Be sure to sit in on one of our speakers who will discuss the historic importance of Botetourt County as well as detail the availability of genealogical records in Botetourt County and the Roanoke Valley.

Speakers

Weldon Martin - Director of Botetourt County Historical Society
Loretta Caldwell - County Genealogist
Harry Gleason - Revitalization Coordinator for the Town of Buchanan
Sally Eads - County Genealogist
Susan Mason - Homespun Legacy
Pam Young - Virginia Room of the Roanoke Public Libraries

Directions: From I-81 - 150 Exit Take 220 North 9 miles to Fincastle. Turn right at Happy Food Mart onto Church Street. Turn Left on Academy Street. The Family Life Center is on the corner. Visit the website for printable map. www.roosweb.com/~vaboteto/fair

The **Botetourt County Historical Museum** has served as a repository for hundreds of artifacts that have helped to interpret the history of Botetourt County for thousands of visitors. Located directly behind the historic Botetourt County Courthouse, the museum is housed in a building that dates back to the late eighteenth century.

Botetourt County Genealogy Club: Rena Worthen, Founder and President; Steve Vasser, Vice President; Loretta Caldwell, Secretary & Treasurer; Stephen A Taylor, Genealogist, Doris Mullins, Librarian; Darlene Overstreet, Parliamentarian We are available to help you break down that "Brick Wall".

A mini-workshop hosted by **Homespun Legacy** will be held during the day. Homespun Legacy is about handing down a gift crafted with the heart, a gift more precious than the crocheted bonnet from your favorite aunt, more lasting than your grandmother's prized yellow roses. Your homespun legacy, in the form of personal history or ethical will, is a gift hand-crafted from your heart and passed on to your grandchildren and their grandchildren.

Judy Barnett has done extensive research on the African-American churches and schools and families in almost every community in Botetourt County. She brings us knowledge and an extensive display, documenting many families in the Botetourt County area. Judy will be joining us with her display. This is a great opportunity to learn about Botetourt County

This event
is Free
to the
public.



Botetourt County History

Carved out of Augusta County by an act of the Virginia House of Burgesses, Botetourt County, Virginia was established on January 31, 1770. Extending from its gateway at the southern end of the Shenandoah Valley and continuing on to the Mississippi River, the county covered all or parts of seven present day states when it was first established. Early travelers (mostly Scots-Irish, and



then Germans), following the Great Road settled in the fertile valleys and hills, where food and other natural resources were plentiful. Descendants of many of these early families still live in the county. The county seat of Fincastle was established in 1772 along a crossroad of the Great Road and a log courthouse was built in 1773. The town of Pattonsburg (near present day Buchanan) was established in 1788 along the James River.

The Fincastle Branch of Botetourt County Library
11 Academy St.
Fincastle, VA
(540) 473-8339
Mon & Thurs 9-9
Tues - Wed 9-6
Friday 9-5
Saturday 9-1

Additional Genealogical Resources

The Botetourt County Museum
1 West Main St.
Fincastle, VA
(540) 473-8394
Mon - Sat 10 - 2
Sunday 2 - 4

Botetourt County Courthouse
1 West Main St.
Fincastle, VA
(540) 473-8274
Mon - Fri 8:30 to 4:30
Ask for Loretta Caldwell or Sally Eads.

The Virginia Room at the Roanoke Public Libraries
706 South Jefferson Street
Roanoke, VA
(540) 853-2073
Mon, Tues & Thurs 9 - 9
Wed 10 - 6
Fri 9 - 6
Sat 9 - 5