

Jamestown Rediscovery

HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE

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Jamestown Celebrates National Volunteer Week

JAMESTOWN, Va. (April 18, 2023) –

This April, Jamestown is celebrating National Volunteer Week and Global Volunteer Month. Volunteers have played an invaluable role at Jamestown for almost thirty years. From site interpreters and museum guides, to assistants in the conservation lab and development office, over forty volunteers help fulfill our mission to uncover, preserve, and share Jamestown's diverse history.

Volunteer site interpreters talk to thousands of visitors from across the globe, sharing the history of Jamestown as America's birthplace as well as ongoing archaeology research. For Fort site volunteer Ed Strelecky, volunteering at Jamestown fulfills his life-long passion for history – and it shows when visitors get the chance to chat with him. Visitors often feel that they've had a personal tour of the Memorial Church whenever Ed is posted inside. "The most gratifying thing about being a volunteer at Jamestown is the opportunity to make the visitor experience unique, memorable, and completely satisfying," said Ed. Ed finds it particularly rewarding when he can engage with and change the point of view of younger, sometimes apathetic, visitors so that they leave the site saying, "This place is pretty cool."

"Ed served an incredible 543 hours in 2022 and he's on track to do the same in 2023," said Volunteer Coordinator Emma Pringle. "Visitors who are lucky enough to chat with him will walk away with a new understanding of Jamestown's role in American history."

Last year, volunteers served thousands of hours sharing Jamestown history with visitors onsite and in the Voorhees Archaearium Museum, cleaning and sorting artifacts in the lab, stamping envelopes of letters to donors across the country, and so much more. Volunteers are crucial to our mission, and we're deeply grateful for their time and commitment to this special place.

Volunteer opportunities and the application process can be found at historicjamestowne.org/about/volunteer-program.

[Photos of Ed at Jamestown can 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 or call (757) 856-1250.