



THE EDWIN WASHINGTON PROJECT

26128 Talamore Drive, South Riding, Virginia 20152

www.edwinwashingtonproject.org 703-8672056

10/17/2017

Dear Al,

Thanks for your support for our project. I'd like to request your support again, for more funds and for suggestions on additional donors.

Any contribution will be appreciated; but this go around, I am asking you to consider supporting either of two very important aspects of our project.

- Completing the acquisition of archival boxes and folders. \$2,000.
- Supporting our acquisition of Past Perfect software and related equipment, which will enable anyone remote access to our files. This is very important so that family members, now spread about the nation, will not be forced to come to Loudoun to learn of their ancestors. Academics will also find this tool very useful. \$3,700.

In addition, we are examining all of the old schools, which requires a lot of gas. Records directly related to "colored" schools in Loudoun are in the archives of Swarthmore in Pennsylvania, the Library of Virginia and at Virginia State University. We plan to do each of those trips, operating under US government per diem rules. 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.

2017 was a very busy year. Thanks to your initial contribution, which we have kept anonymous, we have been using a ScanSnap scanner, which has enabled us to make significant progress scanning records. We anticipate completing that project in 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

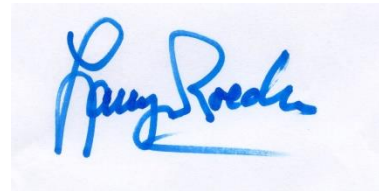
includes doing an expedition in order to find the ruins of the old Bluemont Colored School. That last effort required using a military compass.

I hope you are still interested in helping us. If you are, keep in mind that ours is a 501©(3) effort that accepts donations under the name Edwin Washington Project . Our goal is to document the impact of segregated education on African-Americans in Loudoun; 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.

The basic goal is to identify all of the "colored" schools in Loudoun from 1865 to 1968, who attended them, who instructed in them, what the students learned and to compare white vs black education. At the suggestion of the NAACP, we would like to extend this to other neighboring counties as well, in cooperation with local Black History clubs. We are also consulting with academics on how to use lessons learned from this exercise to argue against segregation in other countries.

Your donation will be deeply felt, so I hope you will be able to assist us.

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