

Lacy Ward, Jr., Director

Lacy Ward, Jr. is director of the Robert Russa Moton Museum in Farmville, Virginia.

The museum honors the role that Prince Edward County played in ending racial segregation in America's public schools, including the 1951 Moton High School student strike; the 1954 and 1955 *Brown v. Board* U. S. Supreme Court decisions; the 1959 Prince Edward County public school closings; the 1963-64 Prince Edward Free Schools; and the 1964 public schools' reopening. It is under Ward's leadership that the museum is installing *Moton 2011* an 8,500 square foot permanent exhibit of the Moton Story.



Ward, a recognized leader in heritage tourism, serves as president of Preservation Virginia. In 2010, Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell appointed him to the boards of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Ward is a trustee of the Confederate Memorial Literary Society, a member of the Virginia Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and a Virginia Advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Ward's varied professional experiences include serving as Vice President for Marketing and Communications at Tuskegee University, teaching at Longwood University and in the Virginia Community College System, and serving as superintendent of the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site. Ward served nine years on active duty as a Naval Flight Officer commanding the Grumman E-2C Hawkeye, where he logged more than 1,000 military flight hours, and completed over 200 carrier-based missions. A veteran of the Gulf War, Ward also participated in combat operations in the Libyan and Iranian theaters.

Ward's political experience includes a run for the Alabama House of Delegates and serving on the staffs of two Virginia congressmen. In 2002, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve on the Brown v. Board of Education 50th Anniversary Commission.

Ward considers himself a semi-native Virginia; although born in Philadelphia his family has lived continuously in Prince Edward County since the Colonial Era and he is a graduate of the Prince Edward County Public Schools, Virginia State University and Virginia Tech.

Ward is married to the former Ardeania Wesley, a graduate of Saint Paul's College and Hollins University. They have five adult children and reside in Prospect, Virginia.