Re-Visiting the 1918 Flu Pandemic ... in the Age of the Coronavirus

Click on Hotlinks to Contexts and Cues from Local, National, Global History

Local and Regional Histories:

Rockbridge County:

"The Great Flu Pandemic of 1918-1919 in Rockbridge County," Eileen Hinks (2005 RHS Program, in RHS Proceedings Vol.13)

"The Rockbridge Flu: RHS Looks Back, a Century Ago," Eric Wilson, Lexington News-Gazette, April 2020, in RHS Essays Online)

Doug Harwood, "What Happened when the Spanish Flu Hit Here?" The Rockbridge Advocate (1994, reprinted April 2020)

Augusta County:

"The Flu of 1918: Attack on the Homefront," Nancy Sorrells and Caitlyn Alexander, Augusta County Historical Society Bulletin "History Provides Sobering Reminder of Area's Last Pandemic," Nancy Sorrells, Waynesboro News-Virginian.

Roanoke, Richmond, and American Beyond:

"Lessons Learned from Roanoke's Battle Against the 1918 Flu" Ralph Berrier, Roanoke Times

"Richmond: The American Influenza Epidemic of 1918-19": A Digital Encyclopedia: 50 Cities & their Stories, Univ.of Michigan

"A Once in a Century Pathogen': The 1918 Pandemic, and the Coronavirus," Mark Honigsbaum, New York Review of Books

"Journal of the Plague Year: How the Horrific Flu of 1918 Spread Across America," John Barry, Smithsonian.com

Audiovisual Media on the 1918 Influenza and Epidemics:

1918 Flu Epidemic: The Deadly Plague: A Historical Documentary

(remarkable montage of rare photographs, 40 mins)

The Great Influenza: The Story of the Deadliest Epidemic in History

(Video Lecture by John Barry, Virginia Museum of History and Culture, 60 mins)

"We Heard the Bells": The 1918 Influenza

(Documentary by U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, with oral and tribal histories, 60 min)

1918 Flu Pandemic in Staunton and Augusta County

(WSVA Podcast with Nancy Sorrells)

Acclaimed Books on Epidemics, and the Shaping of History:

Pale Rider: The Spanish Flu Epidemic of 1918 and How it Changed the World, Laura Spinney

The Great Influenza: The Deadliest Disease in History, John Barry

Pox Americana: The Great American Smallpox Epidemic, 1775-1782, Elizabeth Fenn

In the Wake of the Plague: The Black Death & the World it Made, Norman Cantor

The Ghost Map: London's Terrifying Cholera Epidemic & How it Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World, Steven Johnson And the Band Played On: People, Politics, and the AIDS Epidemic, Randy Shilts