

# NEWS AND NOTES

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY 1996

OUR 44TH YEAR

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 1

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1996

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### SAINT GEORGE'S DAY AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

As you know, each year, on the Sunday nearest April 23, the Society holds its Annual Dinner and presents awards to people who have contributed to the preservation of County history, either its tangible history or its cultural and social history. Previous award winners have included a number of individuals and groups for their efforts on behalf of Prince George's County, for significant publication efforts, etc. In our Tricentennial year, we hope to continue this tradition, while making it special in view of this historic milestone. We call upon all readers to make nominations for this, the highest award the Society can give, by writing a simple nominating letter to Society Historian Fred DeMarr, who chairs the selection committee. Nominations should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than March 7, 1996.

## WE GET LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR:

I enjoyed reading Paul Lanham's account (in News and Notes, XXIII, # 5, May 1995) of some of the places in Prince George's County which George Washington is known to have visited. Since the writer invited comment, I will take this opportunity to do so.

It is certainly true that George Washington traveled through Prince George's on many occasions and paid frequent visits to a number of friends and acquaintances here. We are fortunate to have the published diaries, letters and other writings of George Washington which record in detail his itineraries and travel expenses, as well as his comments on the various visits. Let me comment on just a few of the circumstances which Mr. Lanham and his various sources have recorded.

First of all, Washington did visit Reverend Jonathan Boucher at Castle Magruder, the house (in the area now known as Largo) on the tract "Norway" which Boucher rented, beginning in December 1771, from Enoch Magruder of Harmony Hall. Boucher served as Rector of St. Barnabas', Leeland, from that time until 1775, and also tutored young sons of wealthy planters. John Parke ("Jacky") Custis, George Washington's step-son was one of several boys who had studied with Boucher in Virginia, and continued under his guidance

after Boucher settled in Magruder's house. The house to which the students referred as "Castle Magruder" is, however, not the house we know today as Mount Lubentia. Though it probably stands on the same site as Castle Magruder, today's Mount Lubentia was built a quarter century later, in 1798, by Enoch Magruder's son, Dennis, and has been the home of the Magruder family and its descendants for five generations. It came to be known as Mount Lubentia during the residence of Dennis Magruder, after the Latin *lubet* for 'joy' or 'delight.' Tax assessment records confirm the construction date (1798) of the present house, and its stylistic details are quintessential Federal-style of exactly that period.<sup>1</sup>

The situation is similar with St. Barnabas' Church itself. The Church which Washington attended was a small brick structure which preceded the present church. The present St. Barnabas' was completed late in 1774, during the Rectorship of Jonathan Boucher; it was "Victorianized" in 1855, and restored to its original configuration in 1974. Washington records attendance at St. Barnabas' early in Boucher's tenure, but I have found no evidence that

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<sup>1</sup>Jonathan Boucher was an ardent Tory and experienced considerable hostility from his Patriot congregation at St. Barnabas in the period leading up to the outbreak of the Revolution. He sailed in September 1775 to England, having addressed his last letter to George Washington: "... You are no longer worthy of my friendship; a man of honour can no longer without dishonour be connected with you. With your cause, I renounce you; and now, for the last time, subscribe myself, Sir, Your humble servant, J. B."

he attended the present Church.

As for St. John's Church at Broad Creek, I am much interested in the mention of records confirming Washington's attendance, for I have not been able to find any at all. Certainly, one might have expected Washington to attend St. John's when visiting the Digges family at Warburton (the Digges had their own private Catholic chapel at nearby "Frankland"), just as he attended the old St. Barnabas' (Anglican) Church when visiting the other branch of the Digges family at Melwood Park, where Ignatius Digges had his own private Catholic chapel. Mr. Lanham's reference to the 1974 Baltimore Sun article suggests that evidence of Washington's attendance at St. John's does in fact exist, and I look forward to finding it.

In Bladensburg, George Washington would not have lodged at the "George Washington House", a building which served as a store during this period, and which did not acquire its current sobriquet until well into the nineteenth century. More likely, Washington stayed at the true "Indian Queen", a frame building immediately north of the present George Washington House, and (lamentably) no longer standing. Another place he visited in Bladensburg was the home of Richard Henderson, today the handsomely restored office of Millard T. Charlton and Associates, CPA (owned by Prince George's Heritage). In

fact, ironically, it was at Henderson's that George Washington dined at mid-day, 9 May 1787 (on his way to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia) and then felt "a violent headache and sick stomach" that evening at Montpelier. One wonders what he might have eaten at Mr. Henderson's!

Following Washington's travels in Prince George's County is an interesting project; references to his lodging and entertainment at villages like Queen Anne, Upper Marlboro, Piscataway, Bladensburg and Vansville, and his visits to Melwood Park, Castle Magruder, Mount Airy, Warburton, Northampton and Montpelier, are frequent and fascinating!

Sincerely,  
Susan G. Pearl, Research  
Historian

TO THE EDITOR

Please run an editorial correction in the next News and Notes --

*Concerning Bob Crawley's article on the Historic Preservation Commission, News and Notes, 12/95.*

Alan Virta was the first Chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission, serving from 1982 until 1986, when he resigned to take his new job at the University of Southern Mississippi. Joyce McDonald [immediate past president of the Society] was the second Chairman from 1986 to 1988. She served on the HPC from 1982 to 1988. Bob

Crawley has served on the Commission since 1984, and became Chairman in 1989.

*Submitted by Gail Rothrock for Bob Crawley.*

#### THANKS ANNETTE!!!

The passage of time has not diminished the debt that local history enthusiasts owe to the meticulous documentation recorded by the late James W. Wilfong, a past-president of the Society and an early St. George's Day awardee.

Jim's contributions as an architectural historian, recording historic edifices in the DelMarVa area, were regular features in literally thousands of articles in local newspapers. His crisp photographs and carefully researched writings were a source of enlightenment for many of us in the past, when such information was not readily available.

Heretofore, the Society considered itself fortunate in owning piecemeal collections and a few individual clippings of some of Jim's articles. Now, however, a generous gift by Annette Hutchins Wilfong, Jim's widow, of the file copies of all Wilfong articles pertaining to Prince George's County, opens the door of our recorded knowledge to a previously unknown extent. This collection consists of 321 envelopes containing an average of 2 photographs each of various County sites, backed up by copies of 400 related newspaper clippings. Mrs. Wilfong is separating the

rest of Jim's collection by County for donation to other interested historical groups. Similarly, Jim's extensive reference collection is being donated as well.

It should be noted here that, in the early 70s, our Society's monthly newsletter (consisting of one page) recording the following:

"The Society is pleased to note the matrimonial merging of our current Secretary, Annette Hutchins, and our immediate past President, Jim Wilfong. Our congratulations and best wishes are extended to this union, despite the fact that the matter had not been submitted as an agenda item for the Society's Board of Directors prior to implementation."

Paul Lanham, 11/95

#### NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

First, on a sad note, we report the passing of long-time Society member, Helen Olzewski Reed, who died at the age of 87 on January 8. Mrs. Reed, until her retirement in 1970, was Curator and Librarian at the Maryland History Room, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland, College Park. Our condolences to the Reed family.

The Society welcomes the following new members:

R. Dodd and Ann N. Lauton  
Albert and Virginia Pioso  
William J. Randolph



And, we welcome new Life Members:

**Mrs. Robert N. Ford  
William R. Hudelson**

1996 Member dues invoices were not mailed to Life Members or to those members who renewed their membership in conjunction with the Fundraiser or otherwise, prior to December 28, 1995. Any Member in this category who wishes to pay Maryland Historical Society dues for 1996 through the Society, at the rates of \$25 for individuals and \$35 for husband and wife, can either mail the required amount, payable to PGCHS, to the Society or request an invoice by calling 301-464-0590 and leaving a message. Dues invoices have been sent to all other members and we look forward to your rejoining this month. Thank you.

John Bourne, Treasurer

**CHRISTOPHER LOWNDES OF  
BOSTWICK**

I recently came across a copy of a paper entitled "Excerpts from the Maryland Gazette, 1745-1785, concerning Christopher Lowndes of Bostwick, Bladensburg, MD." compiled for Mr. and Mrs. Felix E. Cristofane, by Louise Joyner Heinton. Several excerpts illustrate an interesting and important aspect of life in colonial Prince George's County that is often overlooked in considering the history of our County - that servitude was often the burden of Europeans as well as Africans.

Friday, November 8, 1745

Ran away from the Subscriber, living at Bladensburg in Prince George's County, the 28th of October last, a Servant Man named John Bateman, by trade a Stone Mason or Bricklayer, born in Cheshire, speaks broad English, and is very much addicted to Drinking. He had on when he went away a snuff collour'd Broad cloth Coat, a blue Waist-coat, with white Metal Buttons, and Leather Breeches of an Olive Colour, his Head lately close shaved, and neither Cap nor Wig with him. Whoever brings the said Servant to the Subscriber, shall have Forty Shillings more than the Law allows, paid by

Christopher Lowndes

Wednesday, September 14, 1748

Ran away from the Subscriber, on the 6th of the Instant September, an Irish Convict Servant Man, named Thomas Butler, about 30 Years old, middle-siz'd, of a dark Complexion, much pitted with the Small-Pox, and pretends to know the Business of a Plaisterer: He had on when he went away an old Castor Hat, a short black Wig, a blue Waist-coat, a Check Shirt, and grey cloth Breeches. He may probably attempt to pass for a Sailor, and believe he was transported before, and liv'd on Rapahannock, near Fredericksburg. He is an impudent Fellow, and swears much; His Ankles are mark'd with the Irons he has worn, and have not long been cured. Whoever will bring the said Fellow to his Master at

Bladensburg, shall have Forty Shillings more than the Law allows.

Christopher Lowndes

Wednesday, February 21, 1750

Bladensburg, February 19, 1750

Ran away from the Subscriber's Cart, on the 17th Instant, about 8 Miles from Annapolis, as the said Cart was returning from thence to Bladensburg, an Irish Servant Man, named Michael Wallace, 17 Years of Age, pretty tall and slender, of a pale Complexion, and has been about 4 years in the Country: He had on two dyed Cotton Jackets, a Felt Hat, a Wig, Cotton Breeches, Woolen Stockings, Country-made Shoes, and a brown Linnen Shirt. Whoever takes up the said Servant, and brings him to the Subscriber in Bladensburg aforesaid, shall have Twenty Shillings more than the Law allows; and if taken out of the Province, Two Pistoles, and reasonable Charges. He may probably pretend to be a Smith, as he has work'd at that Business some Time.

Christopher Lowndes.

[Sadly, the following]

Wednesday, March 21, 1750

One Michael Wallace, a Servant Lad, who was advertised about a Month ago, as run away from a Cart which was driving from hence to Bladensburg, was found dead near the Head of South River, after the melting away of the last great Snow, in which it is supposed he lost himself and perish'd.

[Thomas Butler - again]

Wednesday, September 12, 1750

September 4, 1750

Ran away from the Subscriber at Bladensburg, a Convict Servant Man, named Thomas Butler, born in Ireland, he has been in the Country about three Years, and lately employ'd as a Carter; tho' he may pretend to be a Bricklayer or Plaisterer; he was in Rappahannock some Years ago as a Sailor; he is middle siz'd, dark Complexion, and his Face very much pitted with the Small Pox; he had on when he went away, a Linnen Coat or Frock, Plaid Waistcoat, a Cotton Jacket dyed, brown Linnen Shirts, Linnen Breeches, dark Worsted Stockings, Country-made Shoes, Felt Hat, and a Wig; he is very much given to Swearing and Drinking, his Legs are sore or very lately cured, but are red on his Shin Bones.

Whoever takes up the said Servant, and brings him to his Master, in Prince George's County in Maryland, shall have one Pistole Reward, if taken at a greater Distance than Fifty Miles Two Pistoles, and Twenty Shillings Currency if taken in Maryland, besides what the Law allows, paid by

Christopher Lowndes

N.B. He has a Cutlass with him, and it is supposed he will endeavor to get on board some Man of War.

These are but a few of the early notices, others appear throughout the forty years of coverage in this paper. There

are other fascinating articles - and we shall share those as space and time permit.

Lester Sweeting

#### **PRESIDENTIAL RAMBLINGS**

Jane Eagen

1996 has begun! Our Tricentennial Year is here! Many plans for this special year have been made and there will be many events and memorable days in this very special year. It is the time for us to get our thoughts together, decide where we want to be one year hence, plan how to get there, and start on the journey. I have enjoyed being your president for this last year and look forward to accomplishing more of the goals we set this year. Your support has been wonderful. Many of you have responded to the classified ads and requests for assistance. It has been a joy becoming acquainted with more of you and I am looking forward to a very good 1996. Please share with me your suggestions and concerns.

*News Flash: The window restoration has begun. The basement and dining room windows have been removed and the openings boarded over. It will take several months to complete the project, but it has begun! Susan Wolfe and I met with the contractor's representative, the one who will actually be working on it, and we were both pleased. Mary Godfrey advises me that the root-cellar will also be restored soon. It should be out for bid now and once that is decided upon they should only have to wait for the warm weather.*

The house committee will be very busy. What a joy to see Marietta come alive once again.

The gift shop is doing well. All Saturdays are staffed for January, but there are some empty days in February. Soon we will need volunteers for Fridays and Sundays also. Matthew Petersen, a student from Eleanore Roosevelt High School has begun working on the computer as part of his community service. The snow prevented him from making much progress.

Fred DeMarr has given a preliminary plan for the library and Wallis Cain, Lynn Roberts, and Katherine Claggett have met with him. More detailed plans should be forthcoming soon. I was overjoyed to receive notice that the House and Garden Tour funds for our county group will be directed to the DeMarr Library and the herb garden. The library and garden committees will be quite busy.

I will be attending the January 27 meeting of the Duvall Society so we can become better acquainted and work together more effectively. We would like to involve them in the furnishing plan for the house and when we invite the Supreme Court Historical Society to Marietta.

By the time you read this the planning retreat planned for Jan. 13 will have been canceled and rescheduled for February 3 at the Sweetings' Home.

January 17 Marietta will host a meeting of representatives of each historical site in our county. Alice Merrill of the State Museum Assistance Program will be here and hopefully we will begin forming a consortium of all of the sites. It seems to me we can have a greater impact if we cooperate and can continue the momentum begun by the Tricentennial. once again we welcome your input.

Please look at the calendar carefully.  
Reserve April 21 for the Annual St.  
George's Day Dinner. If you have someone  
in mind for an award contact Fred, he is in  
charge of that committee.

We are in an earnest search for a treasurer.  
Jack Bourne, who has done an outstanding  
job of quite a while wishes to be relieved of  
this task. If you know of a retired CPA or  
one who will do some *pro bono* work please  
let us know.

#### Update on Legislative Efforts.

Delegate Mary Conroy has filed Bill No. 40  
in the House of Delegates. Senator Leo  
Green has Filed the companion Bill No 18  
in the Senate. These bills are asking the  
state to offer bonds in the amount of  
\$375,000, one half of the funds needed for  
Phase II of the restoration of Marietta.  
MNCPPC has agreed to match these funds  
in their 1998 budget. We have prepared a  
booklet that shows "before and after" photos  
of Phase I and "before" photos of Phase II.  
We need the support of the Prince George's  
County legislators and appropriation  
committees. We will also need the support  
of the County Council for the MNCPPC  
budget goes before them for approval.

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#### Classified Ads.

**Tour Guides:** re-establishing and starting  
anew the tour guide group. openings still  
available. promises to offer enjoyment and  
learning, meet new people, tours will not be  
limited to Sunday afternoon once the  
program begins. be a host or hostess of  
Marietta.

**Tea hosts and hostesses.** needed for The  
Loves of a Lifetime Tea, February 18 Set  
up and Clean up team needed also. Call  
Susan Wolfe 464-5291

**Workers to Serve on and Assist the House  
Committee:** a variety of tasks need to be  
done. Painting, arranging, polishing,  
cleaning.

**Co-ordinator for food for the teachers  
class:** the menus have been planned, but not  
written in stone, some of the food has  
already been donated. Susan Wolfe or Jane  
Eagen

**Computer operator:** to keep the record of  
the shop in Quick Books. It is easy to learn

**Gift Shop Wish List Call Stella Uber  
937-6379 for details**

area rug  
table lamp  
comfortable high stool with rungs (so your  
feet don't dangle)

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#### Schedule for Gift Shop Volunteers

Sat, Jan. 6 Bill and Stella Uber (snowed  
out)

Sat, Jan, 13 Jean Lancaster - Guy Barron

Sat, Jan, 20 Carol Lynch

Sun, Jan, 21 \_\_\_\_\_ (Winter  
Pastimes Program)

Sat, Jan, 27 Kay Eisinger



Sat. Feb. 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Sat. Feb. 10 \_\_\_\_\_

Sat. Feb. 17 Pat Eagen

Sun. Feb. 18 \_\_\_\_\_ (Loves  
of a Lifetime Program)

Sat. Feb. 24 Jean Lancaster

Please call Jane Eagen if you can volunteer sometime or if you will be the coordinator for scheduling. A special thanks to the volunteers who served last month. Our December sales were very good. We had many customers on Dec. 2 our official opening for the Christmas season. Quite a few of our neighbors dropped in and were pleased. It was a great opportunity to make new friends and renew old friendships. Cookies and punch and good fellowship was had by all.

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### Class for Teachers Held Once Again

The one credit course for teachers, Maryland and Prince George's County History, will be co-sponsored by the Historical Society and MNCPPC. Each of the five sessions will be held from 4:30 to 7:30 at a different historical site. A light supper will be served that is typical of the food served in the past and present. The schedule is as follows.

#1 March 13 at Marietta - Geography, Archaeology, and Colonial Settlement

#2 March 27 at Montpelier - Economy, Agriculture, and Black History

#3 April 10 at College Park Airport Museum - Religion, Politics, Military History

#4 April 24 at Darnall's Chance - Architecture, Urban Growth, and Transportation

#5 at Riversdale - Material Culture and Entertainment

This is the third time for this outreach project of the Society. It has been evaluated by former participants as being very successful. It has not been as well attended as we would like, because getting the word out to teachers is not always successful. We need people to help prepare food and also someone to videotape each session. The teachers are supplied with texts, notebooks, maps, etc. to help them be more effective in preparing their lesson plans. soups, stew, greens, sweet potato pie, ham and biscuits, German potato salad, and tea cookies are some of the delicious offerings planned. As part of the last evening we have had the Bladensburg Dancers demonstrate and teach the group. Everything is not quite in place for this undertaking, but we are getting there. If you would like to prepare a dish, co-ordinate the food, or assemble packets please call either Jane Eagen or Susan Wolfe.



# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR

## Yearly Planner

February 96						
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25	26	27	28	29		

### February

**3** 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM BOARD RETREAT - RESCHEDULED - SWEETING HOME

**7** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

**18** 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM LOVES OF A LIFETIME - GOLDEN MEMORIES AT MARIETTA

### March

**1** HOW THE BETTER HALF LIVED - AN EXHIBIT

**6** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

**9** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMBER-SHIP MEETING

**31** HOW THE BETTER HALF LIVED - AN EXHIBIT

### April

**3** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

**8** GLENN DALE COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT AT MARIETTA

**13** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM MARCHING THRU TIME ENCAMPMENT AT MARIETTA

**14** 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM MARCHING THRU TIME ENCAMPMENT AT MARIETTA

**21** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM ST. GEORGE'S DAY DINNER, ANDREWS AFB OFFICER'S CLUB

### April

**23** HAPPY 300TH BIRTHDAY TO US!!!

### May

**1** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

**4** 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM MARYLAND HOUSE AND GARDEN PILGRIMAGE TOUR

**11** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMBER-SHIP MEETING

**18** SPRING, MAY POLES AND CHILDREN'S GAMES ON THE LAWN AT MARIETTA

### June

**5** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

**8** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMBER-SHIP MEETING  
GLENN DALE FESTIVAL AT MARIETTA AND GLENN DALE COMMUNITY CENTER

### July

**3** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

**13** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD

August 96						
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March 96						
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April 96						
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May 96						
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June 96						
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July 96						
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September 96						
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October 96						
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November 96						
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December 96						
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January 97						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

# TRICENTENNIAL CALENDAR NUMBER ONE

## Weekly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Jan 28</i>	<i>Jan 29</i>	<i>Jan 30</i>	<i>Jan 31</i>	<i>Feb 1</i>	<i>Feb 2</i>	<i>Feb 3</i> LOVES OF A LIFE- TIME EXHIBIT AT MARIETTA, THROUGH FEB- RUARY 23
<i>Feb 4</i>	<i>Feb 5</i>	<i>Feb 6</i>	<i>Feb 7</i>	<i>Feb 8</i>	<i>Feb 9</i>	<i>Feb 10</i>
<i>Feb 11</i>	<i>Feb 12</i>	<i>Feb 13</i>	<i>Feb 14</i>	<i>Feb 15</i>	<i>Feb 16</i>	<i>Feb 17</i>
<i>Feb 18</i> 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM TEA FOR TWO - FREE TO THOSE WED OVER 50 YEARS, MARI- ETTA MANSION	<i>Feb 19</i>	<i>Feb 20</i>	<i>Feb 21</i>	<i>Feb 22</i>	<i>Feb 23</i>	<i>Feb 24</i>
<i>Feb 25</i> 2:00 PM GEORGE WASHINGTON MUSICAL - HARPSICHORD MUSIC - MONT- PELIER MANSION	<i>Feb 26</i>	<i>Feb 27</i>	<i>Feb 28</i>	<i>Feb 29</i>	<i>Mar 1</i>	<i>Mar 2</i> THE BETTER HALF - LIVES OF 19TH CENTURY WOMEN - EXH- IBIT AT MARI- ETTA THRU 3/31
<i>Mar 3</i>	<i>Mar 4</i>	<i>Mar 5</i> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM SEARCHING FOR YOUR AN- CESTORS - SES- SION 1 BOWIE BRANCH LIBRARY	<i>Mar 6</i>	<i>Mar 7</i>	<i>Mar 8</i>	<i>Mar 9</i>

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Library: Saturdays 12 - 4 PM  
and during special events

Marietta Tours - Suspended Until  
Further Notice - Information 301-464-  
0590

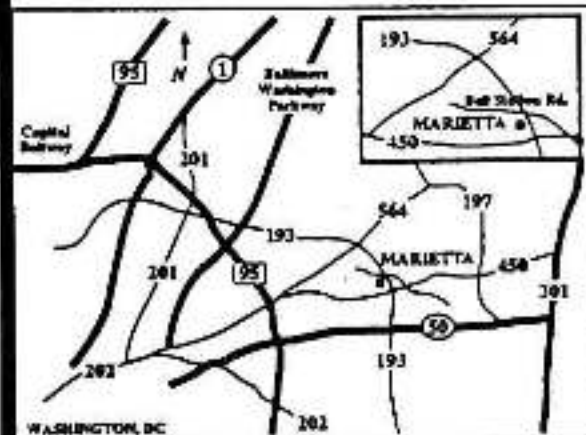
### THE SOCIETY GIFT SHOP

Features a Tasteful Collection of  
Handcrafted Items for Home and Gift-  
giving, Toys and Games for Children,  
small antiques, Historical Society  
Publications and souvenirs of Historic  
Marietta.

Call 301-464-0590 for Gift Shop Hours.

### LOCATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is located at Marietta, 5624  
Bell Station Road, in Glenn Dale, MD, off  
Route 193, near Route 450. This is a  
facility of the Maryland National Park and  
Planning Commission.



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20738-0014

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# NEWS AND NOTES

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 1996

OUR 44TH YEAR

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 2

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1996

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PAUL LANHAM

WARREN (DUSTY) RHOADS

## MEET MISTER JUSTICE GABRIEL DUVAL

The Society's next Membership meeting will be on March 9, 1996, at Marietta, and it promises to be a real treat, because Mr. Justice Duvall will stop by and talk about his Marietta, his family and other aspects of his long and illustrious career. We will allow him to introduce himself to Society members and guests, and hope you all will join us.

## WANTED - EDITOR

Over the past several years, I have been privileged to be the Editor of this publication. I have, however, reluctantly decided that my personal and career needs require me to leave this wonderful County for an extended period. While I expect to be able to produce one more edition, a new Editor will be needed by April 1. If you are interested, please contact Society President, Jane Eagen, at 649-2409. I, for one, hope many of you will consider this interesting and rewarding way to serve the Society.

## LIBRARY NOTES

History Enthusiasts who desire to maintain their personal libraries at a creditable level should note the reprinting of two interesting and fascinating books by the late Robert E. T. Pogue (1910-1988). The first Yesterday in Old St. Mary's County, 1968, has already been reviewed in the Society's News and Notes. Unlike the writer's acquisition of the original at \$45, the reprint is available at \$30.!

The second book, Old Maryland Landmarks, has also been reprinted at the same bargain price. These are the 5th and 6th reprints respectively.

The 1972 Landmarks, with 350 pages, is profusely illustrated and limits itself to Pogue's definition of 'southern Maryland'; i.e. St. Mary's, Charles, Prince George's, Calvert and Anne Arundel Counties. Pogue's enjoyable 'chatty' style of writing seen first in the St. Mary's county book, is continued in 'Old Landmarks.'

The profuse illustrations in the latter book, and frequent photo credits to the late James Wilfong (a past-President of the Society) whose extensive photo archives were recently presented to the Society's DeMarr Library by his widow, Annette Hutchison Wilfong, a past Secretary of the Society.

Pogue's parochial origins in St. Mary's County may well explain his comment on page 303 that "recent documents have shown that (St. Mary's tobacco) has far less nicotine and injurious tars than any other tobacco." (It was not too long ago that these would

have been 'fighting words' in the Southern Maryland counties outside the "Mother County" area, comradeship generated by the "Late Unpleasantness Between the States" notwithstanding!

Paul Lanham

## TALES OF THE HEROES

Thomas Boyne and Company

Sergeant Thomas Boyne, Civil War Veteran and Congressional Medal of Honor Winner during the Indian Wars, will be honored during the coming year in ceremonies to be held in Prince George's County, where he was born in 1849, and at Boyne's final resting place, the Soldiers and Airmen's Home National Cemetery in Washington, DC. Nineteen Ninety Six will be the centennial of this forgotten African American hero's death, as well as the Tricentennial of the County.

Boyne will be paid tribute with the two other "Buffalo Soldier" Medal of Honor Winners who are buried at the Soldier's Home -- Sergeants John Denny of the Ninth Cavalry regiment and Benjamin Brown of the recently re-flagged Twenty Fourth Infantry, in a special program scheduled for Memorial Day, May 27, 1996, at 1:00 PM. Prince George's officials are expected to be on hand to recognize Boyne for his special place in the history of the County and its African American Community, and to announce the establishment of a County "Honor Roll" to commemorate the four Medal of Honor recipients known to have been born in Prince George's County. Besides Boyne, they are Sergeant Horace J. Capron (Army - Civil War), Captain

James A. Graham (Marine Corps - Vietnam) and Corporal Clinton Graves (another Buffalo Soldier, Army, New Mexico-Apache Campaign).

Thomas Boyne's military career was unique and highly symbolic in several respects. As a Civil War volunteer, he served in the Army's artillery branch (Battery "B", Second Colored Light Artillery) in the Petersburg-Richmond campaign, and on the Texas-Mexican border. Enlisting in the Regular Army as one of the original "Buffalo Soldiers" in 1866, Boyne returned to the western frontier and became one of the first African Americans to complete a full professional military career. With service in both the Ninth Cavalry and Twenty-fifth Infantry regiments, the highlight of his career came when he was awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery in two engagements during the Army's bloody campaign against Victorio's Apache Marauders in 1879. His final days were spent in disabled retirement at the Soldier's Home -- in close proximity to his Prince George's County roots. A bachelor, with no apparent descendants, it is doubtful that his gravesite has been separately decorated since his passing a century ago.

Prince Georgian members of Company "B" of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, the Ninth and Tenth (Horse) Cavalry Association, and the 24th Infantry Association have joined to co-sponsor the Memorial Day ceremony, with support from the Tricentennial celebration Committee, the Military District of Washington, and other organizations. The public is invited, but limited facilities are available at

the cemetery, located at 21 Harewood Road NW in Washington.

Richard E. Miller, Chairman, Thomas Boyne Memorial Committee.

#### GENERAL REZIN BEALL

One of your Society's most memorable and successful projects of local historical significance was the exhumation in 1969 of the remains of a prominent Revolutionary War General and his reinternment in the cemetery of historic St. John's Church in Beltsville.

General Rezin Beall is best known as a distinguished Army general and war hero not only with service in the Revolutionary War, but also, earlier, in the bloody French and Indian Wars. His most memorable performance, however, was his repulse of a British landing at Drums Point in Calvert County, an encounter which left the then-Captain Beall with a hip wound from which he never fully recovered.

However, the highly commendable success of his Prince George's County Militia at that time is considered by some historians as the basis of a wise British decision to bypass Maryland in any further militia action (at least for the term of the Revolution).

A local newspaper's recap of General Beall's life (the Beltsville News, December 1995) provides considerable additional local interest and details worthy of note.

The Society was a participant in another, more recent, reinternment of a prominent Prince Georgian, that of



Gabriel Duvall, whose remains are now found at his ancestral home, Marietta, with appropriate markings on the site.

Paul Lanham

#### TWENTY FIRST CENTURY BECKONS

Now that the Tricentennial has been successfully launched - thanks in large part to your Society and its Board of Directors and others, the Board has begun to address a next step. In September, 2002, the Society will mark its own first Fifty Years. We are beginning a process to determine what we want to be on that silver anniversary. A Committee has been formed to look at our membership base, our programs, our structure, our home, the collection and the Library, and our community responsibility. This committee will be meeting throughout the year and we welcome your input and suggestions. Please think about your own role with the Society, because it is **your** Historical Society. Drop us a line to the mail box, or, better yet, call Sarah Bourne with your opinions. Get involved - because the Society needs you!!

Sarah Bourne

#### SOME THINGS TO DO

Boy, have we got some things for you to do - as a family, by your self, with your friends - lots and lots!

Art - Beginning March 1, under the aegis of the Hyattsville Preservation Association, the Riversdale Historical Society, the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission and local sponsors, and with a grant from the Prince George's

County Arts Council, Riversdale will be the site of the first major art show since Rosalie Stier Calvert showed her Papa's paintings in 1817.

Called 12 on 12- the show highlights established and emerging artists - 24 in all, who work and live in Prince George's County. Open Fridays and Sundays in the afternoon - from March 1 through April 28, 1996, this promises to be a spectacular Tricentennial event.

On March 9, as mentioned on page one, Gabriel Duvall will revisit Marietta, beginning at 2:00 PM. Be there to meet Mr. Justice Duvall!

On March 22 and 23, three concerts will be given at the Bowie State University, Jericho Park Road, Bowie, called "In the Trenches (A seldom serious saga of Soldiers and Spies)", featuring the Bay Rum Runners. Call Glenn Bush, 301-868-6114 for details and tickets.

April 21, 1996, a Sunday, is the date for our annual St. George's Day Dinner. We know that this Tricentennial year requires a special effort, so we have moved the dinner to the Andrews Air force Base Officer's Club, which can accommodate more of us. Joined by the Prince George's County Hall of Fame, we will again recognize those Prince Georgians whose actions and activities deserve special mention through our St. George's Day Awards. Join Us!

On Monday, April 22, 1996, our County Sheriff celebrates his own 300th birthday - the Office, not the Incumbent - with a dinner at Martin's



Crosswinds in Greenbelt.  
Tickets are available.

Our 300th Birthday is jammed packed - from dawn to dusk and beyond. Beginning with Breakfast at Mount Calvert, and a reenactment of the transfer of the county seat from that place to Upper Marlboro, we shall repair to Upper Marlboro for a large parade, military exercises, speeches, etc. at the Noon hour. Afterwards, we shall travel to the University of Maryland's Cole Field House, in College Park, for the Tricentennial Gala - a costume event of monumental and historic proportions. Happy Birthday to US!

Check toe Calendars for more events - at Marietta and elsewhere - during March and April.

In May, we begin on May 4, with the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, featuring a number of sites in South County. See the ad attached.

On May 11, at Marietta, we will have a special display and demonstration on Prince George's County Symbols, including the County Tree, Shrub, and plants. Plants will be on sale, including azaleas and other plants locally grown. Be there at 2:00 PM.

May 10 to 17 is Preservation Week, and the County Reception is being planned by Prince George's Heritage and others - keep tuned for details.

May 19 is the 17th annual Historic Hyattsville House Tour, beginning at 1:00 PM and lasting to 5:00 PM. Tickets are available at City Hall for \$8, on the day of the Tour. Advance sale tickets, at \$7,

are available by calling 301-927-4514, or at Franklin's Deli in Hyattsville.

Our June Meeting has been shifted - both in terms of locale and date. On Sunday, June 9, at the National Colonial Farm, we will welcome the Dove on her Tricentennial voyage to Prince George's County. Note the Day change!!

Finally, before summer sets in, we would like you to know that the Fall Fund Raiser will be at Mt Calvert, on September 28. Further details as they come in.

Check both calendars to see what else is on offer.

#### PASSPORTS TO HISTORY

One of the most strikingly well-done aspects of the Tricentennial is the Passport to History. Available at any of the 16 featured sites, including our very own Marietta, these increasingly popular items allow the resident or visitor to tour sixteen sites in this County during this 300th Birthday Year and to earn credit for prizes and awards. Just being able to experience the wealth that Prince George's County has to offer, and keeping the Passport as a memento of your visits would be prize enough - but the grand prize is a trip for two to London, England - so begin collecting your stamps now!

Les Sweeting

#### A TEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE

At the annual Holiday gathering of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), Commissioners met at the National Archives in College Park, to view the exhibit of

the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) photographs of Prince George's County. This exhibit includes 68 photographs of 47 of the County's architectural treasures, photographed between 1989 and 1992 by Jack E. Boucher, Senior Architectural Photographer for HABS, a division of the National Park Service. It was this photo documentation which led to the publication of *Landmarks of Prince George's County* by Johns Hopkins University Press in 1993.

Before leaving the exhibit to have dinner together, the Commissioners amused themselves by taking an "open book" quiz, prepared by historian Susan Pearl (a Society member), who, together with the Staff from HABS, the National Archives and M-NCPPC, had planned the exhibit. The quiz, which the Commissioners worked at for a full 30 minutes, was something like a treasure hunt, for it required them to search out visual details in the photographs as well as historical details in the captions; its purpose was to bring to their attention even more information about the subjects of the exhibit, and to enrich their appreciation of our historical and architectural heritage. It was actually fun as well!

The HABS exhibit will continue at the National Archives until the end of April, and it is highly recommended to all of our readers. In the hope of increasing your appreciation and enjoyment of these superb photographs, the Historical Society is reprinting the HPC quiz in this issue of *News and Notes*. Take it with you and see the exhibit before it closes; answers will be printed in a future edition of

*News and Notes*, after the exhibit closes.

The National Archives is located at 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, just south of the intersection with Metzgerott Road, and north of University Boulevard. The exhibit is located in the lower level gallery, just inside the main entrance; hours of viewing are 9 to 5 Monday and Wednesday, 9 to 9 Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 9 to 4:45 on Saturday.

#### QUIZ ON "LANDMARKS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY" EXHIBIT, NATIONAL ARCHIVES

1. Name two different historic buildings each of which incorporated a small Catholic chapel in an attached wing.
2. What building once exhibited decorative metal grates for its furnace floor vents? What happened to them?
3. Identify a building which has interior doors with fine wood graining and stenciling.
4. Name a building whose interior walls are sheathed with highly ornamental pressed tin.
5. Who designed the B & O Railroad Station in Laurel, and do you know any other building he designed?
6. Can you name a house which was planned by and built by a young widow?
7. Name two different 18th-century buildings, each of which was dramatically

rebuilt (in the 1850s) in a totally different style from its original form; name a third for extra credit.

8. List a few unusual outbuildings (excluding for example barns, meathouses, corncribs, icehouses, and wash houses) which appear in these photographs, and identify the properties.
9. What early frame building was enlarged and encased in brick during the 18th Century?
10. In which building has the line of the staircase been reversed, and what is the evidence for this change?
11. Find at least one example each of "telescoping," "nogging," a "flounder" addition and a "sissors truss."
12. One of our historic sites has a unique ice house -- How deep is it?
13. Where was Samuel L. Brooke buried in 1869?
14. Agricultural motifs embellish what interior architectural feature of what building? And what other building has exterior decoration in the form of a rooster, hen and chicks?
15. What colonial church is missing from this exhibit, even though its "upper" and "lower" chapels are included?
16. Find an example of a R. W. Shoppell pattern book house built in a Victorian subdivision;

what was that community originally called?

17. This exhibit includes a dramatic example of adaptive reuse; it is shown here in its second manifestation. What was it originally? What was it at the time of this photograph? And What is it now?
18. Dennis Magruder was connected with two of the properties shown here, name them.
19. What building retains tiny traces of dark red and bright blue paint on its exterior trim?
20. Name four buildings which are located at the sites of vanished port towns; name the vanished towns.
21. Find a building that exhibits 16/16 double hung sash windows.
22. Name the bas-reliefs (all of them) which embellish the Greenbelt School; what is their inspiration/source?
23. Name two properties associated with an historical personage of the same name as our HABS photographer, and who was this historical individual?
24. Find the sundial; identify the building and read the time!!

Enjoy the exhibit!!

Susan Pearl

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR

## Yearly Planner

March 96						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### March

- 1** HOW THE BETTER HALF LIVED - AN EXHIBIT
- 5** 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM How to Get Started and Evaluating Sources, Bowie Branch Library

- 6** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

- 9** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

- 12** 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Genealogical Sources at the National Archives, Bowie Branch Library

- 19** 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Using Libraries and Archives

- 26** 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Communications: Letter and Phone and Can You Use a Computer, Bowie Library

- 30** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Genealogy for People of Color  
12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Workshop for one-on-one help with your genealogical problems, Bowie Library

- 31** HOW THE BETTER HALF LIVED - AN EXHIBIT

### April

- 3** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

- 8** GLENN DALE COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT AT MARIETTA

- 13** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM MARCHING THRU TIME ENCAMPMENT AT MARIETTA

### April

- 14** 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM MARCHING THRU TIME ENCAMPMENT AT MARIETTA

- 21** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM ST. GEORGE'S DAY DINNER, ANDREW'S AFB OFFICER'S CLUB

- 23** HAPPY 300TH BIRTHDAY TO US!!!

### May

- 1** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

- 4** 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM MARYLAND HOUSE AND GARDEN PILGRIMAGE TOUR

- 11** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

- 18** SPRING, MAY POLES AND CHILDREN'S GAMES ON THE LAWN AT MARIETTA

### June

- 5** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

- 8** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
GLENN DALE FESTIVAL AT MARIETTA AND GLENN DALE COMMUNITY CENTER

- 9** 10:00 AM - 2:15 PM PGCHS Membership Meeting, Dryden Point, the Dove Arrives

### July

- 3** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

September 96						
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November 96						
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December 96						
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February 97						
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# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR

## Yearly Planner

March 96						
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### July

13 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD

21 SUMMER PASTIMES AT  
MARIETTA

### August

7 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCI-  
ETY MEETING, GREENBELT  
LIBRARY

10 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD

### September

4 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCI-  
ETY MEETING, GREENBELT  
LIBRARY

14 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMB-  
ERSHIP MEETING

22 DEMONSTRATION OF  
SCHOOL DAYS AT  
MARIETTA

28 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS PRINCE  
OF A COUNTY RECEPTION,  
MOUNT CALVERT

### October

12 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM HAST-  
INGS MEDIEVAL FAIRE AT  
MARIETTA  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMB-  
ERSHIP MEETING

13 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM HAST-  
INGS MEDIEVAL FAIRE AT  
MARIETTA

26 PRESERVING IN THE KITCH-  
EN - CANNING DEMON-  
STRATIONS AT MARIETTA

### November

1 EXHIBIT - RULING THE  
ROOST - A POLITICAL

### November

1 HISTORY OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY

9 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMB-  
ERSHIP MEETING

30 EXHIBIT - RULING THE  
ROOST - A POLITICAL  
HISTORY OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY

### December

12 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM CANDLE  
LIGHT TOURS OF MARI-  
ETTA - HOLIDAY  
DECORATIONS

13 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM CANDLE  
LIGHT TOURS OF MARI-  
ETTA - HOLIDAY  
DECORATIONS

14 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMB-  
ERSHIP MEETING

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM CANDLE  
LIGHT TOURS OF MARI-  
ETTA - HOLIDAY  
DECORATIONS

15 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM CANDLE  
LIGHT TOURS OF MARI-  
ETTA - HOLIDAY  
DECORATIONS

### January

11 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMB-  
ERSHIP MEETING

### February

8 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMB-  
ERSHIP MEETING

September 96						
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October 96						
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November 96						
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December 96						
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January 97						
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February 97						
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Specially organized as part of  
Prince George's County's Tricentennial Celebration

**SATURDAY, MAY 4, 10AM-5PM**

**1996 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY TOUR**

**MARYLAND HOUSE & GARDEN PILGRIMAGE**

A day's tour of 12 historic Prince George's County  
houses and sites: Belair, Belair Stables, Fairview,  
Bowling Heights, Billingsley, Patuxent river pontoon  
boat tour to Mt. Calvert, Weston, Trinity Church,  
Darnall's Chance, Strawberry Hill, Dukeshire,  
*His Lordship's Kindness*

Start at any location. \$20/full day or \$5/per house  
Proceeds benefit preservation projects.  
Information: (301)627-3677; (301)627-8622

# March 1996

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																			
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### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

Library: Saturdays 12 - 4 PM  
and during special events

Marietta Tours - Suspended Until  
Further Notice - Information 301-464-  
0590

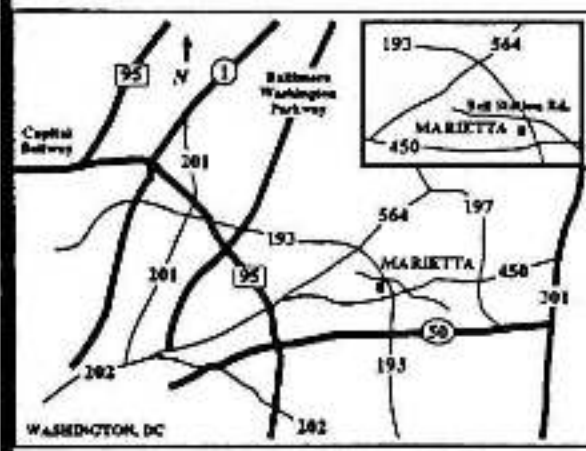
### **THE SOCIETY GIFT SHOP**

Features a Tasteful Collection of  
Handcrafted Items for Home and Gift-  
giving, Toys and Games for Children,  
small antiques, Historical Society  
Publications and souvenirs of Historic  
Marietta.

Call 301-464-0590 for Gift Shop Hours.

### **LOCATION OF THE SOCIETY**

The Society is located at Marietta, 5624  
Bell Station Road, in Glenn Dale, MD, off  
Route 193, near Route 450. This is a  
facility of the Maryland National Park and  
Planning Commission.



**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**POST OFFICE BOX 14**  
**RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20738-0014**

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
RIVERDALE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 1948

**DATED MATERIAL**



# NEWS AND NOTES

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARCH, 1996

OUR 44TH YEAR

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 3

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1996

PRESIDENT - JANE EAGEN  
VICE PRESIDENT - EUGENE ROBERTS, JR.  
SECRETARY - SARAH BOURNE  
TREASURER - JOHN BOURNE  
HISTORIAN - FREDERICK DE MARR  
EDITOR - LESTER H. SWEETING

### DIRECTORS - 1995/1996

MILDRED RIDGELEY GRAY  
KATHERINE CLAGETT  
MELINDA ALTER

### DIRECTORS - 1996/1997

WILLIAM UBER  
JOHN MITCHELL  
JULIE BRIGHT

### PAST PRESIDENTS

JOYCE MC DONALD  
W. C. (BUD) DUTTON  
JOHN GIANNETTI  
PAUL LANHAM  
WARREN (DUSTY) RHOADS

### IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY - LET'S CELEBRATE!!!

The Society has finally reached the milestone for which many of us have worked so hard over the past five years or more - the 300th birthday of our County. In honor of this event, we will hold our normal celebratory Sunday Afternoon dinner at the Andrews Air Force Base Officer's Club on Sunday, April 21, 1996 beginning at 1 PM. Invitations have been mailed. Because this is a federal facility at which security is a concern, members and guests are reminded that reservations must be made in advance. If your name is not on the list given to the gates of Andrews, you will not be allowed on the base.

The cash bar will open at 1:00 PM, and dinner will be served promptly after the presentation of the three Hall of Fame inductees. The St. George's Day Awards will be announced after dinner.

Please return your reservations promptly, as we must give the list to Andrews the week before the event.  
Thank You!!

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

Susan Wolfe, Facility Manager at Marietta, has issued an urgent call for volunteers to help out with Tours and other activities at the Mansion over the next few months. Given her very ambitious schedule of events, and the wide interest that these generate, we can expect a significant increase in the number of visitors. The Passport to History is also creating a great deal of interest in Marietta.

We urgently need tour guides and docents both weekdays and weekends, but most especially on the weekend of April 13 and 14, 1996, when the Marching Through Time Encampment will bring hundreds of visitors in.

The Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Glenn Dale Community Center on April 8 promises to be well attended.

The Robin Hood's Faire event, on May 18, will be another opportunity to help us, as will the June 8, Glenn Dale Strawberry Festival.

If you can help on any day, please contact Susan Wolfe at 464-5291. We need you!!

### **FROM THE TREASURER**

We wish to welcome the following new members--

Mary Ellen R. Moore  
Pat Samuelson

Second request invoices for 1996 Dues were mailed on March 8, 1996 to members from whom payment for dues have not been received. The Society's by-laws require removal from the membership list any member whose dues are not received by April 1, 1996. Please respond promptly to these second requests.

Jack Bourne

### **By Law Change Proposed**

The Board has voted to recommend a change to our by laws to reflect our continuing needs to operate the Society on your behalf. Under this change, an additional member of the Board, designated Membership Secretary will be responsible for managing our membership lists (activity now performed by our Treasurer) and developing, (with the rest of the Board and members) a strategy for building membership in the future. If you are interested in this issue, or in the position, please contact the Society President. This by law change will be effective only after approval thereof at a future membership meeting.

That the Board has appointed a committee to look into the future direction of the Society as we complete our first half-century (in 2002). Other adjustments to the by laws are likely to flow from that exercise - which is under the very able direction of Society Secretary - Sarah Bourne.

## BOARD MEMBERSHIP

We reported some months ago that an active search is on for a new Treasurer. John B. Bourne, who has performed the Treasurer's duties for a number of years, is desirous of a change. For a number of reasons, most having to do with the insurance and other legal rules, we are looking for a Certified Public Accountant who can spend a few hours a month dealing with our financial statements, annual IRS filings, and quarterly State sales tax filings. If you are interested, or you know anyone who is, please let us know!

In addition, as I mentioned last month, I am leaving the country for professional reasons. The good news (if my departure does not fall into your definition of 'good news') is that my better half, Sharon Howe Sweeting, who has often contributed to this publication in her "From the Bookshelf" column, has graciously offered to assume the role. An interview with a number of members of the Board has resulted in a recommendation that Sharon assume the post, and be duly elected to the Board, under the by laws. I leave feeling confident that Sharon will do the Sweeting household proud in this role - and knowing that I can be ably replaced!

*Les Sweeting*

## HAIKU

### *The Gift*

*A home named "His  
Lordship's Kindness"  
Could not be other than  
Beautiful.*

### *The Link*

*Old brick bears fingerprints  
Of the craftsman who made it  
So long ago.*

(Submitted by Jane Klemer, of  
Fort Washington)

## TRUTHS

(From the Maryland Gazette 6  
September, 1838)

### *"How to ruin a Son*

1. *Let him have his own way.*
2. *Allow him free use of money.*
3. *Suffer him to rove where he pleases  
on the Sabbath.*
4. *Give him free access to wicked  
companions.*
5. *Call him to no account for his  
evenings.*
6. *Furnish him with no stated  
employment.*

*Pursue either of these ways and you will  
experience a most marvelous deliverance,  
or you will have to mourn over a debased  
and ruined child."*

(Submitted by Shirley Baltz)

## TRICENTENNIAL EXHIBITS

I don't know about you, but I cannot believe how many and varied the celebratory exhibits building on the Tricentennial have become. This month, as one might expect, is chock-a-block with wonderful exhibits all over the County - you owe it to yourselves to see as many as possible. We highlight a few:

### ***Riversdale Mansion -***

**Confluence:** The arts have returned to Riversdale - as 24 local Prince George's artists show the product of their labors - open Fridays and Sundays - throughout the mansion - thanks to the generous support of the Riversdale Historical Society, the Hyattsville Preservation Association, MNCPPC and others - a MUST SEE through April 28.

**National Archives II -** The Historic American Buildings Survey Photographs of Jack Boucher - showing a wide variety of Prince George's County Sites runs through April 30.

**Greenbelt Museum -** Domestic Work of the 1930s Exhibit - open Mondays and Fridays through August - this exhibit of household items from the decade when Greenbelt was created, is a fascinating look at the kitchens and laundries of our mothers and grandmothers. Hands on and fun!

**Greenbelt Community Center -** "Beginning with Greenbelt", a Retrospective Exhibit of Sculpture and Prints by Lenore Thomas, Sculptor of the frieze on the front of the Greenbelt Community Center, through August 31, 1996.

**McKeldin Library, University of Maryland -** Opening on Monday, April 15, and running through December 24, this new exhibit features various items from both the Archives, the Manuscripts, and the Maryland/Rare Book collections that highlight events, persons, civic groups, politics and other aspects of the rich history of Prince George's County. These run the gamut from a 1731 Land Patent from Charles Calvert - 5th Lord Baltimore to items about the construction of METRO. A sample of the exhibit will be seen at our St. George's Day Dinner at Andrews Air Force Base.

**Marietta Mansion -** "The Better Half - An Exhibit of the Lives of 19th Century Women" runs through April 21.

**Maryland Historical Society Museum** 201 West Monument Street, Baltimore. In addition to the promised exhibit on Prince George's County, we note the opening of "Early Maryland Life - 1634 - 1800", a permanent gallery highlighting the Society's collection of objects from Maryland's colonial history.



**New Carrollton Library** - "One More River to Cross" An exhibit of historic photographs documenting the African-American Experience.

**Harmony Hall Regional Center Gallery**, 10701 Livingston Road, Fort Washington. "Old Fangled: Obsolete Objects from the Attics and Closets of Prince George's County." An exhibit of out-moded personal and household items from the collections of county residents.

**Montpelier Cultural Arts Center** - Laurel - "Prince George's Portraits" - Paintings, prints and photographs of Prince George's County families and their homes that date back 50 years or more.

So, as you can see, these are but a few of the long-range exhibits to be found in the County at the present time. More will be mounted as the Tricentennial Year progresses.

#### **TRICENTENNIAL WEEK SPECIAL**

As we have mentioned before, we have been fortunate in securing the support of a lot of people in our celebration of the Tricentennial. I personally believe that this is because of our Society's dedicated members who have worked so hard on this for so long. But, perseverance, persistence and perspicacity pay off. Maryland Public Television assure us that they will be ready and you should look for the premier of their Television documentary on

Prince George's County and its Tricentennial on April 10 at 8 pm and again on April 13 at 9 pm. This hour long documentary will be available on video for your future enjoyment as well.

#### **PUTTIN ON MY BLACK TIE FOR THE GALA**

Thanks to the very hard work of the organizers - Tim Maloney, Brit Kirwin and Ted Howard, this promises to be an unforgettable experience - to cap the April 23, 1996 celebration. See you there!

#### **THIRD ANNUAL PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ELEMENTARY HISTORY DAY**

Prince George's County Elementary History Day was held on February 10, 1996, at the Belair Staff Development Center in Bowie. Elementary History Day is a competition open to sixth grade students in public and private schools within Prince George's County. This year, in honor of the Tricentennial, the theme was *At Home in History in Prince George's County*, and projects were based thereon, giving students an opportunity to learn more about Prince George's and its rich history.

Approximately 60 students participated in several categories: individual and group media; group performance; individual or group project; and individual historical papers. Projects were scored on historical quality, presentation and adherence to the theme.

Prizes for the first, second and third place winners in each category, consisting of a savings bond and a certificate, were awarded. Jerry Bellows of Bond Mill Elementary in Laurel, the teacher whose student received the highest number of points overall, was awarded the \$500 William S. Gray Award. This award, established by the family of William S. Gray, reflects his understanding that education is vital to children and teachers play an invaluable role in each child's education.

The judges were drawn from the School system, the Prince George's County Historical Society, the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the staff at Collington. These ten judges are to be commended for their hard work in reading each of the projects, and their excellent judging.

Elementary History Day was sponsored by the Prince George's County Historical & Cultural Trust, The Board of Education, and the Tricentennial Celebration Committee, under the able leadership of Mildred Ridgely-Gray, a Trustee of the Historical and Cultural Trust. Dr. Patricia Flynn, Charlotte Stokes and James Warren, from the Public Schools, were each instrumental in the success of the day. The Tricentennial Committee staff arranged for the certificates, the program and other technical and financial support. Many other volun-

teers assisted in this effort, for which we thank them.

Elementary History Day represents a learning experience not only for the students, but also for the judges, the sponsors, and the parents of the participants. The excitement and anticipation of the students, parents and teachers was a rewarding experience and we look forward to being a part of next year and in the future.

*Donna Schneider, Secretary  
Prince George's County  
Historical and Cultural Trust.*

#### **A REPORT FROM THE PUBLICATION INITIATIVE CELEBRATION OF FAITH TRICENTENNIAL**

From the time George Calvert, Lord Baltimore, conceived of the founding of Maryland, religion has been important to Maryland's inhabitants. Lord Baltimore's concept of a colony where there would be freedom of religion encouraged people from a variety of religious faiths to make Maryland their home. The Celebration of Faith subcommittee of the Tricentennial is seeking to document and highlight that diversity of faiths, which continues unto this day and which is a hallmark of our heritage.

Beginning in 1994, the Publication Initiative sent survey forms to over 750 houses of worship in the County. Those forms asked for

basic information and sought submission of photographs of the house of worship, and allowed for additional statements to be given by the respondent. The subcommittee is preparing a publication which will contain the information gathered through these efforts, which we hope to issue later this year.

By Mid-February of 1996, approximately one-third of the identified houses of worship have responded. Our gratitude to those who undertook to respond is real. Many interesting narratives have been received. We have heard from religious entities formed as long ago as the seventeenth century and as recently as 1995. Information is on file from Baptists, Baha'i, Brethren, Jewish Congregations, Seventh Day Adventist, Catholics, A.M.E., Methodist, Lutheran, Bible Churches, Unitarians, non-denominational Christians, interdenominational houses of worship, Swedenborgians, Hindu, Assembly of God, Mennonites, Presbyterians, Moravians, and many more.

We continue to attempt to contact the many identified houses of worship on our list from whom we have not heard, so that we can make this publication as complete as possible.

*Submitted by Mildred Ridgely-Gray, Chair, Celebration of Faith.*

## PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS



I am cheering because of the many wonderful things that are happening. Did you know there have been several HUNDRED people who have visited Marietta this year? One Saturday when I was there it was unbelievable. When I drove up I noticed all the cars in the parking lot. I thought I had forgotten something on the calendar for that day.

I found Fred DeMarr in the library helping several researchers.

A new volunteer was in the gift shop with Stella Uber learning how to write up sales.

Our student volunteer was doing his community service at the computer.

I went upstairs and found Susan Wolfe giving a tour.

And four new volunteers were finishing paint scraping for the day.

Later in the week I went back and found two restored windows in place in the dining room and Susan putting up the *Loves of a Lifetime* exhibit with the help

of Mary Amens. Marietta has become a beehive of activity and everyone is enjoying it immensely. That is real joy!

The Planning Day for the Board went very well - after two snowouts!! Attendance was good and a lot was accomplished. Several new committees or chairmanships were suggested: membership, publicity, finance, and long range planning. By making membership the focus of another Board member and committee, the Treasurer's tasks will be more reasonable. Vera Rollo will be our publicity person and she has already begun sending press releases. The finance committee will help us stay solvent and plan for a strong financial future. The long range planners have already met and put several ideas on the table to be considered. Each committee welcomes your help, your membership, your ideas, and your assistance.

Our calendar of events for the year was decided upon, however with the understanding that additions and modifications can be made as needed. It was agreed that our calendar would also reflect and include events planned by Susan Wolfe at Marietta.

The Board of Directors agreed to support several projects that were presented for review. The sum of \$3,000 was earmarked for the Piscataway Archaeological Project, provided the grant from the Maryland Historical Trust is awarded to them. We also agreed to support the Barney Barge Project in some manner, but the exact type of support will

be determined after conferring with Rich Dolesh. One suggestion was that the Society sponsor a fund raiser reception. In addition, we agreed to upgrade the Society's computer equipment to better meet our needs - a task which Les Sweeting has completed.

It has become very obvious that the Tricentennial Passport to History is working well. Over 95,000 passports have been handed out. Many visitors are coming to Marietta for the first time, passport in hand. It is amazing how many did not know Marietta existed before they started their passport visits. Some are neighbors in Glenn Dale - and they are very glad to see the House open again. And they keep us busy - at the Loves of a Lifetime Tea we had people running from tea room to the kitchen to the gift shop to the front door (sounds like an old Charlie Chaplin movie doesn't it). We need to plan for more help at all events and on all days when the House is open. The Librarian is needed in the Library, the shop worker is needed in the shop, tour guides are needed to give tours, and a host or hostess is needed to take money, stamp passports, give directions, count patrons and ensure that they sign the guest book.

We have been very busy and quite successful in planning events, exhibits, and getting the shop ready to open. It is a delight to see so many people discover history and enjoy Marietta, but it will be nicer for our guests and absolutely necessary for our volunteer staff to have all of the jobs filled. More and more of you, Dear members, are coming forth and



joining in the fun and games, and making it come together. Four volunteers signed on for the shop this week! Please read the classified ads, however, because there are still a lot of openings available and you would be great for one or more of them. Thank You!!

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**Our History Class for Teachers  
Presented at Small Museums  
Conference**

Jane Eagen and Cathy Allen of M-NCPPC were asked to make a presentation to the Small Museums Winter Conference in Ocean City February 25-27. They explained to the groups there how the teacher class we sponsor jointly is organized and conducted. Participants took copies of the curriculum, the materials used, and reviewed the notebooks which are given to each teacher. The Montgomery County Historical Society called us the other day and requested a copy of our class outlines so they can plan a similar class. It is a pleasure to share a project with others that you think can truly be successfully replicated.

In 1996, we have 24 County teachers enrolled in our class which began on March 23. Each meeting will be at a different historic site and traditional foods will be served. This is the third year the course has been offered by the Society and M-NCPPC, Susan Wolfe and Jane Eagen are co-chairing. The participating teachers are truly enthusiastic.

**Skarda Awards Presented March 9**

The Skarda Award winner for 1996 is Christopher Rose, whose History Day project tells the story of a house in his neighborhood on Prince George's Street in his home town of Laurel. The judges selected Christopher for the award because of the individual qualities of his entry. Christopher received his certificate and a check of \$25 in the presence of his parents and grandmother, his teacher, Jerry Bellows, and Principal Mary Jane Lusby, of Bond Mill Elementary, and the proud owners of the house that Christopher researched, Mr. and Mrs. Dalthome. The Skarda Award was established by Alice Skarda in honor of her late husband Donald Skarda, a long time active member of the Society. It is a joy to be able to recognize a student of our county for presenting such a worthy project.

=====

**Introducing the Honorable  
Mr. Justice Gabriel Duvall**

Gabriel Duvall was the subject of the March 9 Membership Meeting. It has become apparent to some of us that we know relatively little about the man whose home is so dear and important to us. The *Gabriel Who?* Article in a recent issue has prompted quite a few questions from our membership and spurred us on to share more information about him with everyone. His letters reveal much about the man. All who joined us on that day were pleased and learned much about this very capable gentlemen. Dusty Rhoads

portrayed Gabriel Duvall and welcomed our guests to his home. Sarah Bourne read excerpts from his letters to different members of his family. Dick Bourne summarized his legal career and presented highlights thereof to us. This program was delightful. The participants won my vote for the Academy Award of Prince George's County. There is a wealth of interesting material available and the idea of dedicating one program a year to the Honorable Mr. Justice Duvall is appealing.

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### **CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Urgent Need Now for Weekends! Event Helpers/hosts and Hostesses:** to assist docents and be general helpers when special events and displays are going on, may take tickets, stamp passports, help form tour groups, and take care of the guest book. Days and hours will vary as events are scheduled and attendance demands. We need you now! Call Susan Wolfe 464-5291 or Jane Eagen 249-6409.

**Typist.** To type cards with short simple messages for cross references in the obituary card file. Work can be done in your home, with no deadline. Reply to Fred DeMarr 464-0590, Susan Wolfe 464-5291 or Jane Eagen 249-6409.

**Gift Shop Openings:** to be in shop for no more than 4 hours at a time. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 12-4. Or during the week when large tour groups are scheduled. Our shop should be open when we have visitors. Docents and

Librarians cannot be in two places at once. Join this growing group -- pleasant surroundings in an attractive shop -- a great opportunity to catch up on your needlework or reading when things are slow. Call Jane Eagen 249-6409.

**Docents:** Male or Female, age is not an issue. Equal Opportunity Employer, no salary or tangible benefits package - intangibles galore - excellent company, excellent training, wonderful house. Learn about Marietta and Gabriel Duvall and share that information with others. The second training class is now forming. Contact Susan Wolfe at 464-5291.

**Membership Secretary -** to maintain records for the Society and work with committee on Membership development - **Board position** - computer skills helpful but not difficult to acquire. Call Jane at 249-6409.

**Painters and Scrapers:** to help with the re-decorating of Marietta - group usually works on Saturday mornings, but you can choose your own days and hours. Materials provided.

**House Workers: Many odd jobs to be done:** dusting, cleaning, helping set up and take down displays, tables, cleaning kitchen, washing up after meetings and events, small repairs, etc. Position guaranteed to all who apply. Call Susan Wolfe at 464-5291 or Jane Eagen at 349-6409.

**Crafters:** wanted to make specific seasonal and holiday items for the gift

shop. Can be a lot of fun and a rewarding sense of accomplishment -- something tangible. Probably meet at Marietta as a group - materials provided, fun. Weekend or weekday sessions. Reply to Stella Uber 937-6379 or Jane Eagen 249-6409.

**Gardeners or wanna be Gardeners:** to assist with the sale of plants that are symbols of our County, at a special membership meeting **May 11 - 1 to 4**. A big event for the Society and the Community - come and lend a hand!

**Lawn Games and Tea - help wanted:** male or female, age no object - to prepare ahead of time and on May 18-19, gentle games and May baskets. Call Susan Wolfe 464-5291.

**Designer - Sign Maker:** We need signs for events, days and time of shop hours, house ours, etc. If this is your talent please share it with us - call Susan Wolfe 464-5291 or Jane Eagen 249-6409.

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### GOOD NEWS - BAD NEWS

**Bad News:** Last month you saw the announcement that Les Sweeting is going to Moldova for at least a year. We are not really in favor of this move. It might be a wonderful opportunity for him and also for Moldova, but we will miss him. You probably know of him as the editor of *News and Notes*, but some of us know of his many other roles. At times in a meeting he is comic relief, often he presents a new or different viewpoint,

suggestions and ideas from other boards of preservation organizations, or just his own individual views. He is a wonderful worker who fills in many times at many places. He works the teas with his charming wife, Sharon, does our mailings, writes and edits the newsletter, hosts planning events (again with Sharon), volunteers in the shop, freezes while manning a table at Saint Mary's City, etc. etc.

**Good News.** Sharon Sweeting agrees to edit the newsletter for us. She is a very capable editor who has done many things for the Society and other groups in the historic preservation community. She is extremely active as President of the Hyattsville Preservation Association, Secretary of Prince George's Heritage, etc. It was Sharon who organized the last several Christmas parties, master minded the Tricentennial Teacher Teas in October, coordinated the Teas at the Loves of a Lifetime event in February, etc. Now she has graciously agreed to take over another part of the operation. She would appreciate your contributions - articles, letters, etc. Welcome Sharon and we appreciate, as always, your willingness to be an active part of the Society and to serve on the Board of Directors.

*Jane Eagen, President*

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR

## Yearly Planner

April 96						
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### April

**3** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCI-  
ETY MEETING, GREENBELT  
LIBRARY

**8** GLENN DALE COMMUNITY  
EASTER EGG HUNT AT  
MARIETTA

**13** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM MARCH-  
ING THRU TIME ENCAMP-  
MENT AT MARIETTA

**14** 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM MARCH-  
ING THRU TIME ENCAMP-  
MENT AT MARIETTA

**21** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM ST. GEORGE'S  
DAY DINNER, ANDREWS  
AFB OFFICER'S CLUB

**23** **HAPPY 300TH  
BIRTHDAY  
TO US!!!**

### May

**1** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCI-  
ETY MEETING, GREENBELT  
LIBRARY

**4** 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM MARYLAND  
HOUSE AND GARDEN PILGRIM-  
AGE TOUR

**11** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMB-  
ERSHIP MEETING

**18** SPRING, MAY POLES AND  
CHILDREN'S GAMES ON  
THE LAWN AT MARIETTA

### June

**5** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCI-  
ETY MEETING, GREENBELT  
LIBRARY

**8** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD

### June

**8** GLENN DALE FESTIVAL AT  
MARIETTA AND GLENN  
DALE COMMUNITY  
CENTER

**9** 10:00 AM - 2:15 PM PGCHS Mem-  
bership Meeting, Bryant Point, the  
Downy Arrives

### July

**3** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCI-  
ETY MEETING, GREENBELT  
LIBRARY

**13** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD

**21** SUMMER PASTIMES AT  
MARIETTA

### August

**7** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCI-  
ETY MEETING, GREENBELT  
LIBRARY

**10** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD

### September

**4** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCI-  
ETY MEETING, GREENBELT  
LIBRARY

**14** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMB-  
ERSHIP MEETING

**22** DEMONSTRATION OF  
SCHOOL DAYS AT  
MARIETTA

**28** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS PRINCE  
OF A COUNTY RECEPTION,  
MOUNT CALVERT

### October

**12** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
PGCHS BOARD  
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM HAST-  
INGS MEDIEVAL FAIRE AT  
MARIETTA

October 96						
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September 96						
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# Marching Through Time

April 13th and 14th, 1996

*See the past come alive through living history encampments from  
1st century Romans to present day.*



Held on the spacious grounds of Marletta Mansion in Glenn Dale Maryland.  
Admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$2.00 for students.

Marletta Mansion is located

From I-495/95: Take exit #20A onto Rt 450 East 4 miles, take a left onto Rt 193 West.

From 295/BW Pkwy.: Greenbelt RD/NASA Exit take a left on Southway; take a left onto Rt. 193 East, about 6 miles.

From Rt 301: Take Rt. 450 West about 6 miles then take a right onto Rt 193.

From Rt 50: Take Exit 11/Rt 197 North to Rt 450 West then take a right onto Rt 193.

Event hours are 11:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m. both days

For More Info Call: (301) 464-5291

Hosted By: M-NCPPC  
TTY: (301) 779-5321

**M-NCPPC PARK POLICE MOUNTED UNIT**

# April 1996

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
	<b>1</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>2</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>3</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>4</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>5</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>6</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900																																																																																																		
<b>7</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>8</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>9</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900  PRINCE GEORGE'S PORTRAITS TRIENNIAL EXHIBIT MONTELLER CULTURAL ARTS CENTER THRU MAY 27	<b>10</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>11</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>12</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900	<b>13</b> 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PASSPORT TO HISTORY TRIPS - ALL YEAR - CALL 301-434-2900  JOHN WILKES BOOTH ESCAPE ROUTE TOUR - SURREATT HOUSE MUSEUM - FEE MARCHING THROUGH TIME - MARITTA GANNON - FEE																																																																																																		
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### HOURS OF OPERATION

Library: Saturdays 12 - 4 PM  
and during special events  
Call 301-464-0591

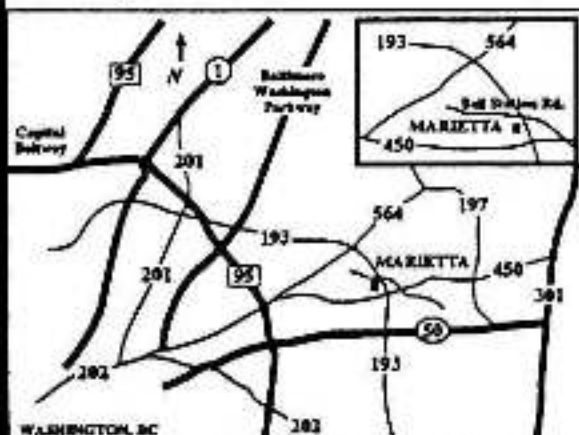
Marietta Tours -Friday, 11 - 3, Sunday,  
12 - 4 - and by appointment -  
Information 301-464-0591

### THE SOCIETY GIFT SHOP

Features a wide selection of books,  
gifts, toys and small antiques. Open  
Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 12 - 4 PM  
and during special events. Call 301-  
464-0590.

### LOCATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is located at Marietta, 5624  
Bell Station Road, in Glenn Dale, MD, off  
Route 193, near Route 450. This is a  
facility of the Maryland National Park and  
Planning Commission.



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
POST OFFICE BOX 14  
RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20738-0014

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
RIVERDALE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 1948

DATED MATERIAL





# News and Notes

Prince George's County  
Historical Society



APRIL 1996

OUR 44TH YEAR

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 4

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1996

PRESIDENT - JANE EAGEN  
VICE PRESIDENT - EUGENE ROBERTS, JR.  
SECRETARY - SARAH BOURNE  
TREASURER - JOHN BOURNE  
HISTORIAN - FREDERICK DE MARR  
EDITOR - SHARON HOWE SWEETING

## DIRECTORS - 1995/1996

MILDRED RIDGELEY GRAY  
KATHERINE CLAGETT  
MELINDA ALTER

## DIRECTORS - 1996/1997

WILLIAM UBER  
JOHN MITCHELL  
JULIE BRIGHT

## PAST PRESIDENTS

JOYCE MC DONALD  
W. C. (BUD) DUTTON  
JOHN GIANNETTI  
PAUL LANHAM  
WARREN (DUSTY) RHOADS

## ST. GEORGE'S DAY AWARD WINNERS

On Sunday, April 21, at Andrews Air Force Base, the Society honored the following persons or organizations that have made a difference in Prince George's County. Since 1974, and including the 1996 awardees, 144 individuals and 60 organizations have been honored by this award - which is prized by all. Contributions range from celebrations of our rich history, salvation and restoration of historic sites and buildings, production of written works that report our history and educate ourselves and our children, and volunteer efforts that enhance communities and the sense of history the Society supports and encourages. The 1996 winners are:

**The Forest Garden Club** and **Jane Powers, Don Shomette** for his book Tidewater Time Capsule-History Beneath the Patuxent; **Shirley and George Baltz** for *Marriages and Deaths in Prince George's County*; **The Honorable and Mrs. Raymond Garthoff** for "Pleasant Prospect," **Guy and Annette Eubank** for "The Goodloe House," **Rohulamin Quander and the Quander Historical Society, Inc.** for The Quander Tricentennial, and **The Friends of Belair Mansion**.



## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Same surname, different editor. It is with great trepidation that I follow my spouse as editor of this worthy publication. First, I wish to thank the Officers and Board of Directors for affording me this opportunity but I make no claims related to filling Lester's size ten shoes. Few have his historical sense, boundless energy and prodigious intellect. I can only say that I bring years of editorial experience acquired professionally during my Smithsonian years as Assistant to the Director of Libraries for Exhibitions and Publications and as a volunteer editor for the Hyattsville Preservation Association. I have a keen interest in succeeding since I feel like the Historical Society has become my intellectual and emotional center. I have always felt welcome, all my skills and limitations were appreciated, and your officers and board work many long hours. My kind of ethic.

**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER  
JACK I. THOMPSON**

## Preservation Reception

On Wednesday, May 22, a celebration of Historic Preservation Month reception will be held at the Newton White Mansion, 2708 Enterprise Road, Mitchellville. This annual event is sponsored jointly by the County Executive, the Planning Board, the Historic Preservation Commission, the Historical and Cultural Trust, Prince George's Heritage and the Historical Society.

## LONG RANGE PLANNING

As previously announced, several officials of the Society have been meeting over the last several weeks to chart the long range goals and plans of this organization. You, the members of the Society, are the ones who should decide these issues. Please call 301-464-0590 to record your responses.

1. Are you interested in special events which might cost \$12.-15.00 for a bus, and the cost of a meal - including perhaps the following:

A. Dinner and tour of the Laurel Historical Society's museum in July?

B. A spring bus trip to Chestertown, Frederick, Martinsburg, Havre de Grace, or elsewhere?

C. A luncheon meeting during the week?

D. Dinner meetings at an appropriate historic inn, tavern, etc.?

E. Box lunch trips to historic houses?

2. If you have children or grandchildren - would you be interested in a special event including bringing your own picnic and experiencing the living history exhibit at Historic Fort Washington?

3. Do you have any suggestions for similar activities for members?

4. If the Society develops a young associate program, with nominal dues and/or event charges, would you support?

Thank you for taking the time to respond. We are attempting to meet the needs and interests of our members with more organized planning.

## MAY MEETING

On Saturday, May 11, Marietta will be the site of a very special program on Symbols of Prince George's County. This Tricentennial event will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature horticulturist Courtland Lee who will explain the development of various plants including the world-famous Glenn Dale azaleas, flowering crab trees, Bee Balm, and boxwood. These living symbols will also be available for purchase. Fred DeMarr will give visitors the history of Prince George's County symbols displayed at the mansion. For further information contact: Dr. V.F. Rollo on 301-464-0590. See you there!

## PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS

The promise of spring .. how it excites us, and makes us smile. We get to see some of our neighbors we haven't seen since fall. We get to see

some Society members we also haven't seen fall or the Christmas Party. It is truly a wonderful time of the year in our area. It's St. George's Day, the closing of the legislative session, the Marching Through Time Encampment at Marietta, and the sale of plants that are the county symbols on May 11.

I hope I have seen you at St. George's Day by the time you read this. The closing of the legislative session brought some good news for Marietta. A bond bill in the amount of \$100,000 was approved. The matching funds by MNCPPC will be a worthwhile start on the funding for Phase II of the restoration of Marietta. May thanks to the legislators who sponsored it and saw it through. The House of Delegates Committee amended it from \$375,000.00 to 250,000. The Senate Committee reported it unfavorably. This meant it would go to the Conference Committee, where it survived at \$100,000. We were very fortunate, for there were many that were not awarded anything. Thank you for all of your calls, letters, and faxes. A special thanks to Tim Maloney, Sen. Richard Palumbo, Del. Mary Conroy, Del. Joan Pitkin, Sen. Leo Green, James Hubbard, Mike Miller, and the rest of the Prince George's delegation. We will be back next year working to get the balance needed to complete the project.

Other legislation passed that is important to the historic and preservation communities. H.B. 1 was the first bill filed and passed in the final five minutes. It established Heritage Areas throughout the

state. We have to look at this carefully and see how it could serve us. Good news also that H.B. 448 passed. The final result of this and other moves is that the funds available for history museums and preservation has been increased to \$1,000,000. Most of the cuts in staff of the Maryland Historical Trust were restored.

The Marching Through Time Encampment was a definite success. Susan Wolfe worked very hard and organized it well. There were over 800 people in attendance April 13 and 14. I went to work in the shop with the Ubers and Les Sweeting. The shop had a good weekend, the inventory was finally all entered in the computer and we only had time for a peek at the encampment. Many visitors came into our gift shop and were pleasantly surprised with the wares for sale. I'm sure we made some new friends and renewed some old friendships. It was a wonderful weekend.

Our May meeting will be a little different than it usually is. We will feature the symbols of the county and have them for sale. Courtland Lee is supplying the plants that have been chosen to represent our heritage. There will be flowering crab apple trees, Glenn Dale azaleas, and bee balm available for purchase. There will also be boxwood for sale. I don't think it would be reasonable to expect us to sell bluebirds, however, I am negotiating to have some bluebird boxes available. Fred DeMarr will be available to discuss the symbols with you and there will be a list of them for you to have.

Before you come look at your yard and see how many of these items you would like to have so you can have these living symbols of Prince George's County to serve as reminders of the tricentennial.

The Teacher Class is rolling right along. The students seem interested and responsive. They really enjoyed the ham, succotash, sweet potato dinner Sarah Bourne prepared. I have never seen upside-down pineapple cake disappear so quickly. We are trying to serve food that would have been served in Maryland in the past as part of teaching them about the heritage of this area. The pineapple was stretching it a bit, but it is the symbol used for hospitality and has meaning dating back to returning ship captains.

Recently the Board of Directors agreed to my starting partnerships with three local elementary schools. I have called Woodmore, Glenn Dale and Kingsford and have definite meeting dates. This will give us a wonderful opportunity to share history with children and enrich their learning. Marietta has such beautiful grounds that they can picnic on and be apart from the hubbub. The principals were quite enthusiastic and Susan and I are looking forward to meeting them and exchanging ideas with them and their staffs. Perhaps we could call on you for refreshments for meetings with the teachers of these three nearby schools.

There was a budget hearing on April 22. This is when the MNCPPC budget is presented to the County Council. Bud



Dutton provided us with a copy of the budget that he had already reviewed. He made several suggestions as to which items were pertinent to us. Les Sweeting and I prepared testimony which was presented in writing and I also addressed the highlights orally. We are going to miss Lester while he is in Moldova. He helps in so many ways. I keep thinking that things will slow down, but that doesn't seem to be the case. We are becoming known in the county and more opportunities are coming our way. We need your help in filling committees, working in the gift shop, typing cards for the library, scraping paint, serving as a docent and/or host-hostess and a zillion other things you can think of and do. CALL Jane Eagen 249-6409 or Susan Wolfe on 464-5291 at YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

**Preview:** The June meeting has a different date and place. Bring a picnic to the Colonial Farm in Accokeek. The Dove will be there and a reenactment of Leonard Calvert's visit to the Tayak is planned. It is a beautiful spot, opposite Mr. Vernon, and I'm sure you will enjoy the day.

#### MORE LOOKING AHEAD

MARIETTA WILL BE THE SITE OF ANOTHER TRICENTENNIAL EVENT ON MAY 19. SUSAN WOLFE HAS PLANNED AN AFTERNOON OF GENTLE GAMES. IT WILL FOLLOW THE ROBIN HOOD FAIR SPONSORED BY THE GLENN DALE COMMUNITY CENTER ON MAY 18. THE GENTLE GAMES WILL INCLUDE CROQUET, BADMINTON,

HOPSCOTCH, MARBLES, HOOPS, AND MORE. CROQUET MAY BE GENTLE, BUT IT CERTAINLY CAN BE A SNEAKY GAME. THIS MIGHT BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY SOME OF THE BOARD GAMES THAT WERE ON DISPLAY DURING THE WINTER PASTIMES EXHIBIT. THERE WILL BE SEVERAL SEATINGS OF TEA, PINK LEMONADE AND TEA COOKIES. COME OUT AND BRING THE FAMILY FOR SOME OLD FASHIONED FUN. HELP WILL BE NEEDED TO SERVE AND SET UP GAMES. CALL SUSAN WOLFE ON 464-5291 TO SIGN UP.

#### GIFT SHOP NOTES

The sales of books has been very good. We have some new titles on hand, Mistress of Riversdale (in paperback), Our Maryland, and Maureen Duvall of Middle Plantation. We have added some children's items and restocked others. United States and Maryland flags in 12" x 18" size and larger 3' x 5' Maryland flags are on hand. Tricentennial items are hard to keep in supply, but we do have the lapel pins once again. If you are looking for a family gift, don't forget the Maryland jigsaw puzzle that has many historic sites in the border.

A special thanks to the volunteers who have staffed the shop: Julie Rhoads, Evelyn McKim, Louise Tatspaugh, Hilda Hayes, Kay Eisinger, Rose Finnagin, and Pat Eagen. These helpers have allowed the shop to be open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. We have made many new friends, many of whom are neighbors and residents of Glenn Dale.

This month I wish to introduce a new column, written by one of Lester's favorite and most faithful correspondents: **Mr. Paul Lanham.**

### PAUL'S COLUMN

ON MARYLAND'S FLEET, HE WRITES:  
AT THE ENDING OF WWII, THE NAVY ANNOUNCED THAT A TOTAL OF 31 SHIPS IN THE ACTIVE FLEET WERE NAMED AFTER U.S. COUNTIES.

MARYLAND COUNTIES SO RECOGNIZED WERE ANNE ARUNDEL, CALVERT, CECIL, PRINCE GEORGE'S, ST. MARYS AND SOMERSET. (EACH ABOVE VESSEL WAS NAMED FOR all COUNTIES HAVING THE SAME NAME. THUS, THE SOMMERSET IS NAMED FOR COUNTIES IN MAINE, NEW JERSEY AND PENNSYLVANIA AS WELL AS MARYLAND.)  
FROM: CALVERT CO INDEPENDENT OF JAN. 18, 1945 QUOTING THE WASHINGTON STAR OF JANUARY 14, 1946.

CHESAPEAKE BAY IN THE CIVIL WAR. THIS LITTLE RESEARCHED AREA OF THE "WAR BETWEEN THE STATES" IS WELL COVERED IN ERIC MILLS' BOOK OF THE SAME TITLE BROUGHT OUT THIS YEAR BY TIDEWATER PRESS. GENEROUS ATTENTION IS GIVEN TO THE SOUTH AND VARIOUS COLORFUL SOUTHERN CONFEDERATES BUT GENERALLY THE BOOK IS EQUALLY DIVIDED IN IT'S SYMPATHIES. PARTICULARLY INTERESTING IS THE CONCERN OF LINCOLN'S SECRETARY OF WAR, EDWARD M. STANTON, THAT THE SOUTH'S IRON-CLAD MERRIMAC MIGHT LAY WASTE TO WASHINGTON VIA THE POTOMAC RIVER DESPITE FRANTIC UNION DEFENSES DEEMED WOEFULLY INADEQUATE. MR. MILLS' BOOK IS WELL WRITTEN, WELL INDEXED AND COLORFULLY ILLUSTRATED. IT SHOULD NOT DETRACT FROM ITS EXCELLENT COVERAGE THAT SOMEHOW A GLITCH OR VIRUS INVADED HIS NOTES AND REFERRED TO DR. SAMUEL MUDD AS JOHN MUDD! IT IS HOPED HIS

BOOK WILL BE APPROPRIATELY JUDGED ON ITS MERITABLE COVERAGE OF A LONG NEGLECTED AREA OF LOCAL HISTORY.

HELP ON MILLS (Buildings, not authors)

Society member Jim Walsh of Fort Washington continues his tedious research into the location and ownership of county mills before and after the Revolution. Currently his extensive research requires review of wills where clues are sometimes abundant but details are minimal. For example, he would welcome data on the following mills:

Joseph Belt, Jr. (Samuel Galloways's tract, 1761)  
Levin Covington  
Henry Warnell (mill branch near Castell, 1719)  
James Crow (Farmer's Choice, 1796).

Jim can be reached at 11902 Hickory Drive, Fort Washington, Md. 20744. (Phone 301-292-3385).

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR

## Yearly Planner

May 96						
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July 96						
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August 96						
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September 96						
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October 96						
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- May**
- 1** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY
- 4** 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM MARYLAND HOUSE AND GARDEN PILGRIMAGE TOUR
- 11** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- 18** SPRING, MAY POLES AND CHILDREN'S GAMES ON THE LAWN AT MARIETTA

- June**
- 5** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY
- 8** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
GLENN DALE FESTIVAL AT MARIETTA AND GLENN DALE COMMUNITY CENTER
- 9** 10:00 AM - 2:15 PM PGCHS Membership Meeting, Bryant Point, the Dove Arrives

- July**
- 3** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY
- 13** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD
- 21** SUMMER PASTIMES AT MARIETTA
- August**
- 7** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY

- 10** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD

- September**
- 4** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING, GREENBELT LIBRARY
- 14** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- 22** DEMONSTRATION OF SCHOOL DAYS AT MARIETTA
- 28** 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS PRINCE OF A COUNTY RECEPTION, MOUNT CALVERT

- October**
- 12** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM HASTINGS MEDIEVAL FAIRE AT MARIETTA  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- 13** 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM HASTINGS MEDIEVAL FAIRE AT MARIETTA
- 26** PRESERVING IN THE KITCHEN - CANNING DEMONSTRATIONS AT MARIETTA

- November**
- 1** EXHIBIT - RULING THE ROOST - A POLITICAL HISTORY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
- 9** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PGCHS BOARD  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM PGCHS MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- 30** EXHIBIT - RULING THE ROOST - A POLITICAL HISTORY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

- December**
- 12** 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM CANDLE LIGHT TOURS OF MARIETTA - HOLIDAY

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February 97						
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March 97						
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April 97						
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### HOURS OF OPERATION

Library: Saturdays 12 - 4 PM  
and during special events  
Call 301-464-0591

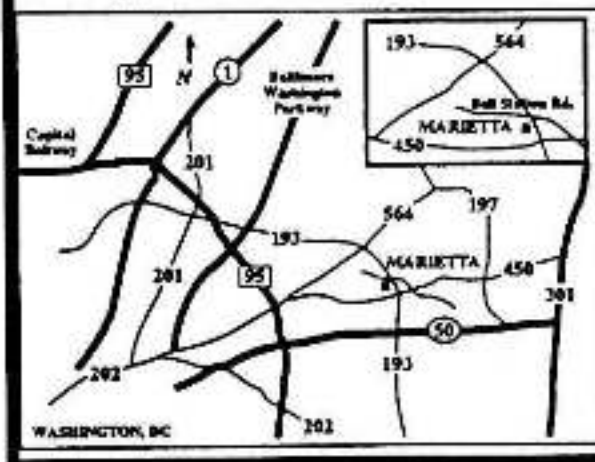
Marietta Tours -Friday, 11 - 3, Sunday,  
12 - 4 - and by appointment -  
Information 301-464-0591

### THE SOCIETY GIFT SHOP

Features a wide selection of books, gifts,  
toys and small antiques. Open Friday,  
Saturday and Sunday, 12 -4 PM and  
during special events. Call 301-464-  
0590.

### LOCATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is located at Marietta, 5624  
Bell Station Road, in Glenn Dale, MD, off  
Route 193, near Route 450. This is a  
facility of the Maryland National Park and  
Planning Commission.



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
POST OFFICE BOX 14  
RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20738-0014

NON-PROFIT ORG  
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RIVERDALE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 1948

DATED MATERIAL





"Marietta"

## News and Notes Prince George's County Historical Society



MAY 1996

OUR 44TH YEAR

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 5

### Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage A GRAND SUCCESS

On Saturday, May 4th, Prince George's County drew more than 1100 visitors to the 12 historical homes and sites showcased in its 1996 tour organized by the Forest Garden Club. Visitors traveled from as far away as Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Delaware and Virginia as well as from neighboring Maryland counties and Washington, D.C. Despite the rainy start, sunshine and a fair breeze prevailed throughout the day.

*Weston*, the Clagett family seat, drew a record breaking crowd of nearly 900 with attendance near that at the other privately owned homes, *Fairview*, *Strawberry Hill*, *Dukeshire*, and *Bowling Heights*. The private homeowners and their families, who personally greeted guests throughout the day, commented that although the day was long they were pleased that the tour proved to be such a resounding success. Their graciousness in opening their doors for the 1996 tour insured that and we cannot thank them enough for their immense generosity.

The "Friends of Belair Estate" outdid themselves in presenting *Belair* and its stables. Costumed docents met visitors at the doors and magnificent flower arrangements placed throughout the mansion complemented the wonderful quilt exhibit, "Designs of Nature," which was specially installed for the day by the "Friends" and curator, **Stephen Patrick**. Among the quilts displayed were works by nationally recognized quilt artists and local quilters associated with the restoration of *Belair Mansion*. Appliqued album, botanical graphics, and impressionistic interpretations of flowers, vegetables and fruits, were displayed along with a magnificent Baltimore Album quilt, "giving a wonderful feeling of bringing the garden inside the house," as tour co-chair, **Lynn Roberts** so aptly described it.

The Pontoon Boat Tour, from *Billingsley* to *Mt. Calvert* was quite a hit, with many visitors inquiring about future parks programs. *Darnall's Chance* greeted almost 600 visitors, many of whom had passports in hand, and for those who didn't, were initiated as new "travelers" in the increasingly popular Tricentennial "Passport to History" program. The furnishings' committee was quite pleased to see the timely installation of the recently recreated four-post bed in Mrs. Darnall's bed chamber.

*His Lordship's Kindness*, always a favorite among architectural aficionados, drew nearly 800 visitors, and *Trinity Church's* military encampment was extremely popular among the patrons of the tour. Lunches at the church were sold out and patrons were referred to lunch establishments on main street.

All in all, this year's tour was a grand success and as with any undertaking of this magnitude, success would not be possible with the participation of the many individuals and groups who have so graciously given of their time and talents. Particular thanks are extended to the private homeowners, the many Forest Garden Club members and friends, Prince George's County's Historical Society members, the "Friends of Belair Estate" as well as Trinity Church, the John M. and Sara R. Walton Foundation, the support and staff of the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission and the Tricentennial Celebration Committee. By **Wallis Cain**, Co-Chair.

# **JUNE MEETING SUNDAY JUNE 9 NATIONAL COLONIAL FARM ACCOKEEK**

## **PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS**

The class for teachers ended on a high note. The last class session was held at *Riversdale* and a grand time was had by all. **Joyce McDonald** was the main speaker, and mesmerized them all with her clothing and textile lecture. They enjoyed the Maryland feast and everyone who was able joined the Bladensburg Colonial Dancers for a delightful dancing lesson. This class was the most successful of them all. Everyone of the participants was enthusiastic and participated actively. Their evaluations were very good and made us feel it was well worth the effort. They have suggested that we offer a Part II and offer the topics in more depth. I think we will need the help of a food coordinator when we do it again. **Sarah Bourne** provided several evenings meals and made a great dessert and potato salad for the Maryland feast. It is too much to plan, do the paper work, answer the questions, videotape the class, and prepare, bring, and serve the food. HELLLLPPP! Plan to be a part of this successful venture next year.

**Fred DeMarr** gave a very interesting talk on the county's symbols at the May meeting. **Courtland Lee** provided the plants and the Wild Bird Store in Old Bowie provided the bluebird boxes. Sales were quite good. It was also Marlborough Day, so we know many people were there. We were very disappointed that the "Bowie Blade" did not cover it as they had said they would.

We are in a wonderful position to reach out to the surrounding schools and acquaint

them with local history. This is one of the goals of the society, to reach out, educate and inform others about our county. Each of you have at least one thing you are interested in and others that you could help someone present to a group. The "Passport to History" program has opened the door, if we don't enter ...shame on us.

**Susan W.** and I have met with the leaders at Catherine T. Reed and they are quite enthused about having programs at Marietta next year. We will be working and planning with Glenn Dale, Woodmore, and Kingsford also during the summer. They will want the children to come to Marietta for experiences in art, natural sciences, writing, social studies, architecture, and many other areas. They will also want us to go to the classrooms and provide leadership and assistance in activities related to Marietta. They were excited when we mentioned that perhaps we could provide articles to be displayed in their showcases. Put on your thinking cap and cogitate how you can be a part of this. It can only happen if we have people who are willing to help.

Welcome to two more helpers. **Phyllis Herndon** has agreed to be the Membership Development Chairman. This is a very nice addition to our program and should help keep records more easily. She has been very active in the Daughters of the American Revolution and brings experience and know how to the job.

**Kay Eisinger** has volunteered to be the gift shop volunteer coordinator. She is a neighbor of mine who has become interested and I am sure will do a great job. We have almost enough volunteers now that if everyone works one day each month we are covered for Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays with few exceptions. **Marie Crump** has

joined the group and **Renate Ryan** has returned after her husband's recovery. Some of our great helpers are not able to work during the summer so we are looking for some additional shopkeepers.

ALL of the shop inventory has been entered on the computer now and record keeping will be better (though interesting at times I am sure). There were times when Stella, Les and I wondered if it would ever end. The Martinent Atlas is selling well. Many people have been waiting for it and we have a list of mail orders.

Our June meeting is not on our usual second Saturday, but on Sunday, June 9. We will meet at the National Colonial Farm in Accokeek. The Dove will be there and we though everyone would want to see the planned reenactment of Leonard Calvert meeting with the Tayac. We are jointly sponsoring it with the National Colonial Farm. If you have been there you know about the beautiful setting and view across the Potomac to Mount Vernon. There are many farm animals and buildings on the farm. Each weekend they demonstrate many of the skills needed to survive in colonial days. A special area will be reserved for us to picnic and socialize. This event is one of the ways we have contributed to the Tricentennial Celebration. We hope all of you will come out and enjoy it. **Bud Dutton** is working out the details with the staff of the farm. It will begin at 10:00am and the Dove will arrive at about noon. To reach the National Colonial Farm go south on Route 210 or Indian Head Highway past Fort Washington Road and make a right on Bryan Point Road. Continue to the end. Park in either the Visitors Center parking lot or the Administration Center lot.

Last fall we discussed and decided to

facilitate the formation of a forum or consortium of all of the historic sites/groups in the County in order to further communications and promote cooperation among the groups, both volunteers and paid staff. It was our hope that this group could help resolve schedule conflicts, assist in group purchasing, and share information that would be helpful to others. There have been several meetings and a different organizational design may be requested by some. The Society has stated that they are in favor of a group that includes both the paid staff and "Friends of ..." groups for the purpose of consulting and informing in order to increase cooperation and education.

It was also decided to join the Prince George's County Conference and Visitors Bureau providing the cost does not exceed \$50. This may be one way we could promote tourism to historic sites by groups outside of our county. The House and Garden Pilgrimage proved that there are many people from nearby states and counties that are interested in our historic sites.

See **Wallis Cain's** report above. She and **Lynn Roberts** co-chaired this huge event and we congratulate them both on their success. Many Society members worked as docents, ticket takers, greeters, tour bus guides, and whatever needed to be done. Many thanks to everyone involved. Again, we are so pleased that the Fred DeMarr Library has been selected to be a recipient of funds from this wonderful day. The development of an herb garden is also in the plan. Thank you, thank you Forest Garden Club and all of the volunteers.

We are looking at the possibility of reprinting several books. *Out of the Past* by Van Horn and Joyce Heinton's *Prince George's Heritage* are two that are out of



print now and are being considered. Alan Virta's *Pictorial History of Prince George's County* is also being considered, since there are not many copies of it left. This topic has been referred to Sharon Sweeting, Chairman of the Publications Committee.

A reception for the County Council and members of the General Assembly who were involved in House Bill 40 is planned for Wednesday, June 12, 1996, at 4:00pm at Marietta. This bond bill provides \$100,000 for Phase II of the restoration of Marietta. Matching funds from MNCPPC are in the proposed FY 1998 budget. Thank yous are in order to this group. Not many bond bills were funded. We are very fortunate to have this bill passed. I hop many of you will come out and express your gratitude to the people who made it possible.

### ANSWERS, ANSWERS, ANSWERS

A couple of issues back we included a list of 24 questions relating to the exhibit that was mounted at Archives II in College Park highlighting some of Jack Boucher's wonderful HABS photographs many of which appeared in the book Landmarks of Prince George's County. We would like to thank Susan Pearl for this quiz, and now would like to share the correct answers with our readers. Because this was several weeks ago, we shall repeat the questions. If you have any questions, comments, or additional information to share with respect to any of these questions, please let us know.

1. Name two different historic buildings each of which incorporated a small Catholic chapel in its attached wing. *Bowling Heights and His Lordship's Kindness both qualify.*
2. What building once exhibited decorative metal grates for its furnace floor vents and what happened to them? *Melford had these, but they were stolen.*
3. Identify a building which has interior

doors with fine wood graining and stenciling? *Pleasant Hills.*

4. Name a building whose interior walls are sheathed with highly ornamental pressed tin. *St. Joseph's Chapel at Ammendale.*
5. Who designed the B&O Railroad Station in Laurel, and name any other building he designed? *The designer was E. Francis Baldwin, and he also designed a wing of the State House as well as the stations at Hyattsville, Berwyn, Riverdale and Beltsville.*
6. Can you name a house which was planned by and built for a young widow? *Bowieville.*
7. Name two different 19th century buildings, each of which was dramatically rebuilt (in the 1850s) in a totally different style from its original form. Name a third for extra credit. *Christ Church in Accokeek and Kingston. The third building is Darnall's Chance (known in its Victorian form as the Buck House).*
8. List a few **unusual** outbuildings (excluding, for example barns, meathouses, corncribs, icehouses and washhouses) which appear in these photographs, and identify the properties. *The Chapel at Compton Bassett, the law office at Marietta, the summerhouse at Montpeller, the Aviary at His Lordship's Kindness, and the tomb at Darnall's Chance might all be considered unusual.*
9. What early frame building was enlarged and encased in brick during the 18th century? *Melwood Park.*
10. In which building has the line of the staircase been reversed, and what is the evidence for this change? *Belair, which*



*shows ridges in the brick walls for plaster panels.*

11. Find at least one example each of 'telescoping,' 'nogging,' a 'flounder' addition, and a 'scissors truss.' *Telescoping is seen at The Cottage and Wyoming, nogging at Wyoming, a flounder addition at Bellevue, and scissors trusses at the Frederick Augustus Holden House in Hyattsville.*

12. One of our historic houses has a unique ice house, how deep is it? *The Cottage's ice house is 18 feet deep.*

13. Where was Samuel L. Brooke buried in 1869? *The churchyard at St. Barnabas' Leeland.*

14. Agricultural motifs embellish what interior architectural feature of what building? And what other building has exterior decoration in the form of a rooster, a hen and chicks? *The central passage cornice at Montpelier and Newton White Mansion are the required responses.*

15. What colonial church is missing from this exhibit, even though its 'upper' and 'lower' chapels are included? *While both Addison Chapel and Christ Church are included, St. John's of Broad Creek is missing.*

16. Find an example of an R.W. Shoppell pattern book house built in a Victorian subdivision; what was the community originally called? *The O'Dea House in Berwyn Heights, originally called Charlton Heights.*

17. This exhibit includes a dramatic example of adaptive reuse; it is shown here in its **second** manifestation. What was it

originally, what was it at the time of the photograph, and what is it now? *Hyattsville Hardware was built as a blacksmith shop/wagon manufactory, then (for seven decades) was a hardware store; and it is now Franklin's General Store and Delicatessen.*

18. Dennis Magruder was connected with two of the properties in the exhibit; which ones? *Harmony Hall and Mount Lubentia.*

19. What building retains tiny traces of dark red and bright blue paint on its exterior trim? *Seton Belt Barn.*

20. Name the four buildings located on the sites of vanished port towns; and name the towns. *Mount Calvert at Charles Town, Harmony Hall at Aire, Want Water at Aire, and Hazelwood at Queen Anne.*

21. Find a building that exhibits 16 over 16 double-hung-sash windows. *Melwood Park.*

22. Name the bas-reliefs (all of them) which embellish the Greenbelt school and what is their inspiration/source? *"We the People" "to form a more perfect union" "establish justice" "insure domestic tranquility" "provide for the common defense" and "promote the general welfare" are taken from the Preamble to the United States Constitution.*

23. Name two properties associated with a historical personage who shares a last name with the photographer of these buildings. Who was this historical personage? *The HABS photographer is Jack E. Boucher. The Reverend Jonathan Boucher was associated with Mount Lubentia and was Rector of Saint Barnabas' Church. He was*

*known as an adamant Tory during the Revolutionary period.*

24. Find the sundial; identify the building and read the time!!! *The sundial at St. Pauls, Baden shows approximately 2:00 PM.*

We hope that this quiz was fun, and also hope that you enjoyed the exhibit. It, like the Pilgrimage tour discussed elsewhere, demonstrates the wealth of this County in its historic resources.

### MARTENET MAP

"Twenty years ago, coincidental with the national Bicentennial, the Prince George's County Historical Society published a limited-edition, poster-sized reprint of the 1861 Martenet Map of Prince George's County Maryland. It was nearly an exact copy, only slightly reduced from the original, and printed in a pale blue ink. Within a few years the Society's supply of the so-called 'blue map' were exhausted, and this valuable research reference was no longer easily accessed by the public. Meanwhile, the popularity of another Society publication: G.M.Hopkins' Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington Including the County of Prince George Maryland, a reprint of an 1878 booklet organized by federal election districts, had necessitated the printing of a second edition."

*The Society Board accepted then President Joyce McDonald's suggestion that the Martenet Map be the subject of a new publication, as a Tricentennial project, in a form similar to the "... Hopkins Atlas, thus making it more useful and portable."*...

"Since Simon Martenet had recorded only

the names of subscribers to his product, the demographic picture of Prince George's County on the eve of the Civil War was not complete. While free Blacks and slaves are almost entirely ignored, a large segment of the white population is also missing. This edition includes data from other sources such as the 1860 Federal Census, the Statistical Gazetteer of the State of Maryland, and The Planters' Advocate newspaper. This editor has recorded, not challenged, the accuracy of the census takers' totals. The names of citizens have been copied as they appear on the map; those known to be incorrectly spelled have been cross-referenced to the correct spelling. Type fonts similar to those used in the original map have been selected when reproducing information from other sources; census data is italicized.

"This major publishing project has been made possible through the cooperation of the National Archives II, Map Division; the Maryland Archives; Prince George's County Library Maryland Room; University of Maryland College Park, McKeldin Library, Marylandia Room; enthusiastic and patient graphic artist, Ann Bacon; Laurie Verge and Joan Chaconas; volunteers Fred DeMarr, Ena Fox, Robert McDonald, Sarah Moseley and Maxie Phillips; and courier Gary Thomas. A very special thanks to Susan G. Pearl, who volunteered her time and expertise to verify the contents, and without whose help this volume could not have been produced.

"As Prince George's County . . . celebrate[s] its Tricentennial anniversary in 1996, the Historical Society hopes that this publication will contribute to an awareness of and appreciation for this County's rich cultural heritage. Today's Prince George's was shaped in part by those who lived here in 1860. The Tricentennial's slogan 300

**Years...At Home in History** suggests the continuity of progress within that historical context."

*The above is from the foreword to our newest publication by Joyce W. McDonald, Managing Editor. The new Atlas is available for \$10.00 plus tax from the Marietta Gift Shop. It is a worthy addition to our publications list.*

Jane Eagen, President  
Prince George's County Historical Society

Testimony before Prince George's County Council  
April 22, 1996

Good Evening, Chairman Del Giudice, Chairman Hewlett and Members of the Council. I am speaking tonight on behalf of the hundreds of members of the Prince George's County Historical Society and the thousands of Prince Georgians who use and enjoy the historic facilities under the stewardship of the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission.

My message is a simple one -- Keep on Keeping On!

As you know, tomorrow we will celebrate the 300th birthday of Prince George's County, but this is only one day in the long and illustrious life of this great County. The Tricentennial Celebration, which I am proud to say was created and nurtured by the Prince George's County Historical Society and the hundreds of citizen volunteers who began this effort nearly five years ago, is a year-long celebration of who we are as a diverse and homogeneous County, and how we became what we now are, and how we will continue to grow and prosper in the fourth century of our journey. The support of the Commission, the County Executive and the County Council made this celebration real. Your continued support will enable us, as volunteers and as citizens of this great County, to carry the Tricentennial spirit forward into the third millennium.

There are three specific items in the large budget package that I would like to address -- requests that I and the Society (and, I believe, the hundreds of thousands of residents and visitors to the County each year) make of you as you consider this budget

for fiscal year 1996/1997 and beyond.

First - Marietta Mansion, a facility operated by the Commission (I will not say owned by the Commission, because Marietta is owned by the people of Prince George's, as are all of the public properties in the County) is the home built by Gabriel Duvall, who served the County, the State and the Nation throughout his long and illustrious career, which was capped by his service as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. The Mansion is located at 5626 Bell Station Road in Glenn Dale. For the past decade or so, the Prince George's County Historical Society has made its home at Marietta, and this has enabled us to provide public access to the Fred DeMarr Library of County History, which is a premier source of information to researchers, school children, and amateur historians. In addition, the Society acts as a "Friends of Marietta" adjunct to the Commission staff, enabling the house to be open to the public for tours and special events.

On the weekend of April 13/14, 1996, nearly 1,000 visitors came to see the Fourth Annual "Marching Thru Time" military encampment at Marietta - and glimpsed first-hand how military units and their dependents from Roman legionnaires to the units of the First World War operated and lived. Society volunteers provided guided tours of the mansion and other support to the facility manager and Commission staff throughout the two-day event, as we do every week during the year. The Society also operates a gift shop at Marietta, the profits from which are used to help in the restoration of the Mansion and the acquisition of objects that will eventually be located there to demonstrate how life was lived by Gabriel Duvall and his descendants nearly two centuries ago. Many other volunteer hours are spent in the nitty gritty work of cleaning, scraping and painting the Mansion interiors - so that visitors can gain a rich appreciation of this home and its place in our history.

We are currently working with Friends groups from other historic sites to develop plans which will allow us to continue the kind of work that the Commission accomplished so well this year with the Tricentennial Passport to History program -- which will continue to draw visitors to these sites and continue to provide tourists with substantial and tangible reasons to stay in Prince George's County -- which has as rich a history and a greater wealth of



tangible reminders thereof as any found in the National Capital area. We can capitalize on that, with your visionary support.

So, that is some of what we have done and will continue to do for Marietta and our fellow citizens who own this lovely building. What can you do in return? Marietta needs a full time site manager who can devote full time to the preservation, restoration and public access that the site deserves. Marietta is open to the public three days each week during this Tricentennial year. Marietta is, at the same time, undergoing needed restoration and rehabilitation, under the watchful eye of the part-time site manager, Susan Wolfe. Putting the manager on a full time basis will enable her to better direct her energies and to continue the wonderful work she does in the years after our Tricentennial. This is a good use of resources and we believe is more than deserved.

Second, we ask that you restore funding to the Historic Preservation Commission support staff so that they can continue the work that has made Prince George's County one of the most respected Commissions in the state and the nation. This small staff provides support to the Historic Preservation Commission, on which I am proud to serve. Since the Commission is all-volunteer, it would be impossible for us to be effective in carrying out our mandate under the Historic Sites and Districts Plan passed by this Council in 1982 and updated in 1992. Nearly 300 sites throughout the County are currently covered by the Historic Sites and District Plan, and the Historic Preservation Commission is responsible both for monitoring those sites and for evaluating any additional sites brought before it for consideration of designation. The Historic Preservation Section are our technical support -- providing information, analysis and background for our decisions, and acting as day-to-day information gatherers and providers to site owners, potential site owners, potential and new owners, the Commission and the County government and the general public.

We realize that resources are tight, but I submit that we in Prince George's County are willing and able to maintain level funding for this effort -- and that the investment pays much bigger dividends than you may imagine. Taking one case - designation of an historic area as a National Register Historic District -- as with several cities and towns in your own second Councilmanic District, Mr. Chairman -- leads to increased pride of ownership, more efficient

and effective maintenance, repair and restoration (creating hundreds of jobs in the process) and increased neighborhood property values -- leading to increased property tax receipts for the County. Hyattsville alone has seen a renaissance from a town known for rooming houses and suburban blight to a thriving community of growing families and new businesses in the 15 years since part of it was designated as a National Register District. Mount Rainier and Riverdale are experiencing similar rebirth.

In other areas of the County, I would point to two individual properties - Black Walnut Thicket in Baden and Mount Hope in Cheverly. Both of these properties were in deplorable, nay uninhabitable, condition, suffering from years of neglect and abuse. Yet, today, because of the efforts of two couples, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Wallace and Dr. and Mrs. Dale Manty, they have been restored to use -- and to the tax rolls. It is the professional staff who work for the Preservation section who have enabled those individuals and communities to achieve that success, and we ask that you consider those dividends when making decisions with respect to the restoration of those resources.

Third, I would ask that you look to the future once again. In the 1997/1998 budget projection you will note that the Commission plans a major infusion of funds to the next phase of the restoration of Marietta Mansion. In the 1996 State legislative session just completed, my fellow board members and I worked very diligently with our County Delegation, especially Senator Green and Delegate Palumbo, to secure passage of a State Bond Bill to assist in this effort. We were successful because of the support of a number of you, the fine work of private individuals such as Tim Maloney, and the fact that we could show the Legislators that the M-NCPPC budget provided for funds to match the State Bond Bill. We were successful - and we are proud of that success. Now it comes to you and your part -- Please! We implore you, do not disturb that allocation - retain it as an investment not in the past but in the continuing future.

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Council, I thank each of you for your past support, including support that has enabled us to celebrate our past. And I charge you each to "keep on keeping on" to help Prince George's County celebrate her future next year and beyond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman,



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### Classified Ads.

**Tour Guides:** re-establishing and starting anew the tour guide group. openings still available. promises to offer enjoyment and learning, meet new people, tours will not be limited to Sunday afternoon once the program begins. be a host or hostess of Marietta. Call Susan Wolfe 464-5291

**Workers to Serve on and Assist the House Committee:** a variety of tasks need to be done. Painting, arranging, polishing, cleaning, etc.

**3x5 card typist** - to type cross reference cards for the library files, can be done in your home or at Marietta. To volunteer, contact Fred DeMarr at 277-0711 or leave a message on 464-0590.

**Shop clerks** - part-time help to be in the shop when tour groups come during the week. Flexible hours and pleasant working conditions - call Kay Eisinger at 249-8697 or leave a message at 464-0590.

**House keepers** - part-time helpers to dust, clean out the refrigerator, straighten up cabinet etc. in the kitchen. Marietta and the library are used by a great many people and needs a little TLC even if each group cleans up behind themselves. Cleaning supplies provided - call Dusty Rhoads at 464-0819 or leave a message at 464-0590.

**Crafters** - new opportunity to join group being formed in the Fall to make items for the Gift Shop. Call Stella Uber at 937-6379 or leave a message at 464-0590.

**Meeters, Greeters and Facilitators-** to answer the door, collect admission fees, hold

visitors for next tour, distribute Society literature, help with the brochure rack, and stamp passports - not required to give tours, but this enables the tour docent or staff to provide full tours without interruption. Call Susan Wolfe to sign up.

**Caterers** - to prepare refreshments for teas, meetings with school staffs, etc. No huge productions, just a plate or two of goodies to help demonstrate our hospitality - serving dishes provided - Call Jane Eagen at 249-6409 or leave a message at 464-0590.

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# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Yearly Planner

June 96						
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### June

**5** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**8** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING

**9** 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT BRYANT POINT, THE DOVE ARRIVES

### July

**3** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**13** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING

**21** SUMMER PASTIMES AT MARIETTA

### August

**7** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**10** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING

### September

**4** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**14** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING

**21** 1:00 PM SOCIETY FUND RAISER - AT MOUNT CALVERT

**22** DEMONSTRATION OF SCHOOL DAYS AT MARIETTA

### October

**2** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

### October

**12** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM HASTINGS MEDIEVAL FAIR AT MARIETTA

OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

### November

**6** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**9** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

### December

**4** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**14** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING  
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM SOCIETY HOLIDAY GALA AT MARIETTA

### January

**1** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**11** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING

### February

**5** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**8** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING

### March

**5** 7:00 PM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

**8** 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM BOARD MEETING

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### LOCATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is located at Marietta, 5624  
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## News and Notes Prince George's County Historical Society



JUNE/JULY 1996

OUR 44TH YEAR

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 6

### **What's in a Name? Why Should We Remember?**

By Edward C. Papenfuse, State Archivist

*Remarks on the occasion of the 300th Anniversary of the Commencement of Justice in Prince George's County, April 23, 1996*

When Tim Maloney and Judge Sothoron asked me to be the keynote speaker this morning, I had no idea what a daunting task it would be.

In the first place I fall between some of the best known public speakers in the state who were bound to have good material of their own on the County's history which I know I should avoid duplicating at all costs.

In the second place there have been a number of excellent historians who have written about the History of Prince George's County lately. You only had to visit the Internet and the WFB Site for the three hundredth section to find that Alan Virta has written a fine essay on the county's past. Indeed my good friend's Burt Kummerow, George Calcott, Peggy Calcott, Shirley Baltz, and John Walton have put together a splendid documentary which you may have seen on Maryland Public Television. They take us on a wonderful visual and narrative journey through the county's past. It is so good it deserves to be in every school in the county and viewed by all the school children at least once a year. How, I asked myself, could I hope to do any better?

Finally it is always dangerous to assume the mantle of principal speaker at any event. Who remembers what Edward Everett said in his two-hour oration at Gettysburg? Yet some of us still can recite the three minutes of the other fellow.

This morning I will try to take my lead from the other fellow, and confine myself to about fifteen minutes by addressing the significance of the day, and the importance of the place where this county officially began 300 years ago.

My working title is "What's in a Name? Why should We Remember?"

Choosing a name for the county in 1695 was probably not very difficult. The heir to the throne of England was Anne, the last of the Stuarts. She had married Prince George of Denmark and it was only a matter of time before she would be crowned queen. Governor Nicholson had already chosen to honor her by calling the new capital of the province Annapolis. It was only fitting and

quite politically shrewd to name the newest county after her husband.

Choosing April 23rd as the day on which the county would begin its government is not difficult to understand either. Saints' Days were always used to mark special occasions. The first Lord Baltimore was married on St. Cecilia's Day and his son dispatched the first colonists to Maryland on the same day in 1632. Choosing St. George's Day in 1696 as the day on which to commence the first session of the Prince George's County Court was politically astute as well. Saint George was a 3rd century A.D. Christian martyr known for his power to slay dragons who, since the time of King Edward III, was also the patron saint of England.

Designating a county seat for the new county was probably not so easy and took a considerable amount of political maneuvering. Hidden in that choice I believe is a special story that tells us much about the early history of Maryland, and the lengths to which names were used to make a point, and, perhaps, even play a joke, albeit a small and quiet one, on the governor and the crown.

In today's world, places are not named as thoughtfully or with as much meaning as they were three hundred years ago. Just a casual review of Louise Joyner Hinton's tract map in her book: *Prince George's Heritage* reveals the first settlers called their lands: Balls good luck, Cuckolds delight (two of those) & Cockolds rest, Dear Bought, Dove's Perch, Free School Farm, The Hog Pen (there were two), Joys Fortune, Little worth (there were two of those as well), Loving Acquaintance, Maidens delight, Riley's, Whims Acre, Batcheolors hope (there were two of those as well), Convenience, God Father's Gift, God's Gift, The Garden, Thomas, his Chance; Anchovies choice, and Hobson's Choice.

You remember Hobson. He was the 17th Century owner of a stable who required every customer to take the horse nearest the door, an apparently free choice, when there really was no alternative.

Mount Calvert was a logical choice for a county seat. It was centrally located in relation to the homes of approximately 2000 residents whose lands formerly lay about equally in the counties of Charles and Calvert from which Prince George's was created. But choosing a property once owned by the late Philip Calvert, Chancellor of Maryland and Uncle of the then Lord Baltimore, is as much symbolic of a break with the past as it was geographically sound. Philip Calvert's dream of Maryland was a world of a growing metropolis centered at St Mary's City. Throughout his life he resisted diluting power by creating more counties and increasing the size of the general assembly, just as he resisted moving the capital away from St Mary's City. For nearly thirty years from 1668 until 1695 only one new county, Cecil County, was created, and that was to honor the Second Lord Baltimore, Philips's brother, Cecil Calvert, in 1674. In 1696 Mt. Calvert was a geographically sound choice, but the name referred to a man whose whole career seemed opposite to the goals of the new County. The name had to go.

When that first court met here on April 23, 1696, possibly in a tavern or a private dwelling on or near this site, the justices immediately got down to the business at hand. In those days there was no clear separation of judicial and administrative functions. Justices admitted attorneys, interpreted the laws, and constituted the civil authority in the county.

For those who think that justice in the colonial period only extended to the rich, they will find a different story in the records of the first day of Prince George's County Court. In 1696, a majority of the adult population was immigrants, many of whom came to the county as indentured servants, working out their passage or paying for their crimes at home in England by serving as laborers for five or seven years. Clearly Thomas Simmons did not like being an indentured servant and was prone to run away, but instead of following the law and bringing his servant into court for punishment, his master, Thomas Kinniston, chose to extend Simmons indenture on his own, as punishment, selling him to someone else for the time he had run away. It proved to be a classic case of buyer beware; Simmons was set free by the court on the grounds that Kinniston did not follow the law, but instead took the law into his own hands.

In this very first case before the Prince George's County Court on April 23, 1696, the court asserted a basic principle of government and justice which it would repeat over and over again: for a community to grow and prosper, citizens must live within the framework of the law, not outside it.

Economic development was high on the list of priorities that day as well. Once the Simmons case had been heard and a decision rendered, the court turned to establishing an administrative structure for collecting the taxes and overseeing the roads. The county was divided up into hundreds, a geographical area similar to the tax districts of today, when constables to keep the peace, press masters to find the labor, and overseers to attend to the roads were appointed.

To ensure the proper punishment would be at hand when needed, the court also ordered that Sheriff Greenfield "do cause to be erected a cage, pillory, whipping post and stocks according to his discretion at or before June Court Next year."

Punishment was a clear responsibility of the court, although it would not be within the purview of the County Court to handle the more serious crimes such as witchcraft. I wonder how many of the justices that day felt the slightest tings of uneasiness knowing that eleven years before at Mt. Calvert, Rebecca Fowler 'having not the feare of God before her eyes, but being led by the instigation of the Divell certain evill & dyabolicall Artes claied witchcrafts inchantments charmes & sorceryes wickedly divelishly and feloniously at Mount Calvert ... & exercise in upon & against one Francis Sandsbury & Several others ...

And their bodyes were very much the worse, consumed, pined & lamed ....

The evidence must have been overwhelming. On the 9th day of October 1685, a mere eleven years before the Justices of Prince George's County met here, Rebecca Fowler was hanged as a Witch.

While no witches were tried this day in April 1696, or any other subsequent day for that matter, the days to come would be filled with bringing law and order to an unruly world. Indeed it was the court's lot to keep even commerce honest. It would not be too long before each county would have its own set of weights and measures to be certain that the taverns dispensed honest pints and store keepers sold full measures of goods.

The work of the Court kept the Clerk busy.



Possibly even too busy. The first clerk, William Cooper, died after only four months in office. His wake was no mean affair and provides us with a glimpse of what life was like when the court was in session. The farewell party cost nearly four times the price of the coffin, and included 11 pints of brandy, 10 ½ gallons of cider, 10 gallons of boiled cider with spirits, and what was deemed 'the trouble of the house.' The wake was held at one of the two inns in town, that of Charles Tracy (the other was owned by William Groome), where undoubtedly the justices stayed while court was in session. Where the court was held until the new church and courthouse was built in 1697, is not known for certain, although by August of 1696, it appears that they were meeting at the "Old Church," the Anglican Church at Mr. Calvert, called St. Paul's Church, the Parish Church of St. Paul's Parish, one of the few Anglican churches known to exist in Maryland as early as 1692.

Attending court must have been festive occasion. Not only would you learn all the gossip, You could watch the court cope with what at times seemed like a rising tide of bastardy and requests for county relief, the social welfare rolls of their day.

A few years later, one governor lamented that it "was too difficult a taske for me to graft good manners on so barren a stock." To him county justices "often favor one the other, and would have all things under their jurisdiction and administration, tho they are ... meanly qualified for the trust and had not even the command of the language or learning to make proper charges to the jury. He went so far as to make a proclamation against vice and immorality to be read in court before the grand juries were charged, to what effect, we are not certain.

On that very first day the court met, the justices inexplicably did something else to the bafflement of future historians, if not their contemporaries.

As if an afterthought as their last action of the day before adjourning until the fourth Tuesday in June, they ordered "that this place called Mount Calvert doe for the Future goe by the name of Charles Town."

Why the sudden change? Why no longer Mount Calvert? Why specifically call the county seat Charles Town?

Too often we interpret our past in terms of absolutes with little effort at understanding the shadings of opinion and the degrees of commitment that shape action in the public world. Usually historians interpret the 1690s as a time of growing constraint upon the Catholic population and interpret the disenfranchisement of the Catholics as the abandonment of the Act of Toleration which The Second Lord Baltimore, Cecil Calvert, had so carefully crafted nearly fifty years before. To a point, such an interpretation is a valid one. Catholics would not return to the public arena until the American Revolution when Charles Carroll of Carrollton, the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence, and his catholic cousins from Prince George's County, became active members of the extralegal conventions convened to fight British rule.

In fact Charles Carroll's kinsman, James Carroll, who settled in Prince George's County in the early years of the 18th century would make it clear in his will that, apart from planting, there were only two professions open to Catholics under the current state of the laws, medicine and the law. He encouraged his nephew to choose



the former, because, as he put it, "it may afford the least temptation to change his Religion."

But in spite of the increasing legal restrictions on the public role of Catholics and the sever restraints place upon them with regard to the practice of their religion in any other than the most private of circumstances, the Protestant judges of Prince George's County made an overture of conciliation that surely did not go unnoticed in London at the town house of the third Lord Baltimore, Charles Calvert.

By the revolution of 1689, the crown of England took over the government of Maryland. Governor Nicholson, who did so much to foster the creation of Prince George's County, was a Royal Governor. But Catholic Lord Baltimore retained a base of power that could not be ignored and to which even Royal governors were forced to pay heed. Lord Baltimore still retained title to the land in Maryland not yet granted. Prince George's County represented the future of Maryland in 1696. Its boundaries to the west extended to the source of the Potomac and then northward to the 40th degree of north latitude and back Eastward to the bounds of Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties, or nearly 2800 square miles, of which only a fraction had been granted to anyone by Lord Baltimore.

On a Spring Day 300 years ago, perhaps not unlike this one, the justices of Prince George County thumbed their noses at the official policy against Catholics and tipped their hats to Lord Baltimore by naming their county seat Charles Town. Prejudice and religious discrimination were by no means abolished that day, but the acknowledgment of the importance of a modicum of accommodation was in evidence, and would serve to

ameliorate the rhetoric of anti-catholic sentiment to such a degree that only eighty-seven years later in 1783, Catholic and Protestant residents of this county could join in celebrating the arrival of the news that Peace was at hand and the Treaty of Paris acknowledging the acceptance of the United States as a Nation among nations would be on its way to Annapolis to be ratified by Congress.

In time, the center of population of the county moved westward and the overseers of the roads did their job. Pressure mounted to move the county seat to an even better crossroads of commerce than Charles Town. In 1721 Upper Marlboro became the capital of the county. Gradually the buildings of Charles Town fell into disrepair and disappeared under the cultivated fields of Mt. Calvert, leaving only this fine home, built in the late 18th century.

**What's In a Name? Why Should we Remember?**

Those are questions to which the fields which now cover the first County Seat of Prince George's County, Charles Town, pay a tribute which I hope is no longer silent. Thank you.

### **Observations on Dr. Richard Brooke's Thermometer**

Dr. Richard Brooke, one of Prince George's most distinguished early citizens, was born in 1716 near Nottingham and resided at Brookfield, the family estate, for nearly all of his life. He was active in politics and was elected to the Maryland Provincial

Convention in 1774 and 1775. He was the first active scientist in Prince George's County and one of Maryland's early scientists. His communications to the Royal Society included works in meteorology, early plant medicines and natural history. Brooke was also known as an advocate for the use of inoculation to prevent smallpox.

Dr. Brooke recorded thermometric measurements along with other weather information for the period from September 1753 thru December 1757. These were the first instrumental weather observations made in Maryland and the first results published for the colonies. It has been noted that nothing is known about the thermometer used in these observations. While it is unlikely that the exact identity of this instrument will be determined, there are several comments that can be made concerning its likely characteristics.

Examining his two published papers indicates that he employed the Fahrenheit scale rather than the other two common scales -- the Celsius scale and the Reaumur scale. The Fahrenheit scale is our common scale today. Most English thermometers in the eighteenth century used this scale. The Reaumur scale used a freezing point of 0 degrees and a boiling point of 80 degrees while the Celsius scale used points of 0 degrees and 100 degrees respectively. These latter two scales were more popular on the continent though the Reaumur scale is not used today anywhere.

Fahrenheit scales were prepared using either spirit or wine or elemental mercury as the enclosed liquid. Brooke's use of the symbol for mercury in his first paper and his mention of mercury in the second paper, both published in Volume 51 of the *Philosophical Transactions* in 1759,

indicate the use of mercury for all measurements. Mercury had a more uniform expansion rate and a wider temperature range than alcohol and so was a much better choice for thermometers.

Brooke recorded both maximum and minimum temperatures for each day. However, since thermometers designed to measure the highest and/or lowest temperature since the last visit by any observer were not invented until 1757, it is apparent that Brooke had to directly measure each of these temperatures by himself or use a substitute to do so. One can appreciate the patience and dedication required to do this over a long time period.

Brooke would have had to secure the thermometer directly or indirectly from a general dealer in philosophical apparatus. It is quite possible he purchased it in 1752 when he was present in London to read a paper at the Royal Society's meeting of May 12 or perhaps he received information on the merits of various instruments at this time. Nevertheless, he used this thermometer extensively for the next four years. The thermometer remained in his possession until his death as evidenced by its inclusion in the inventory of good and possessions taken after his death in 1783 where it was listed with a value of 11 shillings and 3 pence.

It will probably be next to impossible to determine the exact thermometer by name. Even knowing the company name would not indicate the craftsman since various craftsmen would have their product sold less than one or more different company names. Nevertheless, these observations will hopefully give some introductory views of this instrument.

*Submitted by: Robert H. Goldsmith,  
Professor of Chemistry, St. Mary's College  
of Maryland*

## PAUL'S COLUMN

### Nautical History of Southern Maryland

**Donald Shomette**, an underwater archeologist and historian has addressed our society on two widely separated occasions concerning his research on, and under, the Chesapeake Bay.

Shomette's most recent book on the subject titled *Shipwrecks on the Chesapeake* identifies 142 such sites in the Patuxent and more than 350 in the Potomac. These cover a span from the Richard and Mary in 1707, the disaster of the Union gunboat Tulip in 1864, to the Navy's accidental sinking of its post WWI test submarine, the S-49, off Solomons Island in the Patuxent.

Shomette's extensive research in all facets of archaeology, not just nautical, was a significant factor in locating the newly authorized Maryland Archaeological Conservation Facility at Patterson Park and Museum in Calvert County. *Reference: The Enterprise, Lex. Park, 7/28/96 (Page A16)*

### Trivia Noted Briefly

The *Washington Post* of July 1, 1996 (page B-3) reports that a "Miss Susan Elizabeth Alexander of Silver Spring (competing as Miss Lanham) became Miss Maryland" as a contestant for the 1996 Miss America pageant. No explanation as to why Susan chose the Lanham area as her sponsor but Prince George's County is pleased to

be so selected and wishes her well in the pageant. It would be interesting to know if this could be "first" for our county.

Incidentally, Susan gives full credit to her neon green swim attire!

### MARYLAND'S NEWEST MUSEUM

"History you can get your hands on" is the way that the Director of Maryland's newest historical attraction has described a facility planned by the Maryland Legislature since 1983 and now formally initiated.

Officially titled as the Maryland Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Facility, this 7.4 million dollar museum will be located at the Jefferson Park and Museum in St. Leonard in nearby Calvert County. Upon completion next year, physical artifacts currently deteriorating in temporary sites around the state will be centrally re-located in a 35,000 square foot state-of-the-art high security facility.

Existing facilities at Patterson Park and Museum are quite spectacular and this approved addition will greatly complement that which already exists. Professional staffing is included. The nearby Calvert Maritime Museum as the third historical establishment in the area completes the coverage of the wealth of historical data originating in the State of Maryland. *Reference: Calvert Independent, June 26, 1996*

## Memories of The Bladensburg Races

Browsing a book on old Montgomery County (formerly a part of Prince George's), a humorous reference to the Battle of Bladensburg is apparent. A Mr. Jo. Smith, of the generation following the War of 1812, speaks of a prominent merchant of Hyattstown, who participated in the Bladensburg Battle. Talking to a grandson of Asa Hyatt (b. 12-18-1787 and d. 8-26-1848), Mr. Smith said facetiously that "the raw recruits at Bladensburg never stopped running until they reached Rome and Asa Hyatt was one of them."

In retrospect, this was probably a wise move on Asa's part since he and his wife Mary Ann Phillips, (m. 5-12-1812) were destined to raise a family of ten children; an undertaking which could not be run away from! *Reference: Phillips family history, page 118)*

## The "SUSANS" ARE NOT ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM TO BE

As an amateur historian for the fair state of Maryland, embarrassing gaps in my meager knowledge are forever engraved in my memory. One such occasion (of far too many) was the young elementary student names Susan who, sharing the name with Maryland's state flower, was intensively interested in the background of that subject. Unable to elaborate at the time, I hasten now to morally atone for the occasion by some detailed comments on the matter.

On April 18, 1918 after a proposal by state senator Harvey Bomberger of Washington County, Maryland passed a law making the Black-eyed Susan the State's official flower. On June 1, Gov. Harrington authenticated the action but unwisely specified the *Rudbeckia hirta* as the species of Black-eyed

Susan so honored.

Unfortunately the *Hirta* version is an annual and intolerant of cold weather. So without legal action, the perennial *Rudbeckia fulgida* (also known as Goldsturn) was unofficially substituted; primarily because of its tolerance for cold weather. The Preakness happily concurred in this action only to learn later that at the time of the race, nature rarely has produced any blossoms. Thus began the era of the yellow daisy with a hand-dyed black center for Preakness use. However, since 1995 a limited number of true Black-eyed Susans for Preakness use have been force into bloom. The horticultural push continues! *Ref: Maryland Magazine, June 1996.*

*Paul's Column is prepared on a regular basis by Paul Lanham, former President of PGCHS.*

## PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS

I hope all of you are enjoying a very pleasant summer. Mine has been delightful. I returned from a two week trip to Ireland with a head and heart full of happy memories and some new friends. A friend and I attended the Clan Egan Rally in County Tipperary and drove and "bed and breakfasted" through the southern portion of Ireland. We visited several Heritage Centers and were impressed with their offerings. Prince George's County has much to offer also, if we could get this heritage center idea off the ground it would be a dream come true. Buying a Tricentennial brick is one way you can help make it happen. My Upper Marlboro High School Class just had their 50th Anniversary Reunion and bought one. They were all pleased with the idea.



While in Ireland we visited the town of Baltimore on the southernmost tip of County Cork. The Pride of Baltimore II had docked there in May as part of her good will voyage to Europe. The Pride's crew had told me about a pub there named after their ship. We visited it and were reading the menu outside when a voice said, "Excuse me, but aren't you from Maryland?" The gentleman had recognized our speech patterns and introduced himself and his bride. They had been married in Baltimore Harbor on a ship a few days before, and being supporters of the Pride had come to Baltimore, Ireland, as part of their honeymoon. The people of Maryland do get around.

Susan Wolfe and I have been planning some of the proposed early fall activities. The class for teachers will be held every other Wednesday 4:30 - 7:30 beginning September 25. The last class was very successful and the group requested a second section of it that would be more in depth. We decided to hold another session of Part I while we planned and got Part II approved by the state. This is one activity which can involve many members. It is too much for the same few and is too valuable a program to scrap. **Read the classifieds for opportunities.**

Susan Wolfe and I have spoken to Woodmore and Catherine T. Reed Elementary Schools regarding class visits to Marietta. We are already planning tours and activities for each grade level. We decided to limit the size of the groups to one class. I will be teaching Maryland and Prince George's history several evenings in the Woodmore Oasis program. In exchange and class members will donate time to Marietta restoration work. The next steps are to meet with Kingsford and Glenn Dale Schools and to enlist your assistance.

**GOOD NEWS!** The contractor working on the windows at Marietta says he will be finished by the end of the summer. Shannon Bell, the intern working with Susan, is researching and is engaged in paint selection with definite success. The number of participants in summer programs and Passport Tourists is good.

Sarah Bourne is making some very attractive floral table cloths to coordinate with the dusty rose ones donated. Now we need some wine glasses. We have a lovely collection of teacups. Having these items at Marietta will certainly make life simpler for those responsible for luncheons and teas.

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be **August 10, at 9:30am at Marietta.**

## **CLASSIFIED ADS**

**Summer Vacation Replacements:** Regular shop volunteers being away on vacation has caused a shortage and customers are coming in greater numbers. **HELP!!** Call Kay Eisinger 249-8597

**School Tour Volunteers:** short hours on weekdays, some who wish to work with children, some who do not wish to work with children, but to help the tour guide by helping prepare the activities.

**Side by Side Helpers:** To orient and help the Woodmore Oasis volunteers. Days and times yet to be arranged; let us know when you are available and maybe we can work it out with them. Absolutely no downsizing on this job. Benefits will not change.

**Artifacts:** to be loaned to schools for locked display cases, items of interest could include old sad irons, pitchers, kitchen utensils, nails,

books, pottery, rug beaters, games, etc.

**Cooks:** to prepare dishes to be served at teacher classes. Menus provided, reimbursement for foodstuffs.

**Person with typewriter:** old, new, it doesn't matter. Fred DeMarr needs someone to type cross reference cards. Do this valuable task in your own home or at Marietta at your leisure. Only benefits offered are a sense of accomplishment and the gratitude of the Society and researchers of the future.

## WE GET LETTERS

(From Moldova Lester writes): "At 8 am on a lovely Sunday morning, 14 intrepid expatriates, including people from the Embassy's Agency for International Development (AID) office, other Barents (Lester's current employers) people, and people from Germany and Scotland and England, got on a middle aged bus equipped with a 'sound' system and a multi-lingual guide for the trip to 'old' Orhei to see the sights ... the monastery at Orhei.

Our first stop was a small local archaeological museum showing - with only the benefit of the day light in the windows, artifacts from the 1,000 year-old settlement of Orhei - which has an interesting history but which no longer exists. The village itself, which is on one edge of the valley on the river, is reached by a small dirt road that our bus crossed with care. When we got to the monastery area, as we took the switchback road into the center of the valley and the bottom of the ridge, we found that we had to trek up the hill - perhaps 300 feet high, because the bus could not make the climb on the narrow road. We walked up to see (as

we had in the distance) two buildings - a very Russian church sitting alone on the promontory, flanked by a bell tower that signaled the entrance to the caves. It seems that 500 years ago a group of 12 monks scaled the cliff and cut their monastery into the limestone. Inside the hill was a long man-made passageway sloping down across the ridge, perhaps 100 feet in length. The steps were quite worn from the feet of pilgrims and parishioners over the 300 years since the monks departed. One came out into the chapel - a two room suite carved out of the limestone which still shows the sea shells and other evidence of the time, perhaps 5 million years ago, when the area was totally under water - after the last ice age. The central chapel is domed shaped, perhaps 12 feet from the floor to ceiling, and blessedly cool in summer and, with sheepskin covers on the hand carved open windows, warm in winter.

There were cloistered monks who spend their 20 waking hours every day praying to God. They toiled not, neither did they spin - relying on the local peasantry for gifts of food. Their sole possessions were their sheepskins and their bible and a candle for light. The icons and the chandelier which had served the church after the monks departed, have long disappeared, but their evidence remains. From the back of the chapel one descends several stone steps to the monks sleeping chamber - 12 small cells carved in a horseshoe arrangement around the cave, with a 3-inch freestanding wall separating each. The cells were only about 4 feet high, four feet wide and perhaps 7 feet deep, because the monks did not need space to stand proud - they humbled themselves in their prayers and their devotion.

The original entrance, high on the face of the eastern side of the ridge, reachable only be

scaling the cliff, has long been closed because of a fault in the area, and is only shown by a small window which gives light to the cells.

Further up the hill stands a decaying but protected church which was built in the middle 19 century. Surrounded by a wrought iron fence, it was, unfortunately, closed because it needs much money to restore it. So we could not go in, but wandered about, looking at the vistas over fields of vegetables and other crops. Off in the eastern distance one could see the many buildings of a large farming village, while on the western side, nestled in a smaller leg of the valley and immediately below our vantage point was a small village with fields beyond. As we walked to it we passed a long line of 'little houses,' open work affairs of wood with strings tied from stud to stud. These are the tobacco curing houses - perhaps covering an area as large as one of our tobacco barns in Upper Marlboro. No tobacco was in evidence on our trip, but we are assured that these are still in use every fall as the harvest is gathered."

*Excerpts from Letters from Lester (Sweeting), former editor of News and Notes.*

#### MARIETTA GIFT SHOP

##### New Items

MPT VIDEO ON "PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY - 300  
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Charms, Brooch, Lapel  
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All feature the PGCHS logo  
MARIETTA

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ELIZABETH STEGER TRINDAL

#### PELICAN GUIDE TO MARYLAND

Tricentennial items include tote bags, caps, lapel pins, and key chains.

If you haven't visited the Gift Shop lately, do so NOW. It's never too early to start that Christmas shopping.

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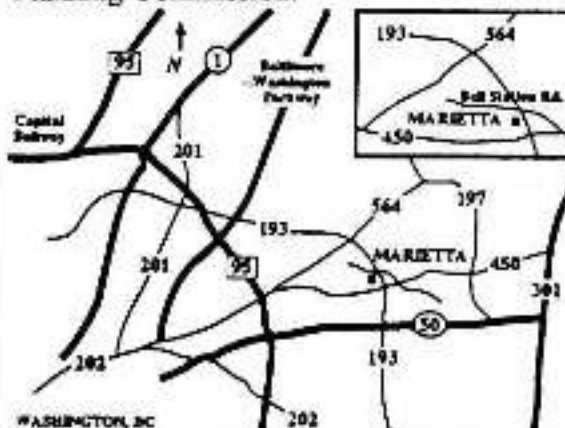
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Features a wide selection of books, gifts,  
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The Society is located at Marietta, 5624  
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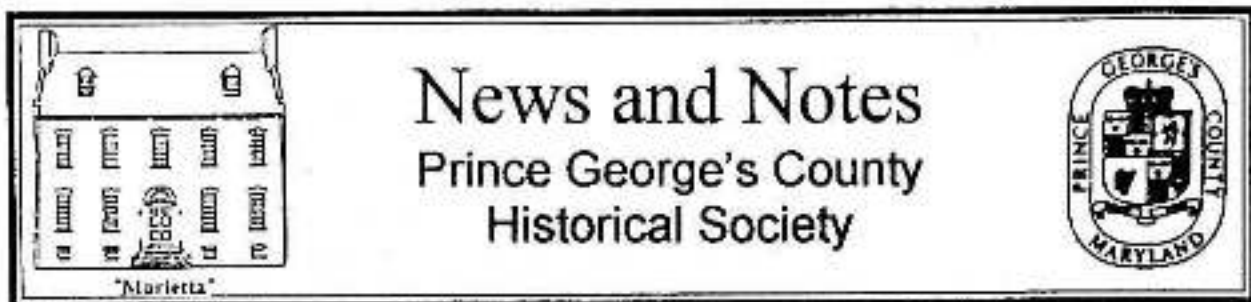


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AUGUST 1996

OUR 44TH YEAR

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 7

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## Joshua Barney's Barge

### War of 1812 Replica Ship to be Launched September 5, 1996

"As part of the Tricentennial celebration of Prince George's County, **"Joshua Barney's Barge,"** a 4/5 scale authentic reconstruction of a warship of the Chesapeake Flotilla of the War of 1812, will be launched on the Anacostia River on September 5, 1996, at 12:00 noon at the **Historic Bladensburg Waterfront Park.**

The replica is being constructed by the M-NCPPC in cooperation with the Living Classrooms Foundation of Baltimore and students from Bladensburg High School and Annapolis Road Middle School.

The launching ceremony will include artillery drills and gun and cannon salutes commemorating the Battle of Bladensburg in which Commodore Barney and his men fought so gallantly in defense of the Nation's capital.

Everyone is welcome to Participate in this history-making event. For more information and a schedule of events, please call the Natural and Historical Resources Division of the M-NCPPC at 301-627-2270." So begins the publicity flier on this fascinating Tricentennial Project, supported by, among others, The Prince George's County Historical Society.

The Summer 1996 issue of **GUIDE** (M-NCPPC's Guide to Park and Recreation Classes and Activities) pictures the Barney's Barge builders on the cover illustrating the lead article entitled *Barge into History*. The article goes on to explain:

"One of the most fascinating chapters in this tale of our nation's history is the story of Joshua Barney, Commodore of the Chesapeake Bay Flotilla, who with his Flotillamen defended the fledgling nation. When the British entered the upper Chesapeake Bay in 1814 to attack Washington, Baltimore, or Annapolis, Joshua Barney's ragtag flotilla of gunboats, row galleys and commandeered ships was virtually all there was to stand in the way of the might British Navy. A part of that history will come alive during the Tricentennial celebration of Prince George's County when a replica of one of Joshua Barney's Barges sails the Patuxent, the Potomac, and the Anacostia Rivers again." The article goes on to say: "When Joshua Barney's Barge is completed, it will be used on the Patuxent River in the summer and fall of 1996 to re-create some

of the events of the War of 1812. Among the recreated events may be the "breakout at St. Leonard's Creek," the flight up the Patuxent to avoid capture by the marauding British, the sinking of the Flotilla above Hills Bridge, and the desperate march to Bladensburg to defend the bridge to the Nation's Capital. After the tricentennial events, the Commodore Barney Barge will return to the Anacostia River where it will be used for in-the-water-educational programs, as well as port call stops on the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers."

Further historical details are provided by The Chesapeake Flotilla Project, with Don Shomette as contact, in the publicity flier.

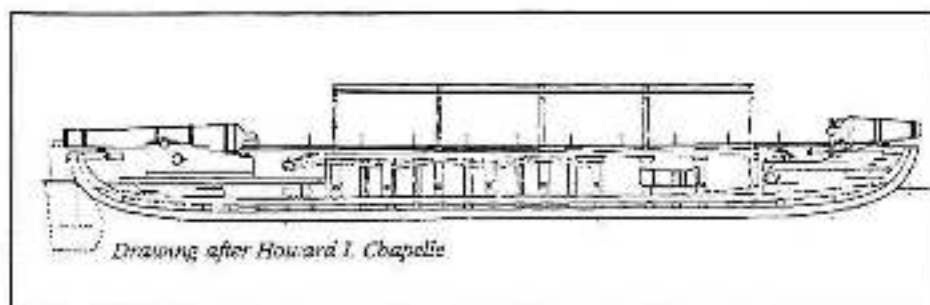
"Throughout the summer of 1814, the British and American Naval forces skirmished in the Chesapeake Bay in a series of small-scale encounters. The British tried in vain to defeat the Chesapeake Flotilla, but could never gain a decisive advantage. Then, in August, a large force of British armed war barges moved up the Patuxent River, driving the Flotilla ahead of them. On August 22, 1814, as the British prepared to attack the Flotilla at Pig Point (near Hill's Bridge), Barney ordered that his ships be destroyed by explosion to avoid British capture. Sixteen of Barney's vessels sank into the shallow waters of the upper tidal Patuxent.

Over 165 years later, in the summer of 1980, underwater excavation efforts uncovered a nearly intact Flotilla vessel and a wealth of artifacts, including medical instruments, cooking utensils, carpentry tools, and marine equipment. It was later determined that this vessel was Barney's flagship, the U.S.S. *Scorpion*.

Recently, The Chesapeake Flotilla Project was established by a consortium of historical preservation institutions to oversee the excavation and preservation of the remains of the U.S. Chesapeake Flotilla.

The lead state agency will be the Maryland Historical Trust, through its Maryland Maritime Archaeology Project and Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. The University of Baltimore will serve as project sponsor. Participating and/or cooperating governmental and institutional support will come from the Naval Historical Center, U.S. Navy, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Maryland Historical Society, the St. Clement's Island-Potomac River Museum, Chesapeake Bay Maritime, and Calvert Marine Museum.

Exhibits and educational programs associated with these discoveries are expected to highlight the seven-year project and beyond. The Chesapeake Flotilla Project will expose Marylanders to a fuller understanding and appreciation of the maritime heritage of our own state and our nation." For further details contact Don Shomette at 301-855-5280.



A drawing of a 40' row galley of the Flotilla, similar to Joshua Barney's Barge.

## Paul's Column

### *Preston-on-the-Patuxent*

Maryland History buffs may welcome a rare opportunity to visit the venerable Preston-on-the-Patuxent house owned by Dr. and Mrs. Cumberland formerly of the University of Maryland. The occasion for this opportunity will be the September 26 (2:00pm to 7:00pm) garden show of the Calvert County Garden Club. Located on the Patuxent River at Lusby in Calvert County, the house has only been available to the public on infrequent occasions in view of its age and status as a private home.

This historic structure has several claims to fame as follows:

1. Considered by many authorities as either the first or second oldest inhabited building in Maryland.
2. Served as Maryland's governing capitol building during the occasion of the successful Puritan revolt against the lawful Calvert government.
3. The possible hiding location of the Great Seal of Maryland forever lost during the Puritan take-over.
4. A book by Hubert Footner, Maryland's prolific historical writer, devoted to the house which was owned by him at the time. (That book was erroneously entitled Charles's Gift. Later research revealed that the Preston-built Charles's Gift is that building in ruins on the grounds of the BG&E nuclear power plant overlooking the Chesapeake Bay).
5. Capt. John Smith had documented the existence of two palisaded (walled) Indian villages in the Bay area, areas to be carefully avoided because of the strongly organized Indian community indicated by such communal effort. The location of the Potomac village on the Suburban Sanitary Commission complex at Piscataway was well known. Only recently

was the discovery of the Patuxent village site at this locale confirmed by excavation.

*Editor: Don't miss this rare opportunity!*

## THE CHESAPEAKE INVASION 1814-1974

The months of August-September 1974 marked the 160th anniversary of the British invasion of the Chesapeake Bay region which brought the Battle of Bladensburg, the burning of the City of Washington, Dr. Beanes being taken hostage, the bombardment of Ft. McHenry in Baltimore Harbor and the writing of our National Anthem by Francis Scott Key.

The following letter written by Rear Admiral George Cockburn to the commander of the British forces gives an account of the Washington campaign. Although the destruction of the capital city caused a great storm of protests and investigations both in the United States and England, Admiral Cockburn had the burning of the City of Washington painted as the background in his official portrait which hangs in the Royal Naval Museum in Greenwich, England.

HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP *MANLY*, OFF NOTTINGHAM, PATUXENT, 27TH AUGUST, 1814. Addressed to Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Alex. Cochrane, K.B., &c, &c, &c  
SIR,

I have the honour to inform you, that agreeably to the intentions I notified to you in my letter of the 22d instant, I proceeded by land on the morning of the 23d to Upper Marlborough, to meet and confer with Major-General Ross as to our further operations against the enemy and we were not long in agreeing on the propriety of



making an immediate attempt on the city of Washington.

In conformity, therefore, with the wishes of the general, I instantly sent orders for our marine and naval forces at Pig Point to be forthwith moved over to Mount Calvert, and for the marines, marine artillery, and a proportion of the seamen to be there landed, and with the utmost possible expedition to join the army, which I also most readily agreed to accompany.

The major-general then made his dispositions, and arranged that Captain Robyns, with the marines of the ships, should retain possession of Upper Marlborough, and that the marine artillery and seamen should follow the army to the ground it was to occupy for the night. The army then moved on, and bivouacked before dark, about five miles nearer Washington.

In the night, Captain Palmer of the *Nebrus*, and Captain Money of the *Trave*, joined us with seamen and with the marine artillery under Captain Harrison. Captain Wainwright, of the *Tonnant*, had accompanied me the day before, as had also Lieutenant James Scott (acting first lieutenant) of the *Albion*.

At daylight the morning of the 24th, the major-general again put the army in motion, directing his march upon Bladensburg; on reaching which place, with the advanced brigade, the enemy was discovered drawn up in force on rising ground beyond the town; and by the fire he soon opened on us as we entered the place, gave us to understand he was well protected with artillery. General Ross, however, did not hesitate in immediately in advancing to attack him, although our troops were almost exhausted with the fatigue of the march they had just made, and but a small proportion of our little army had yet got up; this dashing measure was, however, I am happy to add, crowned with the success it merited, for, in

spite of the galling fire of the enemy, our troops advanced steadily on both flanks, and in his front; and as soon as they arrived on even ground with him, he fled in every direction, leaving behind him ten pieces of cannon, and a considerable number of killed and wounded; amongst the latter Commodore Barney, and several other officers; some other prisoners were also taken, though not many, owing to the swiftness with the enemy went off, and the fatigues our army had previously undergone.

It would, sir, be deemed presumption in me to attempt to give you particular details respecting the nature of the battle; I shall therefore only remark generally, that the enemy, eight thousand strong, on ground he had chosen as best adapted for him to defend, where he had had time to erect his batteries and concert all his measures, was dislodged as soon as reached, and a victory gained over him by a division of the British army, not amounting to more than fifteen hundred men, headed by our gallant general, whose brilliant achievement of this day it is beyond my power to do justice to, and indeed no possible comment could enhance.

The seamen, with the guns, were, to their great mortification, with the rear division during this short but decisive action; those, however, attached to the rocket brigade, were in the battle, and I remarked with much pleasure the precision with which the rockets were thrown by them, under the direction of First Lieutenant Lawrence of the marine artillery; Mr. Jeremiah M'Daniel, master's mate of the *Tonnant*, a very fine young man, who was attached to this party, being severely wounded. I beg permission to recommend him to your favourable consideration. The company of marines I have on so many occasions had cause to mention to you, commanded by First Lieutenant Stephens, was also in action, as were the colonial marines, under the



temporary command of Captain Reed, of the 6th West India regiment (these companies being attached to the light brigade), and they respectively behaved with accustomed zeal and bravery. None other of the naval department was fortunate enough to arrive up in time to take their share in this battle, excepting Captain Palmer, of the *Hebrus*, with his aide-de-camp Mr. Arthur Wakefield, midshipman of that ship, and Lieutenant James Scott, first of the *Albion*, who acted as my aide-de-camp, and remained with me the whole time.

The contest being completely ended, and the enemy having retired from the field, the general gave the army about two hours to rest, when he again moved forward on Washington. It was, however, dark before we reached the city; and on the general, myself, and some officers, advancing a short way past the first houses of the town, without being accompanied by the troops, the enemy opened upon us a heavy fire of musketry from the capitol and other houses; these were immediately stormed by our people, taken possession of, and set on fire, after which the town submitted without further resistance.

The enemy himself, on our entering the town, set fire to the navy yard, filled with naval stores, a frigate of the largest class, almost ready for launching, and a sloop of war laying off it, as he also did to the fort which protected the sea approach to Washington.

On taking possession of the city, we also set fire to the president's palace, the treasury and the war office, and in the morning Captain Wainwright went with a party to see that the destruction of the navy yard was complete, when he destroyed whatever stores and buildings had escaped the flames of the proceeding night; a large quantity of ammunition and ordinance stores were likewise destroyed by us in the arsenal,

as were about two hundred pieces of artillery of different calibres, as well as a vast quantity of small arms. Two rope-walks of a very extensive nature, full of tar rope, &c situated at the considerable distance from the yard were likewise set fire to and consumed. In short, sir, I do not believe a vestige of public property or a store of any kind, which could be converted to the use of the government, escaped destruction; the bridges across the eastern branch and the Potomac were likewise destroyed.

The general devastation being completed during the day of the 25th we marched again at nine that night on our return, by Bladensburg, to Upper Marlborough.

We arrived yesterday evening at the latter without any molestation of any sort, indeed, without a single musket have been fired; and this morning we moved on to this place, where I have found his majesty's sloop *Manly*, the tenders, and the boats, and I have hoisted my flag pro tempore, in the former. The troops will probably march tomorrow, or the next day at the farthest, to Benedict, for re-embarkation, and this flotilla will of course join you at the same time.

In closing, sir, my statement to you, of the arduous and highly important operations of this last week, I have a most pleasing duty to perform, in assuring you of the good conduct of the officers and men who have been serving under us. I have been particularly indebted, whilst on this service, to Captain Wainwright, of the *Tonnant*, for the assistance he has invariably afforded me, and to Captains Palmer and Money, for their exertions during the march to and from Washington. To Captain Nourse, who has commanded the flotilla during my absence, my acknowledgements are also most justly due, as well as to Captains Sullivan, Badcock, Somerville, Ramsay, and Bruce, who had acted in it

under him.

Lieutenant James Scott, now first lieutenant of the *Albion*, has on this occasion rendered essential services; and as I have had reason so often of late to mention to you the gallant and meritorious conduct of this officer, I trust you will permit me to seize this opportunity of recommending him particularly to your favourable notice and consideration.

Captain Robyns (the senior officer of marines with the fleet), who has had, during these operations, the marines of the ships united under his orders, has executed ably and zealously the several services with which he has been entrusted, and is entitled to my best acknowledgements accordingly; as is also Captain Harrison of the marine artillery, who, with the officers and men attached to him, accompanied the army to and from Washington.

Mr. Dobie, surgeon of the Melpomene, volunteered his professional services on this occasion, and rendered much assistance to the wounded on the field of battle, as well as to many of the men taken ill on the line of march.

One colonial marine killed, one master's mate, two sergeants, and three colonial marines wounded, are the casualties sustained by the naval department; a general list of the killed and wounded of the whole army will of course accompany the report of the major-general.

I have the honour to be, &c.  
(Signed) G. COCKBURN  
Rear Admiral

*Editor's note: Reprinted from News and Notes, August 1974; by James H. Shreve.*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1996

PRESIDENT - JANE EAGEN

VICE PRESIDENT - EUGENE ROBERTS, JR.

SECRETARY - SARAH BOURNE

TREASURER - JOHN BOURNE

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EDITOR - SHARON HOWE SWEETING

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MELINDA ALTER

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## PAST PRESIDENTS

JOYCE MC DONALD

W. C. (BUD) DUTTON

JOHN GIANNETTI

PAUL LANHAM

WARREN (DUSTY) RHOADS

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**School Tour Volunteers:** short hours on weekdays, some who wish to work with children, some who do not wish to work with children, but to help the tour guide by helping prepare the activities.

**Side by Side Helpers:** To orient and help the Woodmore Oasis volunteers. Days and times yet to be arranged; let us know when you are available and maybe we can work it out with them. Absolutely no downsizing on this job. Benefits will not change.

**Artifacts:** to be loaned to schools for locked display cases, items of interest could include old sad irons, pitchers, kitchen utensils, nails, books, pottery, rug beaters, games, etc.

**Cooks:** to prepare dishes to be served at teacher classes. Menus provided, reimbursement for foodstuffs.

**Person with typewriter:** old, new, it doesn't matter. Fred DeMarr needs someone to type cross reference cards. Do this valuable task in your own home or at Marietta at your leisure. Only benefits offered are a sense of accomplishment and the gratitude of the Society and researchers of the future.

To take advantage of any of these fine opportunities, please call Jane Eagen on 301-249-6409 or leave a message at 464-0590.

## MARIETTA GIFT SHOP

Nearly New Items

MPT VIDEO ON  
"Prince George's County -  
300 Year Journey"

### JEWELRY

Charms, Brooch, Lapel (different from the Lapel as advertized in last month's edition) Pins and Tie Tacks All feature the PGCHS logo Marietta

Lots and lots of fascinating books

Tricentennial items including tote bags, caps, T-shirts (brand new), 'lapel' pins, and key chains.

Visit soon and Christmas shop. Come on a Saturday so I will finally have a sale!



Commodore Joshua Barney

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

- 5 Joshua Barney's Barge launched at Historic Bladensburg Waterfront Park (12 noon)
- 21 Prince of a County Fundraiser, Mt. Calvert, 16800 Mount Calvert Road, Croom (2:00 to 5:00 pm); Invitations to be mailed shortly.
- 26 Preston-on-the Patuxent Open House, (2:00pm to 7:00pm)(Calvert County)
- 27 The Fifth Annual Fall Gala, The Maryland Opera Society, inc. (Co-sponsosred by the Historical Society); 6:30 Cash Bar; 7:30 Dinner; and 8:30 Excerpts from **The Beggar's Opera** (Contact Marie E. Crump 301-262-1255) See flier included in this issue.

### OCTOBER

- 12 PGCHS Meeting at the University of Maryland on Prince George's County authors. (More details next News and Notes); 2:00pm
- 19 1996 Fall Tour: **Monocacy Battlefield; Rose Hill Manor; and Museum of Civil War Medicine** with luncheon at *Gladchucks*. \$32.00 by October 12, 1996. Contact Warren Rhoads at Marietta (301-464-5291) Departs Marietta, 5626 Bell Station Road, at 8:30am (See flier)

### November

- 9 Board Meeting at Marietta, 9:30am
- 9 PGCHS Meeting at Marietta with Prof. David Fogle as Guest Speaker; 2:00 pm.

### December

- 14 PGCHS Christmas Party at Marietta. 2:00pm

**TO OUR READERS:** My apologies for this graphically devoid **Calendar of Events**. I still have not figured out the *Calendar Plus* program on Lester's computer. For additional information on several of these events, see the following pages. *Editor: S. Sweeting*



# "PRINCE OF A COUNTY" FUNDRAISER

AT MT. CALVERT

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 21, 1996.

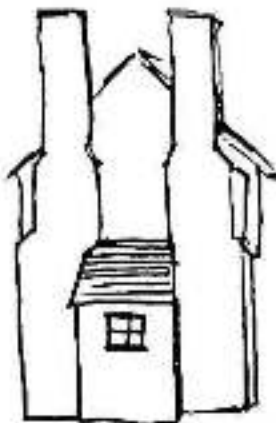
The invitations are in the mail or will be shortly. This important annual event will be an opportunity to test your visual skills related to the REBUS of this historic structure printed in *News and Notes* in April 1995.

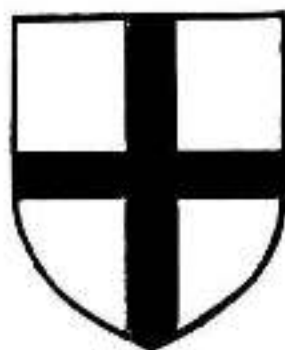
Do you remember the type of bonding?

Do you recall the window style/arrangement.

What is a pent?

Can you visualize a fretwork frieze and/or boxed cornice?





# The Prince George's County Historical Society

1996-FALL TOUR-1996  
JOIN US FOR A VISIT TO FREDERICK  
Saturday October 19th

MONOCACY BATTLEFIELD-A little known, but important Civil War Battle, that saved Washington D.C. from CONFEDERATE attack. An electric map at the Visitors Center will guide you thru the various stages of the conflict.

ROSE HILL MANOR-This elegant Georgian Mansion, built circa 1792, was the home of Thomas Johnson Maryland's first elected governor.

Luncheon at Gladchucks-SEE BELOW FOR FOOD SELECTIONS

MUSEUM OF CIVIL WAR MEDICINE-This newly opened exhibit, under the directorship of Burton Kummerow (who was on the St. Mary City Staff during the lead coffin excavations) examines the care and treatment of the wounded during the War Between the States.

The price of \$32.50 per person includes all entrance fees, transportation and luncheon.

GUESTS ARE WELCOME

LEAVE FROM "MARIETTA" SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS  
5626 BELL STATION ROAD PROMPTLY AT 8:30 A.M.

-----  
DEADLINE OCTOBER 12th--NO REFUNDS AFTER THIS DATE

LUNCHEON SELECTIONS AND NAME/NAMES  
BAKED STUFFED SHRIMP.....

.....  
CHICKEN CORDON-BLEU.....  
.....

Please make checks payable to: Prince  
Georges County Historical Society  
Mail to Warren Rhoads, 12501 Kemmerton Lane  
Bowie, Maryland . 20715

CASH BAR AVAILABLE

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

ERECTED ON ST. GEORGE'S DAY, APRIL 23, 1896

***THE MARYLAND OPERA SOCIETY, INC.***

Presents

**THE FIFTH ANNUAL FALL GALA**

Presenting as Part of the  
Prince George's County Tricentennial Celebration

**EXCERPTS FROM JOHN GAY'S  
*THE BEGGAR'S OPERA***

*(The Beggar's Opera was performed in Upper Marlboro in 1752 and has the distinction of being the first opera presented in America to be accompanied by an orchestra.)*

**FEATURING**

***MARY GRESOCK* as *POLLY***

***JODY RAPPORT* as *LUCY***

***PATRICK TOOMEY* as *MACHEATH***

***MICHAEL J. BEGLEY* as *THE BEGGAR***

**DIRECTED AND NARRATED by *MICHAEL J. BEGLEY***

**ACCOMPANIED by *ADAM MAHONSKE***

Friday, September 27, 1996  
GREENBELT MARRIOTT HOTEL  
6400 Ivy Lane, Greenbelt, Maryland

6:30 Cash Bar

7:30 Dinner

8:30 Excerpts from *The Beggar's Opera*

**Black Tie Optional**

**Tickets: \$60.00**

For Information please contact Marie E. Crump at 262-1255  
Or write The Maryland Opera Society, Inc., P. O. Box 36 Bowie, Maryland 20719

DATED MATERIAL

NON-PROFIT ORG  
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PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
POST OFFICE BOX 14  
RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20738-0014

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Library: Saturdays 12 - 4 PM  
and during special events  
Call 301-464-0591

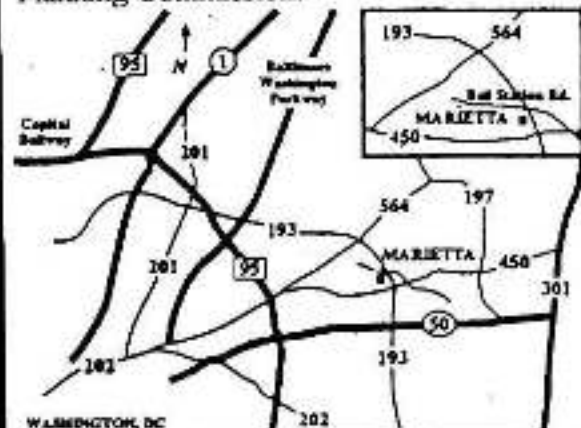
Marietta Tours -Friday, 11 - 3, Sunday,  
12 - 4 - and by appointment -  
Information 301-464-0591

### THE SOCIETY GIFT SHOP

Features a wide selection of books, gifts,  
toys and small antiques. Open Friday,  
Saturday and Sunday, 12 -4 PM and  
during special events. Call 301-464-  
0590.

### LOCATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is located at Marietta, 5624  
Bell Station Road, in Glenn Dale, MD, off  
Route 193, near Route 450. This is a  
facility of the Maryland National Park and  
Planning Commission.







# News and Notes

## Prince George's County Historical Society



September 1996

Our 44th Year

Volume XXIV Number 8

### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY AUTHORS

Probably the first County writer was George Henry Calvert, scion of Maryland's first family, the Calverts of Riversdale. He wrote literary studies on Goethe and the English Romantic poets, a biography of his ancestor, Peter Paul Rubens, and some verse of his own. Yet he pursued his career elsewhere, leaving the estate to his brother Charles.

Two other writers moved in the opposite direction -- achieving international reputations as novelists, then choosing to spend their latter years here: James M. Cain, author of The Postman Always Rings Twice, who settled in University Park, and Katherine Anne Porter, author of Ship of Fools, who bought a Westchester Park condominium and left her papers to the University of Maryland.

But who are the modern writers of Prince George's County? On **Saturday, October 12**, members of the Society will be able to meet a few of them. All live here now, or have lived here in the past. Of this group, **Reed Whittemore**, former Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress, has achieved national eminence as a poet of distinction. His younger contemporary, **Edgar Silex**, has found inspiration for his poetry in a North American Indian background.

Two are authors of books for children. **Mary Downing Hahn**, who grew up in College Park, will show the genesis of Stepping on the Cracks from living there during World War II. And writing from a different cultural world, **Uma Krishnaswami** recounts "great flood" stories from around the globe. **Jane Donawerth**, of Landover, will share her explorations into science fiction written by women, while novelist and short story writer **Merle Collins** will show how her own Caribbean roots inform her work.

All will speak informally about the meaning of writing in their lives -- and perhaps about how it has been affected by living here. All our authors are expected to bring copies of their works for sale and signing.

The program will take place at 2:00 pm in Room 2309 of the Art/Sociology Building on the University's College Park campus.

**DIRECTIONS:** *If you face the Taves Theatre, looking from the parking lot, the building will be at your right. The best way to reach this parking lot is from College Avenue, off Adelphi, or from Guilford Road off U.S. 1, the street just south of Calvert Road. (There is a light.) At the end of the second block (where the dualization of Guilford ends), continue on what becomes Mowatt Lane until it deadends. (The Art/Sociology Building will be just in front of you.) Jog left and enter the parking lot.*

*After parking, walk past a fenced enclosure with large blocks of stone and some partially finished sculptures to enter the building. Walk straight ahead until you come to the freight elevator on your left. It's not an elegant vehicle, but large enough for even huge art supplies. Take this elevator to the second floor. (2F). When you leave the elevator, Room 2309 will be in front of you, just across the hall. It's a small lecture hall with comfortable seating. This route is also wheelchair accessible.*

*By Virginia W. Beauchamp*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### OCTOBER

- 12 PGCHS BOARD meeting at Marietta, 9:30 am
- 12 PGCHS Meeting at the University of Maryland on Prince George's County Writers (see cover story for details)
- 19 Fall Tour to FREDERICK (Flier was included in your August *News and Notes*; Register by October 12, 1996.)

### NOVEMBER

- 9 PGCHS BOARD meeting at Marietta, 9:30 am
- 9 PGCHS Meeting at Marietta with Prof. David Fogle as Guest Speaker, 2:00 pm

### DECEMBER

- 14 PGCHS Christmas Party at Marietta, 2:00; bring your favorite appetizer

This listing includes only functions sponsored by the Historical Society. Listings for other organizations are elsewhere in this newsletter.

## President's Ramblings

Summer is over and the fall round of activities is in full swing! Things are happening all over the place. Fashion Seminars, Historic Preservation Lecture Series, Receptions, Teas, Barney Barge launchings, books being republished, Prince George's authors presentations, Elder Hostel, Marietta furnishings returning, paint colors selected, plans for the library renovation, and local school partnerships being formed.

We will also be involved in several events that are associated with the University of Maryland through David Fogle. A lecture series on Historic Preservation and a reception for the incoming Provost two things of which we will be co-sponsors. Details are elsewhere in the newsletter.

Bud Dutton, Fred DeMarr, and I will be involved in the Elder hostel sponsored by Collington Community and Prince George's County Community College during the week of October 14. This is an exciting Tricentennial event that will share our county's history with elderhostelers from all over the country. It has meant a lot of very careful planning and coordinating with people from many organizations and places. I have enjoyed meeting the Collington Community and PGCCC staff and working with them. They are impressive!

I was very pleased when a young lady from the area and her parents visited the gift shop after their tour of Marietta. They did not know Marietta existed until they got their passports. When I explained we could use student volunteers who want to complete their community service requirement all three were very pleased. Mom and Dad were happy to find a safe place, close to home where their daughter could do her volunteering. She checked it out at DuVal High School (how appropriate) and called me the next night to sign on to do filing in the library and perhaps some typing of cross reference cards.

**Courtland Lee**, the provider of plants for our county symbol sale in the spring, is busy once again. He and Susan Wolfe have made plans with the Greenbelt Rotary Club to plant Glenn Dale azaleas at Marietta on September 28 at 9:30. Their plan does not end there. It will be expanded and make Marietta an even more beautiful historic site. Many plants have been developed in our county and what better place to show them off than at the headquarters of the Historical Society?

There are so many good things going on that it is very exciting and satisfying to be part of this Society. I am quite concerned that too many of you are missing out on the many good things that are happening. The classified ads have helped bring and direct some of your many talents and abilities to the Society's table, but **we need more participants**. Most of the members of the Board of Directors have been very faithful in helping serve, plan, and work at various

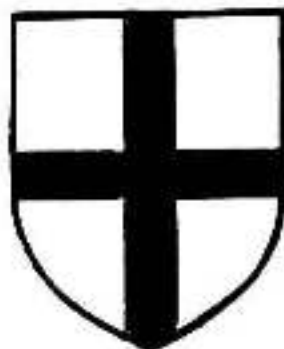
tasks. **They do not have exclusive rights on the "doing" part of this organization.** Some of these things can be done in the comfort of your own home. We have the momentum of the Tricentennial, plans for an expanded program, a great site manager, and a very talented and willing board of directors. Call **Susan Wolfe** at 464-5291 or me, **Jane Eagen** at 249-6409 and enjoy the pleasures available to you. We each have a list as long as Gabriel Duval's plait and will be happy to hear from you.

## **Society Forms Partnerships with Nearby Schools**

The schools close to Marietta have been enthusiastic in their response to opportunities to be involved with Marietta and the history of our county. Partnerships have been formed with both Glenn Dale and Woodmore Elementary schools and Kingsford Elementary is being formed. The Glenn Dale Faculty will be attending a tea on October 7 for the purpose of becoming acquainted with the house and the programs offered. Jane Eagen will be teaching Prince George's and Maryland history as part of the Oasis program at Woodmore and the participants will in turn volunteer at Marietta. We have met with an administrator from Kingsford Elementary and are looking forward to having them to tea on October 17 (tentative date). The schools we have presented these ideas to have been very enthusiastic. They are all neighborhood schools whose students live nearby. This is a wonderful opportunity to help build a sense of community and make Marietta a centerpiece in the community. It will only be effective if there are volunteers from the Society who will help them experience some of (but not limited to) the things listed below:

- Show them such things as copies of original documents and help them read the old script;
- Churning butter and spreading it on hot bread for a snack;
- Explaining some of the household chores of the 19th century;
- Explaining how Gabriel Duvall raised his grandchildren when he was in his advanced years;
- Addition to the house to accommodate the children;
- The manners of the nineteenth century;
- Demonstrating clothing of the past;
- Sharing letters from Gabriel Duvall's grandchildren to him and his to them; also their report cards;
- Relating the career of Gabriel Duvall on state and national levels;
- Showing how the rooms of the house were used;
- Showing the law office to the children;
- Showing some 19th century school textbooks;
- Sharing letters that express feelings of Gabriel Duvall about the Revolution and family members deaths;





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GUESTS ARE WELCOME

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5626 BELL STATION ROAD PROMPTLY AT 8:30 A.M.

-----  
DEADLINE OCTOBER 12th--NO REFUNDS AFTER THIS DATE

## LUNCHEON SELECTIONS AND NAME/NAMES

BAKED STUFFED SHRIMP.....

.....

CHICKEN CORDON-BLEU.....

.....

Please make checks payable to: Prince  
Georges County Historical Society  
Mail to Warren Rhoads, 12501 Kemmerton Lane  
Bowie, Maryland 20715

CASH BAR AVAILABLE

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

ERECTED ON ST. GEORGE'S DAY, APRIL 23, 1696

Arranging artifacts or display in a showcase at a school;  
Explaining cooking utensils used in food preparation in the past;  
Showing them the chores they might have done had they lived at  
Marietta at an earlier time;  
Telling how the Marietta plantation was a community;  
Helping them write a letter or invitation;  
Writing with a quill pen;  
Demonstrating sealing wax or candle making;  
Helping them to sew a few stitches, or even make a yo-yo.

Materials and information will be provided, you may also have more ideas to add.

We are planning the months in which we will offer a program for each grade. The sixth grade studies Prince George's County in their first unit of social studies, so we have planned that one for September and perhaps October. At this time we do not intend to offer programs for specific grades in January and February because the weather is so undependable. The more volunteers we have the smaller the groups will be. It is more effective for volunteer and child if the groups are small. We have decided to take only one class at a time, and if you divide 30-35 children into three or four groups it is more fun for all concerned.

One of the purposes of this Society is to share the history and educate the people of this county. Why not be a part of that sharing and educating? We are not looking for Ph. D.'s in education or history, but friendly people who are willing to be a part of some enjoyable and worth while experiences for the children of our county.

### **Menus for Teacher's Classes**

Last month we asked for cooks. We promised you the menu would be forthcoming, and here it is. There will be at least 15 in the group. Registration is not closed yet, so there may be as many as 25 or 30. You will be reimbursed for the foodstuffs. Serving time is 5:45. We need one server at each class. It would be desirable to have a coordinator for each session who will be responsible for providing the food. Plates, utensils etc, are furnished. Beverage is furnished at most places.

**Call Susan Wolfe 464-5291 or Jane Eagen 249-6409 to volunteer.**

When	Where	Topic or Theme	Suggested Menu
#1 Sept. 25	Marietta	<u>Early colonial life</u>	soup or stew, corn-bread, apples, cheese, gingerbread
<b>Coordinndator: Sarah Bourne</b>			
#2 Oct. 9	Colonial Farm	<u>Agriculture, black history</u>	red beans and rice or fried chicken greens, fruit, sweet potato pie
<b>Coordinator:</b>			
#3 Oct. 23	Dorsey Chapel	<u>Church supper</u>	ham, green beans, potatoes or corn, cake or pie
<b>Coordinator:</b>			
#4 Nov. 6	Darnall's Chance	<u>Early 1900's Rte 1 Corridor</u>	chicken potpie or lasagna, salad, ethnic cookies or dessert
<b>Coordinator:</b>			
#5 Nov.20	Riversdale	<u>Great Celebration -</u>	crab balls or seafood of some kind, fried chicken, finger salad, rolls, special
<b>Coordinator:</b>			

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### WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Jack I. Thompson, Jr.      Carole J. Borggren  
 Clarence Wilson      Robert Wiggins

William B. And Elizabeth M. Crowley  
 Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Maloney  
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Milan, Jr.  
 City of Bowie Museums

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### **Friends of the Greenbelt Museum**

announce the following events: Exhibit Opening of *Images and Voices of Greenbelt* at the Gallery, Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt on September 29, 1996. Hours: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays, noon to 10 p.m. weekends.

Lecture entitled *The Fabric of Daily Life in Greenbelt* in the Multipurpose Room, Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 10, 1996.

Lectures on *The WPA in Prince George's County* and *The Fabric of Life During the Great Depression* at Auditorium, National Archives II, 8601 Adelphi Road, College at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, October 18, 1996.

### **HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

The Riversdale Lecture Series

**Donald Hankey on *Heritage: Economics and Sustainability*** on 9 September at 1:00 pm; School of Architecture Auditorium, University of Maryland.

**Hermione Hobhouse on *The Development of an Imperial City: Victorian London*** on 7 October at 7:30 pm at the Calvert Mansion, Riversdale.

**Nellie Longworth on *Historic Preservation and National Politics*** on 4 November at 7:30 pm at the Calvert Mansion, Riversdale.

**Sara Chase on *Preservation: Persistence and Perversity*** on 9 December at 7:30 pm at the Calvert Mansion, Riversdale.

The Mansion is located at 4811 Riverdale Road. Call 301-864-0420 for information.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1996**

**PRESIDENT - JANE EAGEN**  
**VICE PRESIDENT - EUGENE ROBERTS, JR.**  
**SECRETARY - SARAH BOURNE**  
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Library: Saturdays 12 - 4 PM  
and during special events

Call 301-464-0590

Marietta Tours -Friday, 11 - 3, Sunday,  
12 - 4 - and by appointment -

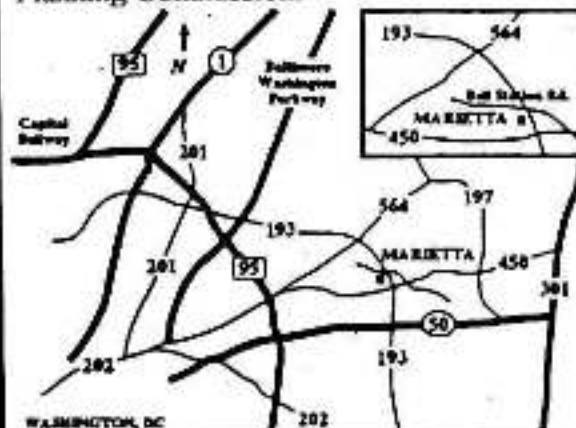
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### THE SOCIETY GIFT SHOP

Features a wide selection of books, gifts,  
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The Society is located at Marietta, 5624  
Bell Station Road, in Glenn Dale, MD, off  
Route 193, near Route 450. This is a  
facility of the Maryland National Park and  
Planning Commission.





# News and Notes

## Prince George's County Historical Society



October 1996

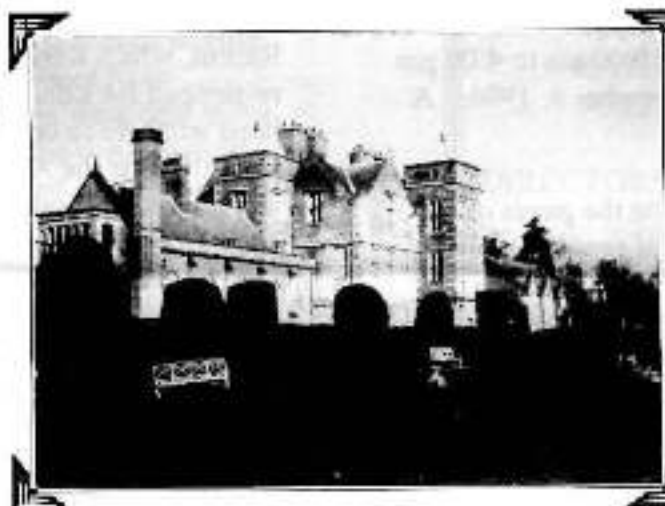
Our 44th Year

Volume XXIV Number 9

### PROFESSOR DAVID FOGLE TO SPEAK ON

**Kiplin Hall  
Scorton/Richmond  
North Yorkshire, England**

Kiplin Hall in North Yorkshire was built in the 1620's by George Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore. Calvert was Secretary of State for King James I, but resigned the office in 1625 when he re-affirmed the Catholic faith of his family. In service to the crown he was created Baron Baltimore and Ireland.



Yorkshire, England 1620's by George Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore. Calvert was Secretary of State for King James I, but resigned the office in 1625 when he re-affirmed the Catholic faith of his family. In service to the crown he was created Baron Baltimore and Ireland.

After an abortive attempt to begin a colony in Newfoundland and difficulties with the settlers of the Jamestown Colony, Charles I granted land in the northern Chesapeake Bay area to Calvert, who sent his younger brother, Leonard to establish a colony at St. Mary's City.

Kiplin Hall remained in the hands of distant relatives of the Calvert family until 1971 when Bridget Talbott's will established a charitable trust to preserve it as a historic landmark. During her life time Miss Talbott repeatedly sought to develop ties between Kiplin Hall and the state of Maryland. One of her chosen trustees was Leonard Crewe of Baltimore, a long time figure in the Maryland Historical Society.

Leonard Crewe approached the University of Maryland in 1986 with an offer to restore the stable block interior as a student facility if the University would develop a program for repair and restoration. Professor David Fogle, director of the University of Maryland Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, grabbed the idea and since 1987, he has led a group of students in a summer program at Kiplin Hall. **Come and hear David Fogle talk about his work at the November 9th Meeting at the Glenn Dale Community Center at 2:p.m.**

*Submitted by: Sarah Bourne. Editor's note: Dick and Sarah Bourne have made a splendid contribution to Professor Fogle's work at Kiplin by traveling each year to Yorkshire to cook, to drive, and to do whatever else needed doing.*

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

You know how when you learn a new word or fact it keeps cropping up? That's what happened this week when I was thinking about Kiplin Hall and the arrival of the early English settlers in Maryland. The photograph of Kiplin shown on the cover is from a post card advertisement of *Maryland's English Roots: Kiplin Hall: Photographs of Kiplin Hall and Environs by DCC Faculty and Friends*. This exhibition is at the Dundalk Gallery, College Community Center, 7200 Sollers Point Road, Dundalk, MD 21222 (410-285-9876) just minutes from Beltway Exit 39, on Merritt Boulevard. The exhibition hours are Monday - Friday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm from October 4 to November 4, 1996. A must see.

Likewise, two items from the pages of the *Prince George's Journal* caught my attention. The first, published on October 15, 1996, is entitled "British Scientists Uncover Vanished Maryland Mansion" describes a mansion called St. Peter's Freehold located in a field south of the old capital (St. Mary's City). "State records show that Philip Calvert built St. Peter's in 1677. Phillip was a half-brother of Cecil Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore." The article goes on to say that "They revealed St. Peter's to be 54 feet square, with a full cellar. The west, or front side of the house was built with a Flemish bond, a pattern of bricklaying then just coming into fashion. By 1695, the house was being used as a county militia powder magazine, which destroyed it." Interesting stuff. "The scientists' discovery has led historians to conclude that St. Peter's was the same size and general appearance as the governor's palace in Williamsburg, Va."

Then in John M. Walton Jr.'s column called "This Week in County History", he reports that on October 15, 1770, "it was announced in the *Maryland Gazette* that goods imported from Great Britain were shipped back from Prince George's County because of the Non-Importation Agreements in protest against the Townshend Acts. A notice placed in the *Gazette* by one of the county's 'committees of inspection' read as follows: 'It gives us great Pleasure that we can inform the Publick, that all the Goods belonging to the Merchants of this Place, which have, from Time to Time, been rejected and stored by us, as being imported contrary to the General Association of Non-Importation (except Two small Jars of Raisins, which were left by Mistake) are now re-shipped for London, which we sincerely hope will help to convince the Mother-Country, that the Americans, detest and abhor all her unconstitutional Measures.'"

John's column also includes the following entry dated October 19, 1866:

"This day is recognized as the birthday of St. Paul's Baptist Church -- originally in Hyattsville, later Bladensburg and today Capitol Heights. It was on this day that the church's founder, Sarah Miranda Plummer Clark, a former slave born in Prince George's County, was reunited with her family in Hyattsville. Sarah and her family held an all-night prayer vigil to celebrate her safe return home, after having been kidnaped by a slave trader in 1860 and taken against her will to New Orleans. ... Sarah was the oldest daughter of two slaves, Adam and Emily Plummer, who for many years were separated by slavery, but stayed united by marriage and their love for each other. She was born on Three Sisters Plantation (present-day Lanham area), where her mother was a slave. Her father was a slave

of the prominent Calvert family and lived on the Riversdale plantation."

The Officers and Board of the Historical Society also wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge and congratulate all those involved with the restoration of Dorsey Chapel as reported in the Fall 1996 issue of the *Friends of Preservation* newsletter. "Dorsey Chapel was built in 1900 to serve the black farming community of Brookland, which had grown up near the railroad village of Glenn Dale (originally called Glennville). Brookland was centered around a meeting hall, the Good Samaritan Lodge, built circa 1889. Because the nearest places of worship were approximately 2-1/2 miles from Brookland, worship services were held in the Lodge, while members of the congregation purchased one half-acre west of the Lodge 'for the purpose of establishing a place of worship.' The Brookland Methodist Episcopal Church was completed and dedicated in September 1900. From the earliest period, however, the church was known as Dorsey Chapel after its first pastor, the Reverend A.B. Dorsey."

Congratulations to the M-NCPPC and the Friends of Dorsey Chapel for this splendid renewal. For information on visiting the Chapel call Marietta Mansion at 301-464-5291.

And finally, your editor wishes to commiserate with all those members who missed the splendid discussion, lead by Virginia Beauchamp, with other Prince George's County Authors at the October meeting. It was absolutely spellbinding.

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## President's Ramblings

I thought last month was busy. It was ... but, this November may set a record.

At the recent board meeting the slate of nominees was presented and then read at the membership meeting. They will be voted upon at the November 9 meeting. Be sure to be there, for several other reasons.

1. **Prof. David Fogle** will present interesting information on Kiplin Hall and some of the new plans for it. Kiplin Hall is the home of George Calvert in Yorkshire, England. This part of the meeting will be held at the Glenn Dale Community Center (on Route 193) just north of Marietta.

2. Following the presentation, there will be a reception at Marietta to which many of our elected officials are invited. It is important that you attend to reinforce the idea that the Society is interested and interesting.

I firmly believe that the future of the historic sites in Prince George's County is endangered. The present organization within the MNCPPC is new and the responsibility for and the administration of the historic sites is shared by two administrators who already had a full plate. The County Executive, Wayne Curry, wants to make some changes in the relationship of the County and MNCPPC. Historic Preservation grants and funds have been cut drastically on the state and federal levels. The new HB1 which is to establish Heritage Areas is still being interpreted. Marietta has been in a state of disrepair for many years. The plans for the second phase of the restoration were made, but not funded. By going to the legislature two times we were able to get a \$100,000 bond bill with a match by MNCPPC in the 1998 budget. The plan which called for

\$750,000 will cost considerably more than that by now.

This problem is not only Marietta's. During the Tricentennial the historic sites on the Passport were to be open 4 days: Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Budget cuts changed it to two days. Friday and Sunday were chosen. The number of people visiting the sites has doubled and even tripled in some instances. The Passport program has proven that the sites have merit and the population wants to enjoy them. With all of the questions about the future of MNCPPC and the financial problems of the County what will happen to these wonderful facilities? What is the point of having a very valuable house that can only be open 4 hours a week? The big initial investment has been made. Why not finish the restorations and maintenance needed on the sites on which it has been started and not keep acquiring more sites?

Make the ones we have going concerns. Staff them. Use them for educational and social purposes. They can and should be the places where cultural events are held in the local neighborhoods and communities. Each one should have programs for every grade so that students can visit them again and again. There are many lessons that can be taught more efficiently and effectively in their true settings than vicariously in a classroom. This is the way we can teach our children about the heroes of their county. These sites can give a child a sense of place and belonging. There was someone and something here before his housing development!

If we do not make this Society visible and viable entity in this county then we cannot expect to have the support of the legislators and administrators. It is my opinion that we have to show them what can be done and be

doing it! If we do not show them there is interest and a willingness to be active and have programs for the community why should they be willing to staff the sites more fully in order to have them open more? The politicians need to be educated as to the possibilities and worth of the historical sites in our county.

### **Marietta Gift Shop Donates Funds for Paint**

At a luncheon to be held on October 30, the gift shop manager, **Stella Uber** will present to **Susan Wolfe** a check for \$1,000.00 to be used for the purchase of paint to refurbish Marietta. The shop volunteers are invited to the luncheon and encouraged to bring a friend who might be interested in joining the group. Stella and Bill Umber have done an outstanding job of managing the shop and the many volunteers who have sold the many books and items have been very successful.

Our remodeled shop celebrates its first anniversary by contributing to the restoration of Marietta. It is written in the original agreement that the profits would be designated in this way. It is a real joy to see it happen. More volunteers are needed. Each month **Kay Eisinger** sets up the schedule and lately there have been quite a few vacancies that she and the Ubers have filled when they could spare the time. Call Kay at 249-8697 and tell her which Friday, Saturday, or Sunday afternoon you can work. If you are a couple, believe me, there are enough varied tasks for two. Susan Wolfe has a list as long as your arm.

### **It Took 300 Years for the First One**

Collington Episcopal Life Care Center and

The Prince George's Community College (PGCC) cosponsored the first ElderHostel in our county as a Tricentennial Event. Thirty people from all over the U.S. and several from our county attended it and learned about Agriculture, Aviation, and Architecture in Prince George's County. They gathered at Collington Sunday, October 13 where **Howard Stone** of the County Exec's office welcomed them. They asked many questions, summarized, and evaluated their experience before departing on Saturday, October 19. The Holiday Inn at Lanham was where they spent a few hours sleeping each night. Collington provided the meals, lecture hall, and most of the transportation to the places they visited. Each day was filled to the brim with activity. The ElderHostelers visited *Riversdale*, *Belair*, *Marietta*, The Garber Facility of the Smithsonian in Suitland, College Park Airport, the 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant. The Agricultural Library and Beltsville Agricultural Research Facility, and the Northampton Slave Cabin Site. They saw the Bladensburg Heritage Dancers, attended a concert by PGCC faculty, saw the movie *The Great Waldo Pepper*, played 19th century games, saw the Tricentennial video, took airplane rides, and heard talks by **Iris McConnell**, **Fred DeMarr**, and **Jane Eagen**. **Susan Wolfe** brought the games and assisted the players in getting started.

One of the hostelers had lived in Bowie and several had children and relatives in the area. **Fred De Marr** assisted one lady in finding her ancestor Gustavus Brown of Rose Hill in Port Tobacco. She is truly delighted with her finds and happy to have visited the place where her family members have lived. She is purchasing the video and plans to use it at her family's next reunion.

After the video and realizing they had only

seen the tip of the iceberg, several said to be sure and have more so they can return and enjoy the things they missed.

It took a great amount of planning and coordinating to select the activities and make the necessary arrangements. **Karen Chaney**, of the Administrative Staff of Collington did an outstanding job of keeping it all together. **Camille Crawford** of the PGCC provided many ideas and service. She even had an exercise instructor at their motel each morning. Several residents of Collington and **Jane Eagen** accompanied the group to all of the activities to give them continuity and security. **Bud Dutton** helped several days also. The residents and staff of Collington were friendly and welcomed them warmly. The weather was perfect. It waited several hours after their departure before it rained!

It may have been the first in our county, but it won't be the last. The response of the participants was terrific and made the planning meetings and long days worthwhile. Our Tricentennial was enjoyed by people from Washington State, Florida, and many points in between and we felt proud.

## Bits and Pieces

### Welcome to New Members

We cordially welcome **Mr. and Mrs. Roland E. Sliker** and **Joseph H. Wright** into our Society.

### FROM JUSTICE DUVALL COMES THE FOLLOWING:

*On the one hundred & eighty-fifth anniversary of his appointment to the Supreme Court of the United States of America Gabriel Duvall and the Prince George's County Historical Society invite you to a reception at his home, Marietta Saturday, November at Four PM; Members of the Historical Society will be meeting at the Glenn Dale Community Center at two o'clock to hear a lecture by Professor David Fogle about Kiplin Hall and other estates of the Lords Baltimore. You are cordially invited to attend this meeting also.*

**And you, dear members, are cordially invited also.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### NOVEMBER

- 9 PGCHS BOARD Meeting at Marietta, 9:30am
- 9 Membership meeting with *Prof. David Fogle*, **Glenn Dale Community Center**, 2:00pm  
Reception *Commemorating the Appointment of Gabriel Duvall* to the Supreme Court, 4:00 at **Marietta**

### DECEMBER

- 14 PGCHS Christmas Party at Marietta, 2:00 pm; Bring your favorite appetizer

During the month of November we remember veterans of all wars and we take this opportunity to remember a single, special one named Col. Ellsworth. This veteran came to our attention through a newspaper clipping **Bill Uber** found in a book inherited from his grandfather. **Dusty Rhoads** provided additional background.

**HIS LAST LETTER**--The following beautifully written letter was the last written by Col. Ellsworth to his parents, just previous to his departure on the expedition which resulted in his untimely death (He was murdered in Marshall House after taking down a rebel flag) :

*"Head-Quarters First Zouave, Camp Lincoln.  
Washington, D.C., May 23, 1861.*

*"My dear Father and Mother,--*

*"The regiment is ordered to move across the river to-night. We have no means of knowing what reception we are to meet with. I am inclined to the opinion that our entrance to the city of Alexandria will be hotly contested, as I am just informed that a large force has arrived there to-day. Should this happen, my dear parents, it may be my lot to be injured in some manner. Whatever may happen, cherish the consolation that I was engaged in the performance of a sacred duty; and to-night, thinking of the probabilities to-morrow, and the occurrences of the past, I am perfectly content to accept whatever my fortune may be; confident that He who noteth even the fall of a sparrow, will have some purpose even in the fate of one like me. My darling and ever loved parents, good bye. God bless, protect, and care for you. ELMER*

The following tribute to his memory is just as eloquent:

*"Sprung from the ranks of the people, reflecting their impulses, sharing in their sympathies.--young, gallant, and generous,--lofty of spirit, earnest of purpose, severely temperate, combining all that youth emulates, that manhood loves, and that old age admires, Col. Ellsworth was alike the idol of those who knew him, and foremost in the ranks of those to whom the country looked as the exemplars of its youth, and the defenders of its honor."*

*The colonel was singularly a handsome man, and though an unusual pallor overspread his countenance, he was still beautiful in death. A detachment of troops soon arrived, and a guard was established around and over the house. The townspeople began to gather, and it was judiciously deemed important to conceal from the impetuous regiment of Zouaves the murder of their leader, lest they should take signal vengeance. The regiment had already been stationed, in companies, in different portions of the town, from whence, in case of alarm, they could easily be concentrated. No one was permitted to enter or leave the Marshall House. About 7 o'clock, the troops, which had crossed the bridge, and marched down the banks of the river, arrived, cutting off a company of cavalry, about thirty in number, in the gayest holiday dress of war, and about five hundred infantry. They were all sent as prisoners of war, or as rebels to be hung, to Washington. The Government had not then decided in what capacity to regard them.*

*The body of Col. Ellsworth, carefully veiled from sight, was then conveyed secretly on board the steamer, on a litter of muskets, and taken to Washington, to the house of his friend, the President. The excitement produced in Washington and throughout the whole country was very intense. His funeral obsequies were solemnized in Washington, with all the demonstration of respect and grief, and as his remains were borne to their last resting place, in the interior of the State of New York, they were received with funeral processions, badges of mourning, requiems, and the tolling of bells, in every city through which they passed.*



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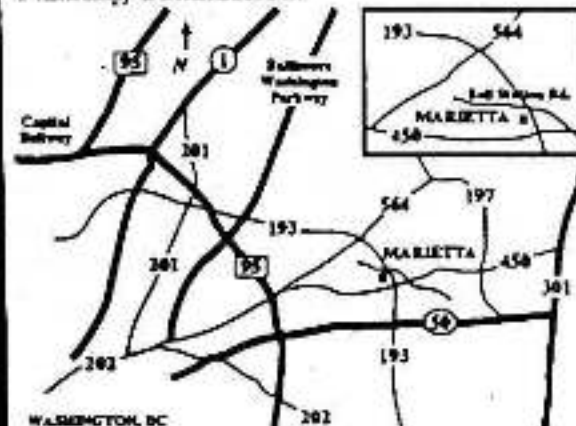
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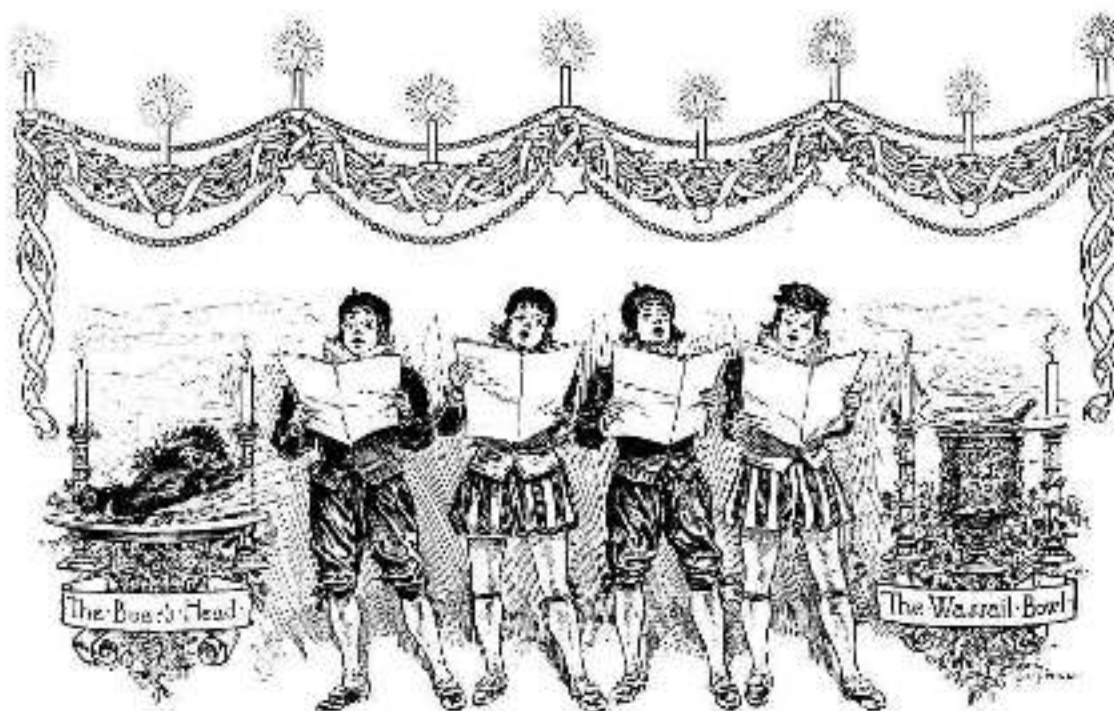
## Prince George's County Historical Society



November/December 1996

Our 44th Year

Volume XXIV Number 10



**Join Us For Our Annual Holiday Celebration  
at Marietta on Saturday, December 14  
from 2:00 pm until  
Bring your favorite Appetizer**

***'TIS THE SEASON***

Despite the sectional differences which flared and erupted into the great Civil War, the people of America preserved their Christmas traditions. Because of the close proximity to Washington, Baltimore, and Annapolis, Southern Maryland was filled with the same social enthusiasm that filled the cities during the 1850s and 1860s. And, those cities had markets which could supply some of the Christmas necessities - greeting cards, imported ornaments, fresh fruits, and the like.

President John Adams inaugurated the custom of holiday parties at the White House. The Oval Room was decorated with greens, and the tables were laden with cakes, punch and other refreshments, while the children sang, danced, and played with the Adamses' grandchildren.

Under Thomas Jefferson, the parties became adult affairs where his guests feasted on imported cheeses, preserved fruits, and other delicacies and where vintage wines accompanied the meal. His six grandchildren wandered among the dignitaries, Congressman, and ambassadors, an informality which shocked many in Washington society.

When Andrew Jackson came to the White House in 1829, he was in mourning for his wife; but his family put up a stocking on a White House mantel and the morning found it stuffed with small presents -- including a cornucopia. His nieces and nephews also had stockings filled with cakes, candies, nuts, and fruits. Because President Jackson had been raised as an orphan, he threw a party for other orphans. Among the treats were ices shaped like apples and pears to eat and snowballs made of starch-powdered cotton to throw. In a similar vein, President Lincoln's young son, Tad, reportedly rounded up street waifs during his father's administration and brought them home for turkey dinners.

The first Christmas tree entered the White House in the 1850s during the administration of Franklin Pierce. This official presidential sanction helped to popularize the custom in America. By 1885, President Cleveland had added new-fangled electric lights to the White House tree.

On New Year's Day, our early Presidents generally held an open house. In the best democratic tradition, it was open to all, no matter the political and social differences. This tradition of Christmas season receptions spread throughout the area into homes not so grand as the White House.

Even the simplest of homes in Southern Maryland could be amply decorated with pine, cedar, crowsfoot, running cedar, laurel, bay and holly from the nearby woods. Ivy and rosemary were, surprisingly, the most prized Christmas decorations of the Victorian era. Fresh fruits from the Washington markets, abundant orange oranges, and pine cones and pods could all be added to the arrangements. Some accounts of the period refer to cedar boughs being dusted with flour to achieve the "snow" effect that we spray on today. And mistletoe, shot from trees, abounded. New Englanders had to pay for mistletoe for it grows only in warmer climes, but Marylanders found it abundant in neighboring woods. The proper Victorian was not too staid to enjoy a stolen kiss! And, there was a proper way to kiss under the mistletoe. As the man kissed the lady, he was obligated to pluck a berry from the branch and present it to the lady. This practice continued until the berries were gone. The mistletoe then lost its power of love, and no more kisses could be had there. In the nearby hearth burned the traditional Yule log - or Christmas log as it was called in the South. This had been an English custom, and the Southerners stuck with their English ties. A Victorian Christmas was bright and cheerful, and the decorations and the parties were simple or as elaborate as the people cared to make them. And when Christmas Day passed, it was time to plan the elaborate New Year's receptions. But that's another story.

*Submitted by Laurie Verge, from the Surratt House Museum's publication called Christmas of Yesteryear: a history of our treasured traditions and holiday customs.*

We now invite you to visit and enjoy the holiday celebrations of several of our local historic sites as announced here. This is only a sampling of the many events which highlight and celebrate our unique treasures.

#### Victorian Yuletide by Candlelight

**Historic Surratt House Museum**, 9118 Brandywine Road, Clinton MD, will present its twenty-first annual holiday tours on December 14, 15, and 16. Civil War sentries and hoop-skirted guides will greet the public and welcome all to an 1860s yuletide celebration featuring displays of traditional greens, antique dolls and toys, 19th-century greeting cards and ornaments, a visit from Father Christmas, and refreshments. Hours are from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm on December 14, 3:00 to 9:00 pm on the 15th, and 6:00 to 9 pm on the 16th. Admission is \$3 for adults; \$2 for senior citizens and \$1 children (5-16). For further information, call 301-868-1121.

**At Historic Riversdale NOEL A LA FRANCAIS ET BELGIQUE:** "Riversdale will be decked out in finery representing a style of European elegance which might have been used by Rosalie Stier Calvert to impress her American neighbors." *December 1 through 29 - Walk-in tours; Fridays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 4:00 pm.* Admission fee: \$3 for adults; \$2 for Seniors; and \$1 for children. *Christmas Gala* on December 15 includes music and refreshments is an additional \$1.00 to the standard tour. Riversdale is located at 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale. Call 864-0420 for additional information.

#### MORE HOLIDAY EVENTS

Beginning with our very own Marietta. From Susan Wolfe comes the following: Regular Marietta house tours are Friday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. Tour Admission: \$3.00 for adults; \$2.00 for seniors; and \$1.00 for students 5 to 18 years old. Group tours by appointment. (Call 301-464-5291) for information and reservations.

Also at Marietta: Exhibit called *Ruling the Roost: Colonial Government and Justice in Prince George's County*, November 1 - December 1. Free during tour hours.

**Candlelight tours:** December 12-13 from 6 - 9:00 p.m. and December 15 from 1 to 5:00pm. Tours feature decorations and Christmas traditions of early, mid and late 19th century. Light refreshments. Fee - same as tours. Come and see the spot "in the little back hall that on Christmas Morning Papa fired off a pack of fire-crackers as a signal that we could get up. Then he jumped back in bed and we all met in the back hall singing Carols."

**Dorsey Chapel:** Members and friends are cordially invited to visit Dorsey Chapel, M-NCPPC's most recently restored public historic site (as reported in the last issue of *News and Notes*). It is open every Saturday from noon until 3:00 p.m. through November, and every Sunday from 1 - 4 p.m. through December. Group tours are available by appointment (464-5291). Admission is \$1.50 for adults; \$1.00 for seniors; and \$.50 for students 5 to 18 years old.

**Lauren Brown**, Curator, Archives and Manuscripts Department, McKeldin Library,



University of Maryland at College Park, issues the following invitation to our Members: You are cordially invited to join the *Friends of the UMCP Libraries*, members of the *Riversdale Historical Society*, and honored guests to celebrate the acquisition by McKeldin Library of an historic 1853 map of the Riverdale area. This event will be held in the **McKeldin Library, University of Maryland at College Park, at 4:00pm on Tuesday, December 10.**

The map, commissioned by Charles Benedict Calvert, depicts properties held by the Calvert family in the mid-nineteenth century, including the area of the county surrounding the Riversdale Mansion and acreage that later became College Park.

Noted historian **George H. Callcott** will give a brief presentation on the history and significance of this unique historical resource. Formerly owned by Mary Calvert Conger, and more recently by the *Riversdale Historical Society*, the map is now part of the University's Archives & Manuscripts Department, curated by Historical Society member **Lauren Brown**. It is approximately five by eight feet in size, beautifully framed, and will be on display.

Those who are interested in participating in this historic event should gather in Room 4137 of McKeldin Library at 4:00 pm on December 10th. Refreshments will follow the program in Library's Katherine Anne Porter Room nearby. Please call the Archives & Manuscripts Department staff at 405-9058 if you plan to attend. Staff in the department can provide you with additional information regarding this event and provide advice on finding parking on the campus near the Library.

Notice has also been received of **Historic Holiday House Tours in Mount Rainier and Laurel**. Bryan Knedler reports in the November 1996 issue of the *Message* that on Saturday, December 7, from 1 to 5:00 p.m., several of the Mt. Rainier Historic District's BEST homes will be open for touring. "This is an opportunity to see renovation work completed and in progress, and talk with the inspired owners who have opened their homes to promote the renaissance of Mt. Rainier." He goes on to say "The 1996 tour will focus on several homes on 35th, 37th, and Perry Streets; styles will range from Queen Anne, to an American four-squarer, to bungalows. This year's tour program will provide architectural-style information to help you understand how each of those homes are categorized ... As an added bonus this year, one of the homes will be transformed into a gallery to showcase some local artists' works."

The Tour begins at Joe's Movement Emporium, 3802 34th Street. Tickets are \$3.00 per person, or \$5.00 per family. Questions should be addressed to **Steve Dytri** at (301)277-2118.

A Press Release from the **Laurel Historical Society** announces their Tour. "Seven of the finest homes in Laurel's historic Old Town will be decorated in their holiday best and open for visitors at the Laurel Historical Society's Brennan/McCeney Holiday House Tour, Sunday, December 8 from 4 to 7:30 pm. The tour will highlight some of the most interesting architecture and interior decorating found in Laurel today. Included on the tour are an 1850 Georgian revival estate and a timber-frame, cedar-shingled home built in the last decade. The tour will begin at the Laurel Museum, which opened its doors for the first time last spring and is housed in a restored millworker's home on

Main Street. Light refreshments and a silent auction will be available at historic St. Philip's Episcopal Church, a cornerstone on Main Street for nearly 150 years. Tickets are \$15.00 per person in advance of \$20.00 per person on the day of the tour. Advance tickets are available at the following Laurel Main Street shops: L&L Gifts and Gourmet, Antiques and Fine Chocolates; The Little Tea Shop; Something Special; P.G. Office Supply; and Antique Alley." For more information call (301) 725-7975 or (301) 725-7539.

# CELEBRATE YOUR 300TH

By reserving your copy to the reprint of Judge R. Lee Van Horn's book called *Out of the Past: Prince Georgians and Their Land*.

"It is a chronicle of everyday life in Prince George's County, MD from the time of its founding on St. George's Day, April 23, 1696 until the beginning of the Civil War. From the public records and newspapers as well as private papers, the author has woven a fascinating tapestry of facts seldom seen in published histories. In addition to the story of events as they unfolded, there is a massive listing of many ordinary inhabitants whose names have not appeared in print before, which makes this book a major source for genealogical purposes. Cost is \$25. Plus 3.00 for postage and handling.

Make checks payable to the Marietta Gift Shop. The volume will be available in January 1997. ORDER TODAY with the coupon below.

Date:

Please reserve my copy (copies) of **OUT OF THE PAST**.

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

My check for \$28.00 is attached addressed to the Marietta Gift Shop, 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, Maryland, 20769.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1996

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## President's Ramblings

The colorful leaves have been falling and swirling around in the golden sunlight we've enjoyed these last few weeks. Children have been able to run and jump in them, just like they read about in their stories and poems. We have been fortunate to have such a beautiful fall.

Several schools have sent their sixth graders to the program at Marietta. **Susan Wolfe, Sarah Bourne**, and I have enjoyed being docents and acquainting them with Marietta and Gabriel Duvall. Each child has had a Passport to History to be stamped. The Tricentennial is still alive and well. It is pleasing to note that in every grade in the Elementary School Social Studies Curriculum there is a time to study some facet of prince George's and/or Maryland History. While attending a lecture at the Preservation and Revitalization Conference in Annapolis the speaker mentioned that Prince George's County was celebrating their *seventy fifth* anniversary and had a terrific passport program. The poor speaker couldn't finish her sentence before I heard myself saying THREE HUNDREDTH! I wanted to look around to pretend to look for the person who had said it, but everyone was staring at me. It was then my pleasure to explain the program and hear all of the good things said about it. Most of those who knew of it were amazed to find so many interesting sites in our county. We have to stop hiding our light under a bushel.

The Society has some light to shine also. The library shelves are being ordered. There is much to do to improve the accessibility of the treasures in that collection. So don't be surprised if you are called upon to help out on a workday. It takes many hands to move books. They can only be moved in small

groups and have to be kept in order. IT IS FINALLY HAPPENING!

Our partnerships with the local schools are working. We have had sixth grade classes from Pointer Ridge, Samuel Chase and Glenn Dale. The lesson plans worked well and the visits were enjoyed. We will have Glenn Dale first grades on November 13 and 14. Second grades will be coming later in the month.

Some of the students have eaten their lunches picnic style. The other day I was talking with them when I noticed many of them were walking very carefully on their tip toes. It was quite amusing when I explained to them that those soft dark globs on the ground were rotting black walnut outer-shells and they all started to walk normally. They all giggled and one said, "I wondered what kind of animal was here and how many were there, anyway?" They truly enjoyed eating outside on that beautiful day.

Several school faculties have accepted our invitation to tea or brunch, when we can welcome them and explain our program to them. Woodmore came on the morning of November 11, it is an in-service day for teachers; Kingsford will come on the afternoon of November 18; Glenn Dale will come on the afternoon of December 2. The principal of Rockledge, whose school just won Maryland's highest award, the Blue Ribbon Award, is planning to bring his faculty in January, when they have an in-service day. It is a nice way for a faculty to start a day together and learn of a new opportunity for their students. *(Please read the classified carefully, with your calendar in hand.)*

The voters have spoken and TRIM was not repealed. At this writing we do not know all

that it means or what the future relationship of MNCPPC and the County government will be. I think we can be quite certain that, whatever happens, it is not going to be any better for historic sites and preservation in general. That is not to say that we should curl up like a woolly caterpillar and hibernate. It is time for us to work together and make the progress that is possible. There are so many things that we can do to make our Society more visible, productive and interesting to the citizens of our county.

### GIFT SHOP CHATTER

THE VOLUNTEERS CELEBRATED THE COMPLETION OF THE FIRST YEAR OF THE GIFT SHOP IN ITS NEW LOCATION WITH A LUNCHEON ON OCTOBER 30. STELLA UBER, THE SHOP MANAGER PRESENTED SUSAN WOLFE WITH A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000 TO BE USED TO BUY THE PAINT FOR MARIETTA. SHANNON BELL, SUSAN'S ASSISTANT, EXPLAINED HOW THE PAINT COLORS HAD BEEN RESEARCHED AND SHOWED THE SAMPLES FOR EACH ROOM. THE SHOP VOLUNTEERS CAN BE VERY PROUD OF THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENT AND TIME WELL SPENT.

THE AUTUMN MOTIF OF THE LUNCHEON WAS CARRIED OUT BY SARAH BORNE'S DECORATIONS AND THE WEATHER COOPERATED. THE SOUP, FRUIT AND CHEESE WERE ENJOYED BY EVERYONE AND THE DESSERT DISAPPEARED QUICKLY. EVERYONE MET AT LEAST ONE OR TWO NEW PEOPLE AND THE BUZZ OF CONVERSATION SOUNDED LIKE A WARM FELLOWSHIP OF SIXTEEN FRIENDS. AT ONE TABLE SEVERAL PEOPLE DISCOVERED THEIR MUTUAL

INTEREST IN MUSIC AND OPERA IN PARTICULAR. PLANS FOR JOINT CONCERT GOING WERE MADE. I'M SURE OTHER TABLES WERE LIKE THAT ALSO.

EVERYONE THANKS THE SHOP WORKERS FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENT. THOSE WHO WORKED IN OCTOBER WERE JULIE RHOADS, LARA SCHROM, PAT CONE, STELLA UBER, KAY EISINGER, RENATE RYAN, AND JANE EAGEN. MANY REGULARS WERE ON VACATION IN OCTOBER, BUT WILL BE BACK IN NOVEMBER FOR SURE. SHARON SWEETING HOLDS THE RECORD FOR SELLING THE LEAST AMOUNT ON ANY GIVEN DAY. SHE HAS YET TO MAKE A SALE. (WE KNOW SHE IS IN A CLASS BY HERSELF, BUT LET'S HOPE IT CONTINUES THAT WAY.) EDITOR'S NOTE: HOW DO THEY EXPECT TO MAKE ANY MONEY IF THEY CONTINUE TO ASK ME TO MIND THE STORE?

THERE ARE MANY NEW ITEMS IN THE SHOP FOR THE HOLIDAYS. GIFTS, DECORATIONS, OLD CHRISTMAS POSTCARDS, AND SEASONAL BOOKS, TOO. DON'T FORGET THAT WE NOW HAVE TWO PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ATLASES FOR SALE. THE MARTENENT OF 1861 FOR \$10 AND THE HOPKINS OF 1878 FOR \$7. IT IS GREAT FUN TO COMPARE THE SIZE OF THE LAND PARCELS BEFORE AND AFTER THE CIVIL WAR. YOU CAN SEE WHO OWNED THE LAND WHERE YOU NOW LIVE IN MANY INSTANCES.

STOP BY AND DO SOME SHOPPING FOR THOSE ON YOUR LIST AND REMEMBER,



THE PROFITS GO TO HELP IN THE  
RESTORATION OF MARIETTA.

**Publication Committee is Publishing**

**Sharon Sweeting** has been very busy. (Outside of the Gift Shop, that is!) With the help and guidance of **Vera Rollo** she has arranged for the reprint of *Out of the Past* by Lee Van Horn. A new book jacket has been designed and Fred DeMarr wrote the biographical sketch of the author for the end flaps. It is bright and quite attention getting. This book was published after the author's death at the urging of his widow and related many events in the history of our county. It has been out of print for some time. The Board of Education has been trying to supply each school library with a basic set of resources and inquired about it. This sparked our interest in reprinting it and it will be available in January 1997. This book is highly recommended by Fred DeMarr and will be a great addition to your own collection. Use the enclosed coupon to reserve your copy today.

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: THE  
CLASSIFIED ADS**

**Cookie bakers** to supply cookies for the teas for school faculties on November 18, there could be as many as fifty people attending; and on December 2, about 20 expected. If you cannot bring them to Marietta please call Sarah Borne 277-5468 or Jane Eagen 249-6409.

**Hostesses** to help guests and assist serving and pouring at the teas on the afternoons of November 18 and December 2. This is really a pleasant activity. Call Sarah Borne 277-5468.

**Filers - to file 3x5 cards in the library.** They are in alphabetical order, simply have to be filed in the larger file. Call Fred DeMarr 464-0590 or 277-0711 to arrange time and date.

**Early Risers** - to assist with the brunch in January - date not definite, but keep us in mind.

**Shop Clerks** - to work in gift shop on Fri., Sat., and Sunday afternoons 12-4. Call Kay Eisinger 249-8697.

**Painters and Paint Scrapers** to help paint the dining room, hallway, and parlor of Marietta. Call Susan Wolfe 464-5291.

**Docents and Docent Helpers** - to help with visiting classes, particularly the first and second graders. Call Susan Wolfe 464-5291 to advise her of your availability and schedule of visiting classes. Training and materials will be given to you.

**Woodworker** - to make models of houses and/or house features, such as gable roof, flat roof, dormer, etc. to be used in school visits. Does not require museum quality work, but a three dimensional model is more effective than a drawing.

**Successful Teacher Class Coming to a  
Close**

Once again we have helped teachers learn about our county and state. This time there were 19 enrolled. We supplied them with a notebook filled with dividers and paper, a Marietta pen, a *Hopkins Atlas, Maryland in the Beginning* by Lois Greene Carr, several state publications, Tricentennial mementos and many handouts. The Board of Education provided them with *Our Maryland* by McGinnis and Eagen.

The classes were held every other Wednesday from 4:30 to 7:30 with a tour from 4 to 4:30. They visited Marietta, National Colonial Farm, Montpelier, Dorsey Chapel, and will close with Riversdale.

**Sarah Borne** coordinated the dinners. They were served Brunswick stew and biscuits; hopping john collard greens and hearth baked cornbread; lasagna, garlic bread, and salad, ham, green beans, and succotash; and appropriate desserts. At Riversdale we go all out and have a Maryland feast with crab balls, fried chicken, potato salad, finger veggies, and maybe a Lady Baltimore cake.

Many thanks go to the speakers who gave so freely of their time and talents: **Don Creveling**, MNCPPC; **Jack Hoyert**, U. Of Md. Ret.; **Stacey Shorter** of the Banneker Museum; **Susan Pearl**, MNCPPC; **Howard Berger**, MNCPPC; **Fred DeMarr**, PGCHS; **Bob Crawley**, ret.; **Jim Wolfe**, PGC Board of Education; **Joyce McDonald**, and the **Bladensburg Heritage Dancers**. **Susan Wolfe**, **Jane Eagen**, **Stella** and **Bill Uher**, and **Sarah Borne** filled in, were the speakers, gofers, caterers, videographers, administrators, and haulers of food, dishes, and much stuff that made it a success. We have been asked to offer it again this spring, but have declined. Instead we plan to design a Part II which will go in greater depth on some subjects and offer Part I in the fall of '97 and Part II in the spring of '98. Your assistance is welcomed with open arms and joyous hearts. This is a very worthwhile project. No one else offers to teachers what this class does. There are no in-services available other than the one half day devoted to all 6 grades of social studies, the college courses are few and far between and are not designed for teachers of elementary children.

Put yourself in the place of a teacher who

was just assigned to teach Maryland and Prince George's history. You have lived all of your life until now in Oklahoma. You are living in Greenbelt and have never heard of Accokeek, Laurel, Croom, or Beltsville. Most, but not all, schools have a text. (By the way, the two used in most counties of the state are written by **Vera Rollo**, and **Eagen and McGinnis**). Where do you go for help? . . . Plan now to be a part of the support group to help put the Part I and the new Part II class together next year.

### ***Barney Barge Sailors Sport New Shirts***

**Sarah Borne** presented to **Rich Dolesh** of MNCPPC the ten new shirts she and **Julie Rhoads** had made for the Barney Barge sailors. The presentation was made on the Barney Barge at the Bladensburg Marine on a beautiful sunny morning. The colorful plaids and checks had been made by our two talented seamstresses according to the pattern they made from a shirt already in use. The rowers who will be wearing them are volunteers, some from rowing clubs and teams in the metropolitan area. This fulfills the Society's agreement to support the Barney Barge Project as part of our Tricentennial Observance. Mr. Dolesh had a photographer there who took many pictures, so look in your local papers for the photograph and article about the shirts. A very special thanks to Julie and Sarah who made our financial contribution have increased value to the project.

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RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20738-0014

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Library: Saturdays 12 - 4 PM  
and during special events

Call 301-464-0590

Marietta Tours -Friday, 11 - 3, Sunday,  
12 - 4 - and by appointment -  
Information 301-464-0590

### THE SOCIETY GIFT SHOP

Features a wide selection of books, gifts,  
toys and small antiques. Open Friday,  
Saturday and Sunday, 12 -4 PM and  
during special events. Call 301-464-  
0590.

### LOCATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is located at Marietta, 5624  
Bell Station Road, in Glenn Dale, MD, off  
Route 193, near Route 450. This is a  
facility of the Maryland National Park and  
Planning Commission.

