



THE EDWIN WASHINGTON PROJECT

26128 Talamore Drive, South Riding, Virginia 20152

www.edwinwashingtonproject.org 703-8672056

10/17/2017

Dear Philip,

So great to hear you are from Saint Louis. So is the Roeder family, though I was born overseas. Thanks as well for indicating NAACP might make a contribution to the project. As we discussed over the phone, my project is incorporated as a 501©(3). We accept donations under the name Edwin Washington Project for funds going to that effort; but the name of the non-profit, of which I'm President, is Diversity Fairs of Virginia. The EIN is 47-1765605. The address to send contributions is Edwin Washington Project, 26128 Talamore Drive, South Riding, Va. 20152.

Any amount will be useful; but I am asking you to consider somewhere in the neighborhood of \$1,000. Funds go to material used to preserve our records and actual research. There is a lot going on. Of particular interest to the NAACP, my plan is find all of the documents related to the NAACP, lawyers working for them and the County-Wide League. I'll be happy to send copies of these to you as we find them. We have already located quite a few.

The basic goal is to identify all of the "colored" schools in Loudoun, who attended them, who instructed in them, what the students learned and to compare white vs black education. We would like to extend this to other neighboring counties as well, in cooperation with local Black History clubs.

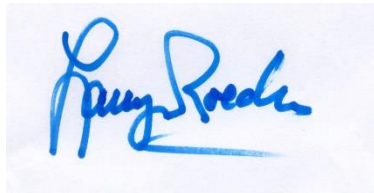
2017 was a very busy year. Thanks to a donor who provided us a high end scanner, we have made significant progress scanning school records and anticipate completing that project by mid-2018. We also began identifying which textbooks were used in "colored" and white schools, briefed many communities in Loudoun and have begun an analysis of the impact of segregated education on African-Americans. In addition, we interviewed many people who either taught or studied in the "colored" schools and have made much progress identifying where the schools were, which is not always clear from the records. This includes doing an expedition in order to find the ruins of the old

Bluemont Colored School. We had to use an army compass for that exercise. Our report is included as an attachment.

We need to buy more archival boxes for old records and books. In addition, we are examining all of the old school, which requires a lot of gas. Records directly related to "colored" schools in Loudoun are in the archives of Swarthmore in Pennsylvania, as they relate to Quaker assistance. In addition, there are records at Virginia State University. We also need to continue digital preservation of all of the records so that if a fire ever happened, this history will never be lost.

Thanks again for your support.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry Roeder". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "R".

Larry Roeder, MS
Principal Investigator