The annual Winter Lecture Series begins **Monday, February 3rd at 7pm** in Festival Halle at 177 Main Street in Reedville. The annual lecture series focuses on local authors, singers, artists, historians, and others who share their passions for the Northern Neck, the Chesapeake Bay, and its people. The lecture is free and open to the public – a $5 donation is requested. The series is held on the first Monday of each month, through May, and follows the monthly Monday night fried chicken dinner from 5-6pm at the American Legion next door. For more information contact the office at 804 453 6529 or director@rfmuseum.org

The first of the four-part series will feature **Stan Parsons**, an author who writes with local flair and style. Stan was born in and has lived in or near Virginia all his life. Stan has always loved to write fiction, but life kept getting in the way. Upon retiring he and Gail moved to their cottage in Ophelia where they do volunteer work, enjoy country living, and Stan finally writes fiction full-time. Three of his six self-published books are in the **Coming of Age genre**.

The evening’s lecture will focus on Coming of Age through a discussion of his characters in *What Happened, Randi?*, *The Stovepipe Chess Club*, and *God Sent a Tramp*. Stan will also talk about his heroine in *CoriAnn Aground*, which is set in this area, along with the gang of the Stovepipe chess club. Stan will also discuss Coming of Age as a genre, and how he became a writer.

**On March 2nd at 7pm, Dr. Janet Mann** will return to Festival Halle to present “**Virginia IS for Lovers: Birth, Mating and other Antics of Wild Bottlenose Dolphins in the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.**” The lecture will be co-sponsored by Smith Point Sea Rescue.

Dr. Mann is a Professor of Biology and Psychology at Georgetown University whose work focuses on social networks, female reproduction, calf development, conservation, life history, tool-use, social learning and culture among bottlenose dolphins in Australia. Her long-term study "The Shark Bay Dolphin Research Project", tracks over 1800 dolphins through their lives and includes an international team on three continents where scientists focus on different aspects of delphinid biology. In 2015, she initiated the first study of wild bottlenose dolphin in the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.

The speaker for the April 6th session will be announced at a later date.

**Captain Jim Gordon** will join us on **May 4th at 7pm** to discuss his latest book *Who Let the Crabs Out? Navigating the Waters of Life*. He is the CEO of Successful Life Sailing.

Capt. Gordon began working in the field of human development through personal mastery in August 1978 utilizing the Success Visualizations Program entitled Alpha Mind Power. He has over 30 years of public speaking background and has trained executives, medical professionals, attorneys, therapists, and sales specialists. He has developed Custom Audio Visualization Trainings that have produced fantastic results for all walks of life from Enhancing Creativity in Artist! to Direct Business Skills for Executive Managers. He is active in an International Organization in 63 Countries which teaches the Art of Living Deliberately and promotes the idea of an Enlightened Planetary Civilization. His businesses have included a Virginia based Hospital Communications Company specializing in new hospital design and a Nevada-based Independent Travel Agent Training Program. He is currently writing a new book and has written a extensive book of poetry. His home base "Wind Chimes" on the Chesapeake Bay was architecturally self designed.