

Prince George's County Historical Society News and Notes

XXXIV Number 1

OUR 53rd YEAR

JAN-FEB 2005

THE UPPER MARLBORO COURTHOUSE

By the end of the seventeenth century, when Prince George's County was established, the site which would become Upper Marlboro was already a gathering place for merchants: a tavern was established in 1703, and a Presbyterian meeting house in 1704. The seat of local government at that time was Charles Town on the Patuxent River; Charles Town had been established as an official port town by Acts of the General Assembly during the 1680s, and a modest Courthouse had been constructed there by 1698. Then in 1706 and 1707, six additional port towns were established by two new *Acts for the Advancement of Trade*. One of the towns established in 1706 was Marlborough "at the upper landing on the Western Branch, commonly called Colonel Belt's landing." Known at first as the Town of Marlborough," it soon came to be called "Upper" Marlborough in order to distinguish it from "Lower" Marlborough, a port town established in the same year on the opposite side of the Patuxent in Calvert County.¹ According to longstanding tradition, the two port towns were named for John Churchill, First Duke of Marlborough; Churchill was at that time England's most popular hero, having won in 1704 an important victory at the Battle of Blenheim in the War of the Spanish Succession.

From the time of Upper Marlboro's official establishment in 1706, Charles Town began to fade in importance. By 1718, Upper Marlboro had become such an active center that its inhabitants petitioned to have the Courthouse moved approximately three miles northwest on the Western Branch, from Charles Town to Upper Marlboro. The General Assembly consented to the move, a new Courthouse was built near the eastern edge of Upper Marlboro, and the County Court began to meet there in 1721. Today all that remains at the site of Charles Town is a rich archaeological site, and one late eighteenth-century plantation house known as Mount Calvert.

¹ The town has been known since early in the twentieth century by the shortened form of its name – *Marlborough*, then *Marlboro*’, and finally *Marlboro*. The modern spelling, *Upper Marlboro*, will be used henceforth in this article.

From the time of its establishment until early in the twentieth century, Upper Marlboro was the commercial, political and social center of Prince George's County. The Western Branch was used for the transport of tobacco, and in 1747, by an *Act for Amending the Staple of Tobacco*, the General Assembly named Upper Marlboro as one of the Tobacco Inspection Warehouses in Prince George's County. Many prominent merchants lived and worked in Upper Marlboro, and tobacco warehouses lined the road to the Branch; by the 1760s a post office had been established in the Town. Upper Marlboro was a social center as well; by the 1750s the town could boast a new Assembly Hall, at which were offered balls, concerts and opera productions. Starting in 1750, horseracing drew many people from the surrounding area, and the several taverns in Upper Marlboro were popular stopping places for travellers. In addition to the regularly sitting Courts, Upper Marlboro included the offices of numerous successful lawyers, many of whom went on to achieve prominent political positions. In 1799, a new Courthouse of wood frame construction was designed and erected on the site of the original 1721 structure, at the easterly edge of town, approximately at the present fork of Main and Pratt Streets. The new Courthouse was designed by William Lovering, the same Washington architect who a few years later would complete the construction of Riversdale.

We have no images of Upper Marlboro's 1799 Courthouse, but we have some information about its appearance from mid-nineteenth-century newspapers. Renovations of the building were

undertaken in 1854 by local builders Reynolds and Rawlings, and an account of the work in the 1 November 1854 *Planters' Advocate* gives some hints of the building's appearance before and after 1854:

"The heavy slate roof has been superseded by one both light and strong, covered with tin; the small belfry has given way to one of larger dimensions and of a more ornamental structure; the walls have received several coats of paint and present an agreeable and appropriate color; the "side-gables," which formerly were elevated above the roof, on either side, have been removed, and the roof made perfectly plain . . . and the whole is surrounded by a heavy white cornice, presenting a handsome contrast to the dark shades of the roof and the walls. . . . a new Clerk's office has been erected in the rear, fire-proof, and connected by a covered way to the Court Room."

This renovated Courthouse served until 1881, when a new Courthouse was opened on a site a short distance to the west.

As the nineteenth century began, the silted Western Branch was no longer used for the shipping of tobacco, but Upper Marlboro remained a government and commercial center. By the mid-nineteenth century, the town could boast not only a group of fine dwellings, but also a variety of stores, a bank, an academy, and three churches - Methodist, Episcopal and Roman Catholic (the Presbyterian congregation had left Upper Marlboro for Bladensburg in 1725) - as well as two newspaper offices; Main street was

dotted with the law offices of prominent attorneys. The Town was incorporated in 1870.

The advent of the railroad in the 1870s created a second pattern of development for Upper Marlboro, as granaries and tobacco warehouses were built around the depot site. This new development and the new markets that it opened for the area's agricultural products enriched the town and strengthened the prominence of Main Street as the commercial, cultural and governmental center of the community. Throughout this period, Upper Marlboro remained the principal location of the Prince George's County Bar. In 1880, it was determined that the old Courthouse, approaching a century old, was in need of expansion and modernization. A building committee of some of the County's most prominent residents was appointed (Charles Clagett of The Cottage, Benjamin Franklin Duvall of Trumps Hill, and Peter Heiskell of Kildare), and property on the south side of Main Street (west of the original Courthouse site) was acquired. Frank E. Davis, architect from Baltimore, was commissioned to design the building, and it opened in 1881.

The 1881 Courthouse was a high-style Queen Anne Victorian brick structure, fronting on Main Street, with a prominent bell tower, decorative window treatment, and a façade-wide porch with spindle frieze and balcony. The handsome new building was described (years later, in the 13 October 1907 issue of the *Baltimore Sun*) as "spacious and substantial and eminently beautiful in appearance as far as its exterior is concerned, while inside there is decidedly more attractiveness than is

usually found in the courthouses of county seats."

The 1881 Courthouse was enlarged in 1908 by the construction of two flanking wings, set back from the north façade of the original building. A ceremony was held on 1 September 1908 for the laying of the new cornerstone, and the depositing within it of a time capsule containing pieces of silver, copper, corn, wine and oil, copies of Baltimore, Washington, and County newspapers, a list of County officers, and names of the building committee, architect and contractor. The architect was T. Kent Roberts, and the building committee was made up of John H. Traband of Upper Marlboro, John Miller of Chillum, and Hugh Perrie of Nottingham.

While society was dominated by some of the County's most prominent white planters, politicians, merchants and lawyers, the town of Upper Marlboro had always had a substantial African-American population and a longstanding free black population. As soon as the Civil War ended, a group of African Americans purchased land and built a Methodist meetinghouse on the south side of town, and then worked with the Freedmen's Bureau toward the establishment (in 1867) of a school for their children. This little enclave, clustered around school and church, became one of the centers of the black community in post-Civil War Upper Marlboro. In 1922, a new Rosenwald school was built to replace the old Freedmen's Bureau school. In 1921, when the new Marlboro High School was opened for white students, the older high school was moved to this community, reassembled and opened as the County's first secondary school for

black students. It was replaced in the 1930s by the first Frederick Douglass High School, located just south of the County Courthouse.

Destructive fires were frequent in the village, and occasioned several rebuildings of commercial and residential structures that fronted on Main Street. The thriving economy of the town early in the twentieth century also allowed for the building of new facades on some of the older buildings. Between the World Wars there was another building boom, and Upper Marlboro was a bustling center, with hotels, movie theaters, community meeting halls, separate primary and secondary schools for black and white students, and an array of retail and personal services ranging from restaurants and candy stores to gas stations and even a bowling alley.



In 1939, a major renovation and enlargement of the 1881 Courthouse was planned. The renovated building was designed by the Washington firm of Upman and Adams. The brick shell was almost completely rebuilt, changing from a Queen Anne Victorian façade to a neo-classical temple with massive Ionic columns and a pedimented portico. The original bell, cast in Baltimore in 1880, was retained and installed in a

cupola that replaced the 1881 bell tower. The newly renovated courthouse was dedicated with great ceremony on 20 October 1940, with remarks by then Governor Herbert R. O'Connor, band performances and an historical address by Caleb Clark Magruder.

The Courthouse continued to expand after World War II, with a major rear addition in 1949, designed by architect Paul H. Kea of Hyattsville, and another in 1960, designed by Walton and Madden of Mount Rainier. Most prominent was the very large 1991 south addition that incorporated large east and west wings, named for Judges J. Franklyn Bourne and Ogle Marbury, respectively. This award-winning addition faces Maryland Route 4 and shifts the front of the complex to the south. The oldest section (1881/1940) has been known since 1991 as the Duvall wing, named in honor of Gabriel Duvall of Marietta, the only Prince Georgian (so far . . .) to sit as an Associate Justice in the U. S. Supreme Court (1812-1835).



It was this oldest section, the Duvall wing, that was nearly destroyed by fire on the morning of Wednesday, 3 November 2004. The fire began around 8:00 that morning, apparently accidentally caused by a light fixture in the attic. The fire was quickly whipped

by winds to an extremely hot inferno, escalating to a four-alarm blaze that required about 160 firefighters to extinguish. Although the brick shell of the building and the Ionic columns survive, the roof, cupola and interior finish were totally destroyed. The 1880 bell, which had been reinstalled in the 1940 cupola, was heated to a molten state, and crashed to the ground when the roof and cupola collapsed. This devastating fire occurred just a few months before the completion of a 25 million dollar renovation. But, very fortunately, because the Duvall wing had been emptied and closed for the course of the renovations, there were no injuries, and all of the county's historic records had previously been removed and, in most cases, transferred safely to the Maryland State Archives in Annapolis. Also, fortunately, the fire was contained, and for the most part did not spread into the other wings. (An additional new southwest wing, currently under construction, was not damaged.)

Prince George's County has been fortunate in that the majority of its archival records have been preserved – so many of the records of other counties have been destroyed in various fires over the last 350+ years! So far our luck continues.²

As soon as all of the details of the insurance are worked out, the County plans to rebuild the Duvall wing of the

² Prince George's County has, however, suffered another destructive fire since the Courthouse disaster. On the evening of 6 December 2004, a particularly fine Historic Site, the circa 1820 frame house known as *Sasscer's Green*, just south of Upper Marlboro, was badly damaged by fire. It is not known at this writing whether plans have been made for its restoration.

Courthouse. It will be rebuilt in the neo-classical style of the 1940 renovation, and it is even possible that the badly damaged 1880 bell will be recast and rehung to toll the hours in the County Seat.

Submitted by: Historian Susan G. Pearl
January 2005

A BUFFALO SOLDIER'S STORY

Sub titled "Medal of Honor Recipient Sergeant Thomas and his Comrades, 1864 to 1889"; this weighty tome is worth a look. Penned by Society member Bill Ayleshire, we are introduced to Prince Georgian Thomas Boyne, the sole member of his race from Prince George's to be given the Nation's highest accolade for bravery under arms, and the full range of information on those post-Civil War African Americans who fought the Indian Wars and became known as Buffalo Soldiers.

At over 700 pages, one might feel daunted by this read, but as Mr. Ayleshire points out in his Foreword—"It is my desire, that my style of writing in this book will avoid being just a 'story teller.' My emphasis and energies will highlight official government records, established and historical events in American history, in order to relay to the readers the life of Thomas Boyne. The integration of newspaper articles of the period adds a flavoring touch to what is on the official records by giving the news media's point of view or observations of the same subject matter."

Boyne is one of a handful of Medal of Honor winners from Prince George's

County, and the sole winner of African American descent. His rise from slave in Prince George's County to hero of the Indian Wars and a leading member of the Buffalo Soldiers – those cavalry units of the U.S. Army formed after passage of the Militia Act of 1862, is one of courage, perseverance and triumph. Even in his declining years, Boyne proudly claimed his due as a soldier by residing in the Soldier's Home in Washington as an honorable pensioner.

This 700+ page book is lavishly illustrated with prints, photographs and other items. In addition, strewn throughout the various narratives of events in the life of Sergeant Boyne are lists of his units, including all officers and men who enlisted in the period January 1864 to March 1866, muster roll records for the period, and other records that will, in time to come be useful to those doing genealogical research on their African American ancestors.

Boyne's story is fascinating, and Mr. Ayleshire is to be commended for his scholarly work and thanked for autographing a copy for the collection of the Society in the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History.

Les Sweeting

SOCIETY THANKS ITS SPONSORS

Back in the summer of 2004, the Society issued a call for sponsorships. While this was done to attract immediate support as part of the annual fundraiser – the *Prince of a County Reception* held in September of each year, we continue to

seek additional sponsors as we move into 2005. To remind you, these are the specific benefits of the three levels of sponsorship:

Bronze Level - \$100

- Complementary One-year membership in the Society
- Listing of name in this publication
- Listing of sponsor's name in special event literature.

Silver Level - \$250

- As above, plus
- Two complimentary tickets to the 2005 *Prince of a County Reception* held at a selected Prince George's County private, historic property.

Gold Level - \$500

- As above
- An additional two complimentary tickets to *Prince of a County*, and
- A commemorative Brick, engraved with three lines of text, at your selection (15 characters per line), which brick will be installed in the "Walk of History" brick plaza in Upper Marlboro.

The Current Sponsors are as follows:

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THE CALENDAR

Saturday, January 22

Marietta Mansion, Nutcracker Tea Sitzings at 1 and 4 PM, charge, Call Marietta at 301-464-5291

February 13

Marietta Mansion, Sweetheart Tea, Special admission 2 for one Noon to 4 PM, call Marietta

February 19/20

Landsknecht Winter Camp. 16th Century re-enactors demonstrate camp life and weaponry. Lower Field, Sat 9 Am to 4 PM, Sun 9 AM to 3 PM

March 6

An Afternoon of Mid 19th Century Songs – Henry Wixon, soloist and Helen Smith organ accompanist. 4 PM \$5 per person, Reservations Required

IN THE NEWS

From the journal **Preservation** January/February 2005 – page 13

“THREATENED 1939 Prince George’s County Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Md. November fire destroyed two-story brick building’s roof, wood interior, and domes cupola, and sent 124-year-old bell crashing through second floor; investigation centering on construction activity during 20-month, \$25 million renovation.”



Present Courthouse, 1939

From: *The County Courthouses and Records of Maryland*, Part One; by **Morris L. Radoff**

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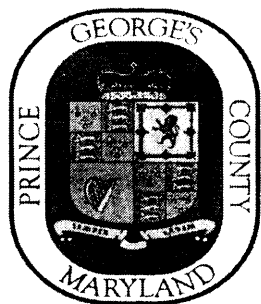
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Prince George's County Historical Society News and Notes

XXXIV Number 2

OUR 53rd YEAR

Mar-Apr 2005



LECTURE/TOUR AT HIS LORDSHIP'S KINDNESS

The first of the Historical Society's 2005 Lecture/Tours will be held at *Poplar Hill on His Lordship's Kindness*, at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, 13 March 2005. Bianca Floyd, formerly manager of the County's Black History Program, will talk to us about her *African-American Heritage at Poplar Hill* project. She will discuss the African-American presence at Poplar Hill, some of the families who worked at the antebellum plantation, their migration after emancipation, and her contact with descendants of some of these families. She will take us on a brief tour of the grounds, and will discuss the relationship between the "yard area," the plantation house kitchen, and the site of the quarters. She will also discuss the designing and management of the web site for *Poplar Hill on His Lordship's Kindness*, and ways of involving the community in the continuing work, programs and events at this beautiful and important historic site.

This 13 March 2005 event will be free of charge. *Poplar Hill on His Lordship's Kindness*, located at 7606 Woodyard Road, Clinton, is operated by The John M. and Sara R. Walton Foundation. The beautiful Georgian Federal plantation house was built 1785-87; it is a designated National Historic Landmark, and is a model of its type. (For further information about this lecture/tour, call Susan Pearl at 301-262-3367.)

Bianca and I started the County's Black History Program in 1982, and I can tell you that she is a passionate researcher, an excellent writer, and a wonderfully engaging speaker. (She's also a poet!) Her meeting with us at His Lordship's Kindness will be a very special event that you will not want to miss!

Susan G. Pearl, Historian

Army Board Grants Relief to Former Prince George's County Slave

From the Editor's Desk

We are looking forward to the lecture/tour at Poplar Hill on His Lordship's Kindness in Clinton. This elegant mansion, built by Robert Darnall, includes a private Catholic chapel in one wing. A smoke house, wash house and aviary are among the historic outbuildings. The Historical Society Board is anxious to highlight the research which Bianca has conducted at this important County site.

On Thursday, February 10, 2005, *Washington Post* writer Eric Rich wrote an article entitled "***Century-Old Disservice Gets Honorable Revision; Black Army Chaplain's Discharge Ruled Unfair.***" Several other newspapers also included articles. Our piece is written by Leigh Ryan, Director of the University of Maryland's Writing Center, who also serves as Vice-President of *The Committee to Clear Chaplain Plummer*, and as a Volunteer at the Riversdale House Museum. We congratulate the Committee and the Rev. L. Jerome Fowler, a minister in Capitol Heights and a great-great-nephew of Plummer's, on their perseverance and success.

Our final story is an introduction, at least to me, to yet another Church which will host our St. George's Day celebrations on April 24th. It was not possible to reduce this magnificent structure to a single column. As usual, the invitations will soon be in the mail.

On February 9, 2005, the Army Board for the Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) granted a posthumous honorable discharge to Chaplain Henry Vinton Plummer, the first African American to be appointed as a chaplain in the regular U.S. Army. Court-martialed in 1894 under questionable circumstances for "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," Chaplain Plummer protested his innocence until his death in 1905. In recent years, his cause was taken up by *The Committee to Clear Chaplain Plummer*, which put together a comprehensive and compelling application for relief. After receiving the support of Governor Robert Ehrlich and Lieutenant Governor Steele, they submitted the application nearly a year ago.

Henry Vinton Plummer has significance to us because he is a native Prince Georgian. Born into slavery on July 31, 1844, he was the son of Adam Francis Plummer, a slave at Riversdale, and Emily Saunders Plummer, a slave at Three Sisters Plantation in Lanham. Sold with his mother in 1851, he then lived at Meridian Hill in Washington, D.C., and later at Ellicott Mills, Maryland. In the spring of 1862, Plummer escaped and made his way to Riversdale, where his father hid him until he could make his way to an aunt's home in Washington, D.C. That summer, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving during the Civil War aboard a gunboat, the U.S.S. *Coeur de Lion*. During this time, he learned to read and write.

After an honorable discharge at war's end, Plummer returned to Riversdale to live with his parents and siblings. In 1866, the family sent him to Louisiana in search of his older sister, Sarah Miranda, who had been sold south in 1860. Their return to Prince George's County united the family under one roof for the first time.

Sarah soon founded St. Paul's Baptist Church, which exists to this day.

In 1867, Plummer married Julia Lomax; over time, they had nine children. He worked as a night watchman for the Washington, D.C., Post Office while attending Wayland Seminary, located (ironically) at Meridian Hill. In 1872, he founded the Bladensburg Burial Society to provide assistance for families at times of illness or death. Following graduation, Plummer served as pastor at churches in Prince George's County and in Washington, D.C. Hoping to become a U.S. Army chaplain and supported by a recommendation from Frederick Douglass and letters from area clergy and politicians, he applied. After President Chester Arthur appointed him Chaplain of the 9th U.S. Cavalry in July 1884, he served at Fort Riley, Kansas, Fort McKinney, Wyoming, and Fort Robinson, Nebraska.

In addition to his chaplaincy duties, Plummer ran the post day school and bakery. Officers commented favorably on the large numbers of enlisted men attending his services, but especially at Fort Robinson, he received little support or encouragement in his work. His activities with the temperance movement, a plan to conduct a missionary tour to Central Africa, and complaints about his housing assignment made him unpopular with some post commanders, who also suspected him of fomenting racial unrest in a flier distributed at the post.

On June 2, 1894, Chaplain Plummer visited a neighbor to solicit funds for a church project, where several enlisted men were celebrating the promotion of one of them. Plummer admittedly had two drinks with the men. One attendee, Sergeant Robert Benjamin, had harbored a grudge against Plummer for many years. Plummer apparently tried to mend fences, but the evening ended with an altercation between

the two men at Benjamin's home with his wife and daughter watching. Benjamin then filed a complaint against Plummer. In August a court-martial convened, accusing Plummer with socializing and drinking with enlisted men, and behaving in an "unbecoming manner" and using "intemperate and vulgar language toward an enlisted man" in the presence of the man's wife. Despite conflicting testimony from attendees, the court found Plummer guilty and sentenced him to dismissal from the service.

Plummer and his family moved to Kansas City, where he served as pastor in several churches. Until his death in 1905, he wrote repeatedly to the President and the Secretary of War, claiming injustice and requesting to rejoin the Army. His appeals were denied. When he died, his body was returned to Prince George's County. He was buried next to his mother in the Plummer family cemetery at Rose Hill near Hyattsville. Later their remains were moved to a family grave site at Harmony Memorial Park in Landover.

Plummer's family dealt with his dismissal just as many families then dealt with adversity—through silence. Over time, the silence increased and descendants knew only that he had been dismissed from the Army. In 1996, however, three members of the Prince George's County Chapter of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society learned about the court-martial and approached Rev. L. Jerome Fowler, Plummer's great great nephew. Conversations with his family members led to efforts to find more direct descendants, which culminated in a family reunion in Prince George's County in June 2001.

After learning of Henry Vinton Plummer's story, the family delegated Rev. Fowler to find out whether any relief could be granted. That August, a group of family members, political leaders, military

personnel, clergy, and others met in the first of many meetings. They formed *The Committee to Clear Chaplain Plummer*. Researching in libraries and archives, they gathered documents and pieced together Plummer's story. What they discovered underscored the injustice done to Chaplain Plummer, and they met with lawyers and military personnel to see what could be done. They learned that they could file an application with the Army to correct Plummer's military record and secured the *pro bono* services of a law firm, Morrison & Foerster, to assist them. They also contacted politicians, military people, clergy, and historians for support.

The Prince George's County Council and the City of Bowie offered resolutions of support, followed by resolutions from the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates. Governor Robert Ehrlich, Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele, U.S. Representatives Steny H. Hoyer and Albert R. Wynn, Maryland Senator Leo F. Green, and Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Prince George's County Planning Board, MNCPPC, and many others offered letters of support.

The Committee filed the application with the ABCMR in February 2004. A significant hurdle was the Army's three-year statute of limitations for filing, for the Committee was more than one hundred years late. This month, the Army Board responded--waiving the statute of limitations, granting Chaplain Plummer an honorable discharge because of his patriotism and service to his country, but denying the appeal to overturn the court-martial conviction. Though disappointed in the court-martial decision, the Committee is pleased with its significant accomplishment in securing an honorable discharge.

The Committee continues to meet, and its intentions are twofold. In these days when children and adults need positive role models, Chaplain Plummer provides just

that. Religious, patriotic, and family minded, Chaplain Plummer was also a diligent and hard working man of courage and action, and the Committee will continue to find ways to celebrate him and tell his story. In addition, the Committee plans to investigate ways of seeking further relief.

Leigh Ryan

Director, University of Maryland Writing Center

Vice President, *The Committee to Clear Chaplain Plummer*

Volunteer, Riversdale House Museum

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Bronze Level - \$100

Silver Level - \$250

Gold Level - \$500

Errata: Please note that after the body of this issue of News and Notes went to press, the decision was made to charge non-members of the Historical Society for this event and to request reservations. Please call 301-262-3367 if you plan to attend. Many thanks and sorry for the confusion. Editor Sweeting

LECTURE/TOUR AT HIS LORDSHIP'S KINDNESS

The first of the Historical Society's 2005 Lecture/Tours will be held at ***Poplar Hill on His Lordship's Kindness***, at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, 13 March 2005. Bianca Floyd, formerly manager of the County's Black History Program, will talk to us about her *African-American Heritage at Poplar Hill* project. She will discuss the African-American presence at Poplar Hill, the families who worked at the antebellum plantation, their migration after emancipation, and her contact with descendants of some of these families. She will take us on a brief tour of the grounds, and will discuss the relationship between the "yard area," the plantation house kitchen, and the sites of the slave quarters. She will also discuss the designing and management of the web site for ***Poplar Hill on His Lordship's Kindness***, and ways of involving the community in the continuing work, programs and events at this beautiful and important historic site.

This 13 March 2005 event will be free of charge for members of the Prince George's County Historical Society; the standard \$5.00 tour fee will be charged for non-members. ***Poplar Hill on His Lordship's Kindness***, located at 7606 Woodyard Road, Clinton, is operated by The John M. and Sara R. Walton Foundation. The beautiful Georgian Federal plantation house was built 1785-87; it is a designated National Historic Landmark, and is a model of its type. For further information about this lecture/tour, call Susan Pearl at 301-262-3367. Since we need a rough count of attendees, please R.S.V.P. to this same number.

Bianca and I started the County's Black History Program in 1982, and I can tell you that she is a passionate researcher, an excellent writer, and a wonderfully engaging speaker. (She's also a poet!) Her meeting with us at His Lordship's Kindness will be a very special event that you will not want to miss!

Susan G. Pearl, Historian



MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IT'S TIME TO FINISH A NEW SECTION OF THE “WALK OF HISTORY” !

During our Tricentennial year, the Celebration Committee paved the brick plaza in Upper Marlboro between the County Administration Building and the County Courthouse. This heavily traveled thoroughfare was selected not only as a beautification and improvement project but also as a site to commemorate our anniversary. Sections within this “Walk of History” have been filled with engraved bricks that celebrate the richness and diversity of Prince George’s County citizens past and present. There are still some sections to complete!

Now, in celebration of the founding of the Prince George’s County Historical Society, we would like to dedicate and complete a new section by the end of this year. Surrounding the center block in this section, on which will be inscribed the Prince George’s County Historical Society and it’s founding date, will be personalized bricks with the names of members and sponsors of the Historical Society and other families, friends and groups.

There is still much to celebrate! Please support the Prince George’s County Historical Society!

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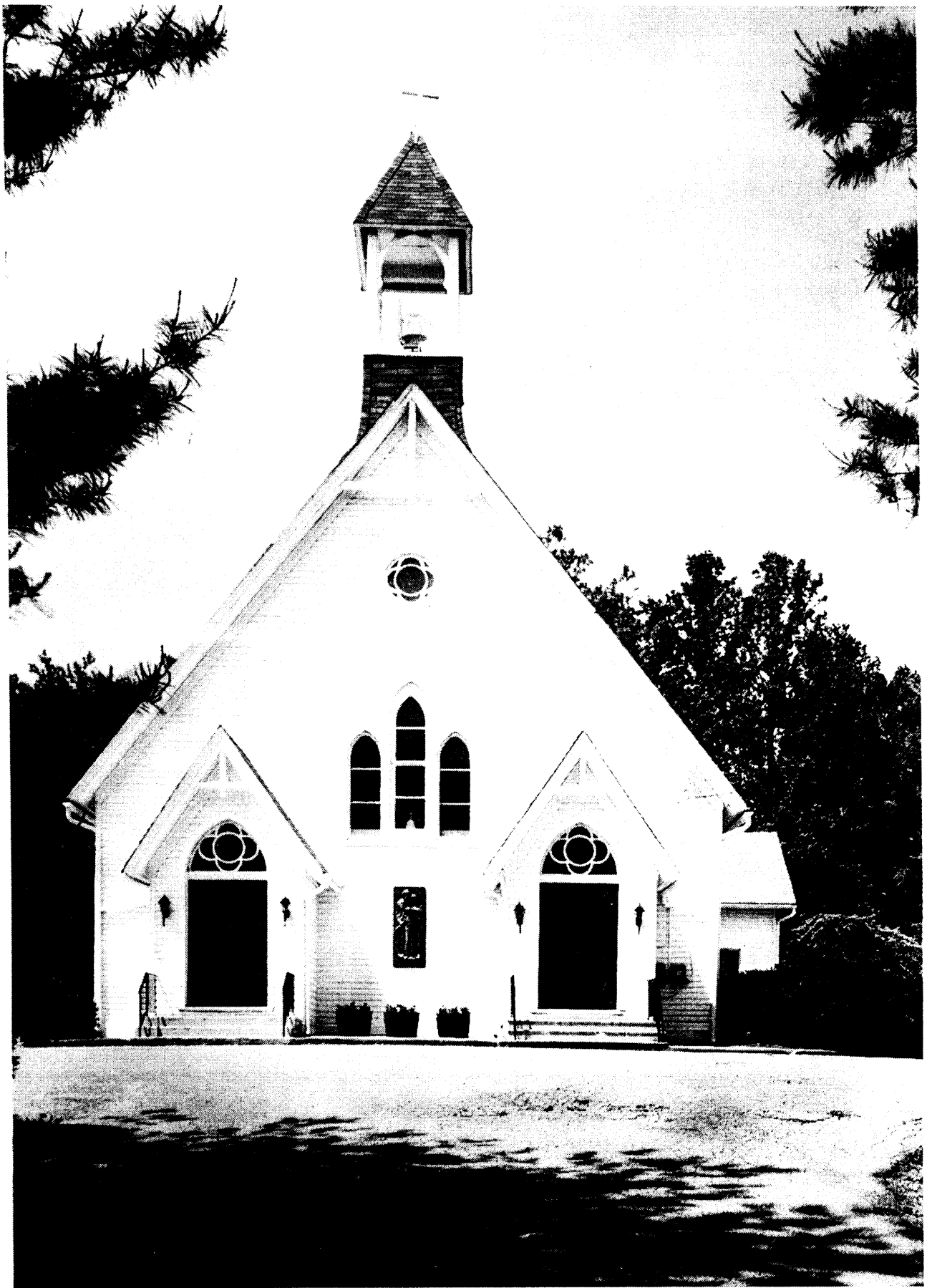
ST. GEORGE'S DAY, 2005
Holy Family Church, Woodmore

Holy Family Catholic Church was built in 1890 as a mission of Sacred Heart Church at Whitemarsh, Bowie. This year, on the 115th anniversary of its establishment, we will visit Holy Family Church to celebrate St. George's Day on April 24.

Holy Family Catholic Church was built in 1890 to serve the black Catholic community of Woodmore, a group which had been worshipping earlier in a small log building known as Brookes Chapel. Isaac Wood, a local white carpenter whose family gave its name to the Woodmore area, was a member of the Catholic Church at Whitemarsh, a predominantly white parish. Recognizing a need for a local catholic mission for the black families of the Woodmore community, Wood in 1889 deeded an acre of his Woodmore land "for the erection thereon of a church or chapel (sic)." In the next year the parishioners themselves, mostly tenant farmers, built this very handsome church. Holy Family Church was served by the Jesuit fathers of Sacred Heart until 1938 when it became its own parish and its administration was turned over to the Josephite Fathers, whose principal mission was the evangelization of African Americans. With the recent development in this area of residential subdivisions, the congregation of Holy Family Church has greatly increased in size, and has become a mix of black and white families. Since 1972, it has been pastored by the Diocese of Washington and has been maintained in excellent condition.

In 1992, the parish built a new hall on the Holy Family grounds, providing a large space for congregation and community events. Designed to complement and echo some architectural motifs of the church, this parish hall received a citation award from the Maryland Society, American Institute of Architects. The citation noted that the parish hall "retains the vocabulary between the new and old architecture, creating a functional and comfortably appealing place to gather." It is in this spacious hall that the Historical Society will hold its annual dinner and St. George's Day program. You will be receiving you invitations soon!

Holy Family Church is a large and handsome building, distinguished by its gothic revival and stick style ornamentation, its gabled porches, tall bellcote, and rosette tracery. It is particularly significant as the substantial and lasting product of African-American Catholics in a rural agricultural community. Sited on beautiful wooded grounds, Holy Family Church will be a wonderful place to celebrate St. George's Day, 2005!



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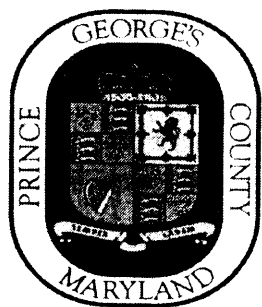
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Prince George's County Historical Society News and Notes

XXXIV Number 3

OUR 53rd YEAR

May-Jun 2005



Historic Preservation Month Reception at Marietta

May 25, 2005, at 6:00 P.M.

The Historic Preservation Month reception will be held this year at Marietta, our Historical Society headquarters. Over the years, the annual celebrations in Prince George's County have been held most frequently at the Newton White Mansion and Oxon Hill Manor, and also at Riversdale, Billingsley, the College Park Aviation Museum, and Montpelier. This year, for the first time, the reception will be held at Marietta, the home of U.S. Supreme Justice Gabriel Duvall, built circa 1812, and a fine example of Federal-style domestic architecture. The date is Wednesday, May 25, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Preservation Week Reception, May 25, 6 PM, Marietta!

Bus Trip to Sandy Spring, June 6 – See Flyer!!

The Historical Society has always participated in planning the programs of these annual observances, and will again be involved this year. Members of the Society will join members of Prince George's Heritage, the Historical and Cultural Trust, the Historic Preservation Commission, and many other Friends groups and local historical societies in organizing and carrying out the festivities.

In the last year, Marietta has acquired another new example of preservation: the meat-house from Belleview. This meat-house (or smokehouse) was one of a complex of early 19th-century outbuildings on the Belleview farm, home of the Lowe and Steed families, in the area between Allentown and Fort Washington. The Belleview farm was recently sold out of the Steed family, and a residential subdivision is in the process of being developed there. The multi-period farmhouse at Belleview was deteriorated beyond salvage, but there were several substantial outbuildings that the developer believed could be preserved, and he offered them to anyone who would relocate them. The Parks Department of M-NCPPC responded to the offer and after carefully dismantling the smokehouse, moved and reassembled it on Marietta's grounds a short distance northwest of the mansion. It is a welcome addition to Marietta's setting, for it is of the correct period (roughly contemporary with Marietta's north wing, 1830s), and it now stands close to the location of Marietta's own original smokehouse – thus representing the complex of domestic outbuildings (slave quarters, ash house for soap making, chicken house, dairy and icehouse) that used to be part of the Marietta plantation.

Marietta is the perfect poster-child for Historic Preservation. In deteriorating condition in the 1940s, Marietta was rescued by its last two private owners,

and was then carefully restored by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in the early 1990s. The M-NCPPC continues its careful maintenance and needed improvements of the house and grounds.

Marietta's always-beautiful grounds are particularly beautiful in late May, and

Relocation is of course a rather drastic method of preservation, and is done only as a last resort. But sometimes it is the best solution, and in this case the County is happy to have preserved the Belleview smokehouse, and Marietta is happy to have an original contemporary outbuilding on its grounds.

Guests at the reception will also see the memorial garden dedicated to the Duvall family of Marietta. The small landscaped garden contains the original gravestones of the Justice's son, grandchildren, and mother-in-law, preserved and moved from their original location in the Duvall family cemetery a short distance away (in the right-of-way of MD 193). The garden also includes newly designed gravestones not only for Justice Duvall and his wife, but also for his horse, all originally buried in the family cemetery. Design of the memorial garden with its two benches was supported by the Duvall Society, the Forest Garden Club, and the Prince George's County Historical Society.

The Historic Preservation Month reception is sure to be a delightful occasion, and the Society urges its members to come, learn and enjoy. The house will be open for tours during the

reception, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Susan G. Pearl, May 2005

ST. GEORGE'S DAY 2005

On Sunday, April 24, 2005, the Prince George's County Historical Society celebrated St. George's Day (the 309th anniversary of the establishment of the County) at Holy Family Catholic Church in Woodmore. Nearly 100 people gathered for this annual celebration of the County's heritage, and a very nice dinner was served in Holy Family's "Heritage Room" (the new Parish Hall). The program began after dinner, and included the awarding of eight St. George's Day awards, and the 2005 induction into the Hall of Fame of Prince George's County.

St. George's Day awards are presented each year to honor persons or organizations that have contributed to the recognition and preservation of Prince George's County's heritage. Eight St. George's Day awards were presented at this year's celebration.

Joyce and Race Dowling were recognized for their excellent work in the restoration of the William W. Early House in Brandywine.

Chris Grazzini was recognized for his careful and extensive research into the War of 1812, in particular as related to Prince George's County, and for his lectures on this subject.

Anna Holmes was honored for her work as project director for the preparation and publication of *Minding our Own Business*, as well as her devoted work with both the Prince George's County

Historical Society and the North Brentwood Historical Society.

Ray Kaskey was recognized for his outstanding sculptural work on the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., and on the Tricentennial Monument at the Prince George's County Courthouse in Upper Marlboro.

The Knights of St. John were honored for their hard work and dedication in the restoration of the Knights of St. John Hall in Bowie.

Dan Louck was honored for his years of commitment to the historical interpretation of Riversdale, and his support of Riversdale events.

Peter Shapiro was honored for his long-term support as an elected official for many facets of historical interest in the County, and in particular for the Gateway Arts District.

Finally **Donna Schneider** was honored for her devoted work with the Historical Society, for her productive term as chairman of the Historical and Cultural Trust, and for her years of work as editor of the *Friends of Preservation Newsletter*.

After the presentation of the St. George's Day awards, County Executive Jack Johnson addressed the group. He expressed his interest in and support for the appreciation and preservation of the County's heritage.

The Hall of Fame of Prince George's County, which annually recognizes the creativity and contributions of distinguished Prince Georgians of the past, then proceeded with the formal induction of its 2005 honoree, Chaplain Henry Vinton Plummer. Plummer was born a slave in Prince George's County in 1844, escaped to join the U. S. Navy in 1862, established the Bladensburg Burying Society in 1872, served as the first African-American Chaplain in the

Regular U. S. Army (1884-1894), died in Kansas in 1905, and was buried in the Plummer family cemetery in Hyattsville. In February 2005, a century after his death, Chaplain Plummer was awarded an honorable discharge from the U. S. Army.¹ A portrait of Plummer by local painter James Masters was on display at the April 24th event. Reverend Jerome Fowler, a member of the Plummer family, acknowledged the induction and spoke of Henry Vinton Plummer's life and accomplishments.

The Historical Society was delighted to have many members of the Plummer family, and members of the Committee to Clear Chaplain Plummer in attendance at the 2005 St. George's Day celebration. The historical connections between many of the St. George's Day awards, Chaplain Plummer and Holy Family Church were pointed out, and all considered the event a great success. The ceremony ended with visits to the 115-year-old Holy Family Church.

Sweeting's to Leave Area

Many of you will have heard that Sharon and Lester Sweeting have decided to pack up their troubles and move back to their roots. Well, we must say it is all true! We have reached an age when we desire a new career, and two days before Sharon reached eligibility for retirement we heard about an incredible thing. The George N. Frost House, built during the Civil War by George, a farmer and horse breeder, in Cherry Creek, New York, is a classic example of the Queen Anne style.

¹ See article on Chaplain Plummer in *PGCHS News & Notes*, Vol. XXXIV, No. 2, March/April 2005

George N. Frost was a well known race horse breeder and one of Cherry Creek's founding Fathers. He built this splendid Italian Villa in the 1860s. Though the carriage house and barns have long fallen to the elements, the house was lovingly restored by Tom and Joan Owen in 1991. And what a fine job they did.



This house, which is in excellent shape, now has 6 bedrooms and 6 baths and is run as a B&B. As it is only 2.2 miles from Sharon's "Home House" we believe that taking this on is a natural next step for us. We will, of course, continue to take an interest in the Prince George's County Historical Society (our life membership guarantees that) and will try to stop in for special events. Meanwhile, the Society needs YOU! We need members to come out and assist those few who always seem to be running events such as the St. George's Day Awards luncheon, the Holiday Party, the Prince of A County Reception, etc. The Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History, most especially needs additional volunteers – a Librarian will be critical to the continuation of Sharon's wonderful work of cataloguing

the collection, etc, etc. Please do not think that you need to be on the Board to contribute – join in the fun!

Special thanks to Judy Schneider for volunteering to assume the Editorship of this publication. The Sweetings have done this with great devotion and some expertise for over a decade – we had great support from the Board and others – please give Judy the same.

A fond Adieu!

Les and Sharon Sweeting



Old Bowie Victorian For Sale

We normally would not advertise, but we were approached by the owner (a life member) of the above property and asked if we could not include this notice in this edition of *News and Notes*. For information, you may call 301 474 8148. The owner will further describe this 1904 Victorian on ½ acre of land in Old Bowie.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

Someone recently asked if one had to be over 65 to join the Historical Society! The answer is a resounding NO! All ages are welcome.

In addition, while we have a large number of people working on the Board, and will be looking for additional members to fill some departing shoes, one certainly does not need to join the Board to become involved. We are always looking for volunteers in the Library, the Gift Shop, and on committees. The membership committee could use help in maintaining the records and recruiting new members. The St. George's Day Awards committee needs your input for future nominees for these prestigious awards. The committees organizing bus trips, lectures and special events, the holiday party, the annual meeting, and the annual Prince of a County event are in need of your help as well. We are all busy, but these duties take little time and can relieve those who always seem to be stepping up to the plate to other good works.

Please send a note by snail mail to PGCHS, Post Office Box 14, Riverdale, MD 20738; by email to PGCHSLibrary@aol.com, or better yet stop into Marietta any Saturday from Noon to Four to become more involved. You will enjoy the experience and the Society will be the better for it.

Thank you!

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Take a Tour to Sandy Spring Maryland

The Prince George's County Historical Society and Marietta Mansion Museum invite you to join our next Bus Tour which will take us to the FDR Living Museum and the Sandy Spring Museum.

Date: June 25, 2005

Departs: 09:30 AM from Marietta, 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale

Returns: Approximately 4:00 PM

Price: \$22.00 includes transportation, admissions and luncheon

Delmas Wood, founder of the two museums and a life-long resident of Sandy Spring will be our featured speaker at the luncheon – he will discuss the history of Sandy Spring.

Questions? Call Bill Uber at 301 345 8797

To sign up, clip the application and send it with a check for \$22 for each reservation to PGCHS, c/o Marietta, 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale MD 20769

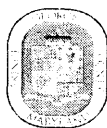
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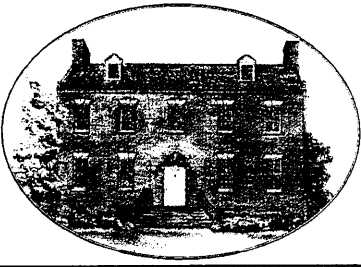
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A Publication of the Prince George's County Historical Society

XXXIV Number 4

July-August 2005

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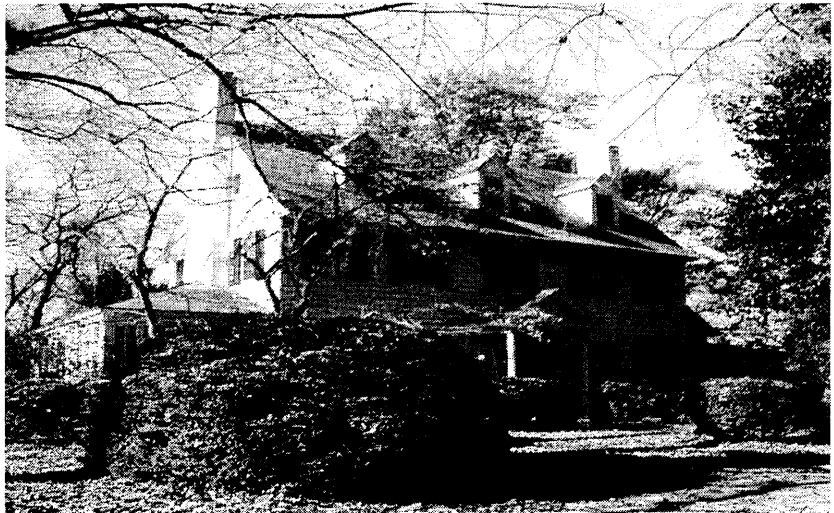
Lecture Series

See **Page 3** for more info



Prince of a County Reception

On Sunday, September 25, 2005, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., we will be fortunate to celebrate our annual *Prince of a County* event at a beautiful private home and garden that many of our members have not yet visited. This year it is Boxlee, one of the homes built for the Addison family of the Bowie-Collington-Glenn Dale area of the county.



Boxlee is a two-and-one-half-story frame gable-roof house, with flared eaves and decorative elements of the Colonial Revival style, built in 1923/24 by local carpenter/builder Millard Schafer. The main block of the house is flanked by an enclosed sun porch at one end and a kitchen wing at the other. The house is situated on a large (nearly 10 acres) and beautiful lot planted with mature tulip poplars, hollies, and other specimen trees, as well as many varieties of azaleas and boxwood. The property, was during the nineteenth century, part of the Bowie-Addison family farm known as Maple Shade.

At the end of the nineteenth century, this farm was divided among the heirs, with Ellen Bowie Addison receiving the old family homestead, Maple Shade. Early in the twentieth century, some of

(Continued on Page 3)

Presidential Musings

As in every all-volunteer organization, the PGCHS is dependent upon the dedication of its members. In August the PGCHS will lose two of its most active members. Lester and Sharon Sweeting joined the Historical Society in 1989 and quickly became enthusiastic participants in the activities of the organization. Les became editor of this publication, *News and Notes*, in August 1992 and Sharon became a contributor though her column, *From the Bookshelf*. Sharon took over as *News and Notes* editor in 1996 and served in that capacity until last month. In 1998, she also became Librarian of the Frederick S. DeMarr Library located at Marietta House Museum. Les served from 2000 - 2002 as president of PGCHS.

The Society is not the only organization to benefit from Les and Sharon. They have also served in leadership and editorial roles in the Hyattsville Preservation Association and Prince George's Heritage. Their move to New York will create a huge vacuum in the historical and preservation communities of this county. While here, however, their astute heads, hands and voices accomplished great things. (Les even kept working for the Society while working at his 'real' job in Eastern Europe!) We were very lucky to have had them work with us and to have shared their friendship. The Society, Hyattsville and the County at large will certainly miss this talented and devoted duo!

Together Les and Sharon moved the Society and our library into the 21st century. Every Saturday for the last 10 years, they scanned documents and catalogued our collection, so that future researchers of county history will find their work far easier. The Society has greatly benefitted from their leadership, financial support and their vision. All of us now need to redouble our own dedication to the Society and its mission.

Thank you Les and Sharon. Your example can only be an inspiration for us all.

- John

Editor's Corner

I would also like to add my thanks to John's and all the members of the Society to Les and Sharon for all your very hard work over so many years. We most sincerely wish you the very best in whatever or wherever your life takes you next. Your shoes will be very hard to fill.

- Judy

The Prince George's County Historical Society

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Newsletter contributors: Susan G. Pearl, Susan Wolfe, Jim Wolfe, John Petro, Elizabeth Dougherty, Donna Schneider, and Judy Schneider

Printer: MinuteMan Press, 410-451-0218

All members of the Prince George's County Historical Society are invited and welcome to attend Society meetings. We meet at the Marietta Mansion one Saturday each month at 9:30 am. Meeting dates for the rest of 2005 are: August 6, September 17, October 8, November 5, and December 10. (Dates are subject to change. Call to confirm the date if you would like to attend.)

News and Notes is published six times a year. You are invited to submit a relevant article for print (subject to space limitations). Deadline dates for the rest of 2005 are: September 15 for the September-October issue and November 15 for the November-December issue.

If you would like to volunteer your time and talents please call us. We'd love to have you join us.

Thank You Sponsors!

The PGCHS would like to say thank you again for your generous donation to the Society this past year.

Gold Level - \$500

Addison ♦ Herring Incorporated
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Silver Level - \$250

Mrs. Hannah C. Cox
The Henry N. Wixon Family

Bronze Level - \$100

Ms. E. Louise Tatspaugh

these heirs contracted with local carpenter Millard Schafer to build houses for them, e.g., the Arthur G. Bowie House (1909) north of Boxlee, and Cedar Hill to the east for Joseph Addison (1916). Then in 1923, Ellen Bowie Addison deeded to her younger son, F. Bowie Addison, a seven-acre part of Maple Shade located to the east of the old house, and fronting on the road between Collington and Springfield Station (now Hillmeade Road). On this parcel in the following year, Millard Schafer built for Bowie Addison a Colonial Revival style frame house similar to Cedar Hill; it came to be known as Boxlee. Like Cedar Hill, Boxlee was embellished with several fine interior decorative elements taken from deteriorating older houses. In the case of Boxlee, the handsome wood mantels in the parlors are believed to have come from Mullikin's Delight (located about eight miles to the south on Church Road), which was then in seriously deteriorating condition. The mantels, with their fluted pilasters and friezes with dentil molding, were removed from Mullikin's Delight, restored by Schafer, and built into the parlors at Boxlee.

Today, of course, the practice of removing and reusing such architectural details would not be recommended, or even permitted, unless the original building was certainly beyond salvage. But in the 1920s and 1930s this was a fairly common practice, especially by carpenters like Millard Schafer who were familiar with local historic structures. In this case, Mullikin's Delight was subsequently restored, and is now a charming private residence. In many other cases, the removed and reused decorative elements are today the only surviving features of a long lost historic house.

Boxlee is now the home of Courtland and Elaine Lee, who have developed the beautiful grounds into an azalea and boxwood farm. The Boxlee farm is best known for the Glenn Dale Azalea, developed for the Department of Agriculture by Ben Morrison, who did most of his hybridizing at the nearby Plant Introduction Center. Court Lee, a geologist by profession, has assembled one of the most complete collections of the 450 types of Glenn Dale Azalea in the country. Although most of them bloom in the spring, he says that some types will be blooming in late September.

The Glenn Dale Azalea is the official Prince George's County shrub, and its development here is part of the County's history. Celebrating *Prince of a County* at Boxlee will allow us not only to enjoy its beautiful grounds and learn some of the Bowie-

Addison family's history, but also to experience some of the County's agricultural history as well. You will be receiving your invitations soon. We look forward to seeing you there!

--Susan G. Pearl, Historian

***The Maryland Campaign
of the War of 1812 South
County Theater Intelligence***

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH



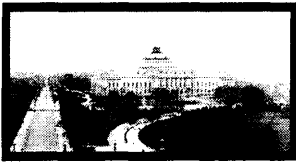
Lecture by Major Chris Grazzini
at

The Patuxent River Park Jug Bay Natural Area
16000 Croom Airport Road
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Lecture at 10.00 am
Pontoon boat ride to Mt. Calvert at 11.00 am
Tour of Mt. Calvert Historical & Archeology Park
Return to Patuxent River Park by 1.15 pm

Reservations Required.
Call Jim Wolfe at 301-464-3442
Limited to 32 people for boat ride
Lecture, boat ride and tour free to
Historical Society members
\$5 for non-members

Reservation Deadline: September 1, 2005



From the Library

It is always satisfying when researchers come into the library at Marietta and leave feeling that they have discovered new information and accomplished what they had come for. It is especially satisfying, and indeed exciting, when someone comes in with a really unusual research topic and, after hours of discovery, finally forces himself to leave, calling our library a "really unique treasure trove!" On the fourth of July weekend we had one of those wonderful experiences!

Chul Heo, professor of Broadcast and Electronic Communication Arts at San Francisco State University, walked in the door of the library on July 2nd, looking for anything he could find related to the life and death of Pyon Su (also known as Penn Su), the first Korean student ever to graduate from a university in the United States. The university that this student attended and from which he graduated in 1891 was our own Maryland Agricultural College (now University of Maryland) at College Park. We at the library had never heard of Pyon Su, but we have lots of information about the Agricultural College and the related Calvert family, about historic College Lawn (College Park), and about Ammendale, where Pyon Su was buried. So we went to work gathering together as much information as we could find, learning from Professor Heo more and more about Pyon Su as we went along. We were all disappointed that none of the local newspapers has survived from the date of his death, October 1891 (he was hit by a moving train at the College Station only four months after he graduated), but we were able to provide lots of visual information - photographs, maps, plats, etc. - and this was very exciting to Professor Heo and his two associates.

Of special interest was the discovery that one classmate and friend of Pyon Su's was Richard Calvert, grandson of Charles Benedict Calvert, the owner/resident of Riversdale and prime mover in the establishment of the Agricultural College in 1856 (and of course we have lots of material on these subjects!). Professor Heo was delighted to find our archival photograph of Richard Calvert as a MAC student, as well as a photograph of McAlpine, Richard Calvert's home just southeast of campus. Richard Calvert and Grant Ammen (one of the sons of Admiral Daniel Ammen) served as pallbearers at



Pyon Su's funeral. Pyon Su had apparently become quite close to the Ammen family, and was entertained at their home ("Happy Home") near Ammendale. His burial took place at the Christian Brothers cemetery at Ammendale, thanks to arrangements made by Daniel Ammen, who had taken the young Korean under his wing during his residence in Prince George's County.

Professor Heo is presently on sabbatical from SFSU, for the purpose of producing a documentary film on Pyon Su which he hopes will be released on PBS television. Before he came to us, he had spent many hours at the Library of Congress, the National Archives, the Korean Embassy and the University of Maryland archives, and though he had found much helpful material at those major repositories, he was very pleased to find some surprising treasures at our library. He returned to the Marietta library within the week, with a full filming crew, and began filming for the documentary which he hopes will be completed by the end of 2005. In the meantime, we will of course keep in touch with him, and are hopeful that we may be able to provide even more information for his project. We have initiated inquiries with the Christian Brothers (Ammendale) archivist, with B&O railroad experts, and with a grandson of Richard Calvert, so the possibilities of additional information are good! If you have any ideas, please let us know! (We are still looking for photographs of the Admiral Ammen's sons, Ulysses Grant Ammen and Dupont Ammen, both of whom were friends/classmates of Pyon Su) Send us an e-mail at pgchslibrary@aol.com or leave a message at 301-464-0590. And we will definitely let you know when the documentary airs on PBS.

- Susan G. Pearl, Historian



Our Gift Shop

The Gift Shop features a wide selection of books about Prince George's County history, Historical Society publications and other books of historical and cultural interest. We also have hand-crafted items, small antiques and an array of 19th century toys and games for children.

During the next few months, the shop will be undergoing some changes, the biggest being that by January 2006 you will have the convenience of using your credit card to pay for your purchases.

The History of Labor Day

Labor Day: How it Came About; What it Means

"Labor Day differs in every essential way from the other holidays of the year in any country," said Samuel Gompers, founder and longtime president of the American Federation of Labor. "All other holidays are in a more or less degree connected with conflicts and battles of man's prowess over man, of strife and discord for greed and power, of glories achieved by one nation over another. Labor Day...is devoted to no man, living or dead, to no sect, race, or nation."

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

Founder of Labor Day

More than 100 years after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers.

Some records show that Peter J. McGuire, general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and a cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, was first in suggesting a day to honor those "who from rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold."

But Peter McGuire's place in Labor Day history has not gone unchallenged. Many believe that Matthew Maguire, a machinist, not Peter McGuire, founded the holiday. Recent research seems to support the contention that Matthew Maguire, later the secretary of Local 344 of the International Association of Machinists in Paterson, N.J., proposed the holiday in 1882 while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York. What is clear is that the Central Labor Union adopted a Labor Day proposal and appointed a committee to plan a demonstration and picnic.

The First Labor Day

The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883.

In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

Labor Day Legislation

Through the years the nation gave increasing emphasis to Labor Day. The first governmental recognition came through municipal ordinances passed during 1885 and 1886. From them developed the movement to secure state legislation. The first state bill was introduced into the New York legislature, but the first to become law was passed by Oregon on February 21, 1887. During the year four more states -- Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York -- created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment. By the end of the decade Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania had followed suit. By 1894, 23 other states had adopted the holiday in honor of workers, and on June 28 of that year, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories.

A Nationwide Holiday

The form that the observance and celebration of Labor Day should take were outlined in the first proposal of the holiday -- a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations" of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for the celebrations of Labor Day. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civic significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement.

The character of the Labor Day celebration has undergone a change in recent years, especially in large industrial centers where mass displays and huge parades have proved a problem. This change, however, is more a shift in emphasis and medium of expression. Labor Day addresses by government officials are given wide coverage in newspapers, radio, and television.

The vital force of labor added materially to the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy. It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pay tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom, and leadership -- the American worker.

(Reproduced from the U.S. Department of Labor website, www.dol.gov)



Calendar of Events *August - September 2005*

August 6, 12 noon-6 pm (rain or shine) at National Colonial Farm

African American Heritage Day – A showcase of African American culture and history with re-enactors to the colonial and Civil War Periods. Museum displays, exhibits, musical performances, food vendors and more. Fee required. For more details call 301-283-2113.

August 7, 2-4 pm at Marietta House Museum

Sunday Summer Fun - "Ice Cream Social" – 19th c. hands-on activities and crafts for children Grades K - 6. Reservations required. Fee: \$3/child. Please phone 301-464-5291.

August 7 at Fort Washington Park

Artillery Demonstrations – Learn about the importance of artillery during the Civil War. Fort Washington Park, Fort Washington. Fee required. Call 301-763-4600.

August 13, 10 am - 4 pm at Belair Mansion

Belair on the Civil War Homefront – Children are invited to play Civil War era games, and visitors can enjoy the open fire cooking demonstration. Members of the Atlantic Guard Soldiers Aid Society, a civilian re-enactment group will be happy to discuss the news of the 1860, explain civilian roles during the War between the States, and offer a glimpse of the impact of the Civil War on life in Bowie. Free; no reservations required. For further information, please call 301-809-3089.

August 13, 12-4 pm at Riversdale House Museum

10th Annual Battle of Bladensburg Encampment – Join British and American War of 1812 troops as they camp on the lawn to prepare for the battle. See demonstrations, drills, and representations of military camp life. Try early 19th century children's games on the lawn. Free admission to grounds; fee for house tours.

August 14, 12-4 pm at College Park Aviation Museum

Air Mail Day – Come to the museum for air mail-related stories and crafts celebrating the 87th anniversary of the first U.S. Postal Air Mail flight, which took place at the College Park Airport.

August 24, 7 pm at Riversdale House Museum

Summer Music on the Portico Concert Series: Bruce Ewan – Bring a blanket or lawn chair to the beautifully landscaped grounds and enjoy a free outdoor summer concert featuring harmonica maestro and vocalist Bruce Ewan with his band, The Solid Senders. If you like, have a grilled dinner beforehand. Free; optional charge for dinner. For more information please call 301-864-0420.

September 3 - 5 at College Park Aviation Museum

Trains and Planes! – All aboard! The National Capital Trackers will display and run their extensively detailed

model railroad in the museum's main gallery. In 1909, the proximity of the airfield to the railroad was one of the attractive features that brought the Wright Brothers here to instruct the first military officers to fly. Come enjoy the model trains and imagine the early pilots racing the trains with their aeroplanes!

September 10-11, 10 am-4 pm at Marietta House Museum

Roman Legion XX Encampment – Come visit a Roman army camp and learn about the daily life of Roman soldiers, battle tactics and weaponry. Admission is FREE.

September 18, 1 pm at Riversdale House Museum

An Afternoon of Regency Romance – Local romance writers read from their works. Books will be available for purchase and signing by the authors. \$5, includes refreshments and house tour.

September 18, 2 pm at Montpelier Mansion

M'Lady's Wardrobe Unlocked: A Fashion Show with Joyce McDonald – Joyce McDonald is a research consultant and seamstress specializing in 18th and early 19th century garments. She creates custom clothing for historical re-enactors, historic site docents and museum exhibits, and is seamstress for the Claude Moore Colonial Farm in McLean, VA. Ages 12 & up, \$5/person. Reservations required. Please call 301-953-1376.

September 21, 7:30 pm at Montpelier Mansion

Fall History Lecture Series – Ages 12 & up, FREE. No reservations required. Speakers and topics to be announced. For more details please call 301-953-1376.

To August 31 at Darnall's Chance House Museum

Man's Best Friends: Colonial Americans and their Pets – Visitors are encouraged to bring a photo of their own pet to display at the Museum. \$1 from each admission ticket will be donated to a local animal organization. No reservation necessary. Thursdays & Fridays, 10 am-4 pm & Sundays, 12-4 pm or by appointment during the week. Fee includes house tour. For more details phone 301-952-8010.

To November 27, 2005 at Surratt House Museum

140 Years Ago...The Crime of the Century – "The President has been shot!" Words that struck panic throughout America as the country was ending four years of a cruel civil war. Learn how a kidnap scheme against Abraham Lincoln turned into America's first presidential assassination. Follow the escape and capture of John Wilkes Booth and learn the fate of his band of followers. No reservation required. Regular tour admission price. For more information please call 301-868-1121.



Prince George's County Historical Society Publications

- 1. Landmarks of Prince George's County*** – 125 black and white photographs of the rich architectural legacy of Prince George's County by Jack E. Boucher. Arranged chronologically, the photos and captions offer a panoramic overview of the county's architectural and historical development. Indexed. Hard-cover, 144 pages. Price: \$18.00.
- 2. Prince George's County: A Pictorial History*** – The history and essence of Prince George's County come alive in words and pictures in this beautiful collector's edition. Written in a fascinating narrative with more than 350 photographs, maps, and illustrations. Many of them are in full color and are previously unpublished. Author: Alan Virta. 1998 - Revised and updated edition. Hardcover, 308 pages. Price: \$42.95.
- 3. Journey Through Time – A Pictorial History of the Prince George's County Police Department*** – A history of the county police department covering over 200 years. Author: Lt. Dennis Campbell. Indexed. Printed 1991. Hardcover, 304 pages. Price: \$40.00.
- 4. Calvert of Maryland** – This fact-based novel shows the home life of the colonists from a child's viewpoint. This story is told in the first person by young George Calvert, godson of the first Lord Baltimore, George Calvert. Reprint of James Otis Kaler's 1910 publication. Hardcover, 166 pages. Pen and ink illustrations. Price: \$6.95.
- 5. Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington including the County of Prince George Maryland** – Compiled, drawn and published from actual surveys by G. M. Hopkins 1878 including "historical" sketches. Indexed. Reprint 1979. Soft cover, 32 pages. Price: \$10.00.
- 6. Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland 1861** – Atlas was adapted from Martenet's Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, with information from 1860 federal census for each election district. Indexed. Reprint 1996. Soft cover, 32 pages. Price: \$10.00.
- 7. Prince George's County, Maryland, Indexes of Church Registers 1686-1885** – Volume 1 - Protestant Episcopal Church, King George's Parish, and Queen Anne's Parish. Author: Helen W. Brown. Reprint 2000. Soft cover, 200 pages. Price: \$18.00.
- 8. Prince George's County, Maryland, Indexes of Church Registers 1686-1885** – Volume 2 - Protestant Episcopal Church, St. Paul's Parish, and Prince George's Parish. Author: Helen W. Brown. Reprint 2000. Soft cover, 196 pages. Price: \$18.00.
- 9. Out of the Past – Prince Georgians and their Land** – Chronicle of everyday life in Prince George's County, Maryland from the time of its founding in 1676 until the beginning of the Civil War. (Information for this book was gleaned from public records, newspapers, and private papers.) Author: R. Lee Van Horn. Reprint 1996. Hardcover, 422 pages. Price: \$20.00.
- 10. Tricentennial Cook Book** – Contains recipes collected from Prince George's County residents as part of the tricentennial celebration. Compiled and edited by Dorothy Rainwater and the Tricentennial Celebration Committee. Printed 1996. Soft cover, spiral bound, 150 pages. Price: \$10.00.

*Shipping and handling for books numbered 1, 2, and 3 is \$3.00 for each copy of the book because of size and weight. They are shipped separately.

Shipping and handling for all other books is \$2.50 for the first book and 50 cents for each additional book.

Shipping and handling for international orders. Please call 301-464-0590 or email the Historical Society for current postage rates.

Make checks payable to: Prince George's County Historical Society. Maryland residents, please add 5% sales tax.

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Membership Category (Please check one) ☐ Member/Family \$25 ☐ Sustaining Member \$50
☐ Institutional Member \$50 ☐ Life Member \$300 ☐ Additional Contribution _____

☐ I am also interested in helping the Society as a volunteer. Please contact me.

☐ For membership in the Maryland Historical Society, include an additional \$30 for individual or \$40 for family

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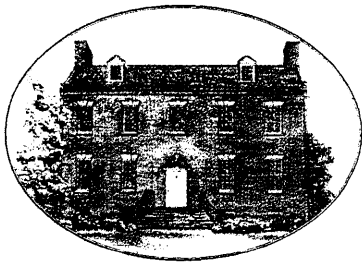
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News & Notes

A Publication of the Prince George's County Historical Society

XXXIV Number 5

September-October 2005

MARIETTA HOUSE MUSEUM

(Home of the Prince George's
County Historical Society)

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Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120
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TTY 301-699-2544
(Off Route 193, near Route
450) A facility of the Maryland-
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Friday, 11 am to 3 pm
Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon
to 4 pm
Weekday and evening tours by
appointment only

Marietta House Gift Shop

Manager: Stella Uber
301-464-0590
Open Friday, 11 am to 3 pm,
Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon
to 4 pm
(also open during special
events)

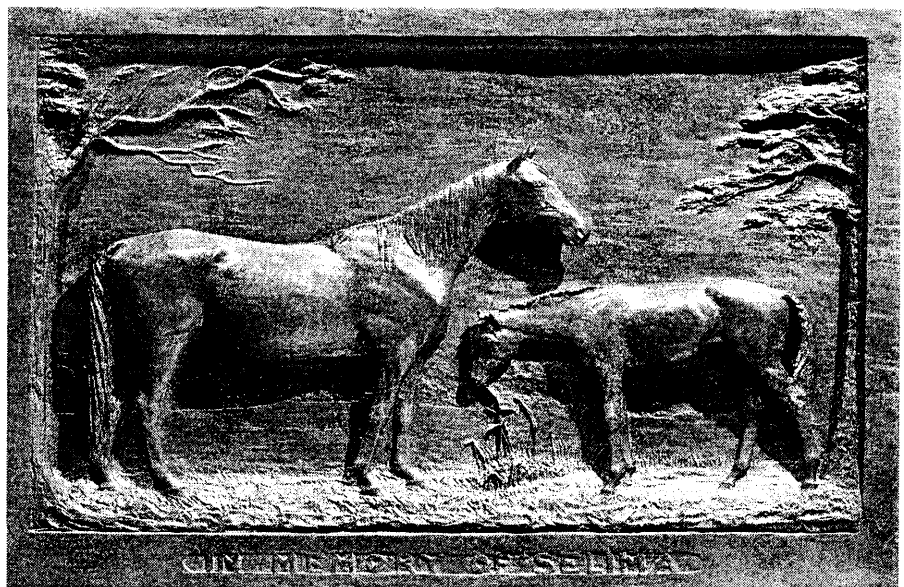
Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History

Librarian:
301-464-0590
Open Saturday, 12 noon to 4 pm

Lecture Series Susan Pearl. See
box on page 2 and calendar,
page 6. Free.



Horse Racing in Prince George's County



(Selima and Selim in Bronze. Picture courtesy City of Bowie Museums)

The "Sport of Kings" did indeed become the king of sports in colonial Prince George's County. In the county's early history it is reasonable to assume that soon after the establishment of Charles Town in the early 1690s, horse racing became a staple of the visitors to the village inns. Certainly with the mandated birth of towns in 1706, Upper Marlboro, Piscataway, Nottingham and Queen Anne boasted racing in some form. The *Maryland Gazette* in 1745 notes races to be held on the 17th and 18th of September at Queen Anne Town in Prince George's County at Mr. Murdock's Old Fields. Purses of 30 and 20 Pounds were to be offered. The *Gazette* records later in 1768, "...jockeys are required to appear with a neat waistcoat and Half boots" at this Queen Anne Town event". The *Maryland Gazette* further records races at Mr. Craufurd's Old Fields near Upper Marlboro in August of 1751 with purses of 30 Pounds. On August 20, 1753, races were to be held at Mrs. Craufurd's Old Fields. "Enter horses with Benjamin Berry or Benjamin Brooks," it announced. "Any dispute will be settled by Clement Hill and Basil Waring." The purses were again 30 Pounds until 1768 when 100 Pound purses were advertised.

(Continued on Page 3)

***** UPCOMING EVENTS *****

ANNUAL MEETING, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2005
ANNUAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2005
More detailed information about these events is enclosed.

Presidential Musings . . .

While watching the ongoing masterful restoration of Bowieville (2 ½ story hip roof 1819 plantation house off Church Road near Bowie) one cannot be anything but awed by the craftsmanship employed in the early 19th century by county builders. We are fortunate to have such elegant structures of the late 18th and early 19th centuries such as Montpelier, Belair, Riversdale and Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness all easily accessible to the county's population. The people who toiled on these structures, both slave and free, possessed amazing artistic and engineering skills.

These houses tell a story of the county's workforce, but not the whole story. Little evidence remains of the many persons who worked as blacksmiths, coopers, chandlers, pewterers, cabinet-makers, carpenters, tinsmiths, wheelwrights, ironmongers or whitesmiths in the same era. Their products were utilitarian and often discarded after many years or when the tools had been replaced by other technologies. This fact does not, however, diminish the talent needed to craft their wares.

In a larger sense, the resourceful farmers who often built their own houses and outbuildings, forged their own tools, shod their own work animals and created their own clothes were the largest part of the period's workforce. These industrious men and women are often overlooked when considering the skilled workforce of the time.

While we anxiously await the restoration completion (hopefully mid-December of this year) of the luxurious classical appointments of the interiors and faux block exterior of Bowieville, we need also to take time to marvel at the more mundane creations of our other more numerous forebearers.

– John

Fall History Lecture Series

Wednesday, November 16, 7:30 pm

Montpelier Mansion, Laurel

Susan Pearl, . . .

longtime historian and preservationist for Prince George's County, gives an intriguing look at the letters of a governess for an Upper Marlboro family from 1854 to 1861.

Ages 12 and up

No reservations required

Light refreshments will be served

Free

The Prince George's County

Historical Society

5626 Bell Station Road

Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120

Phone: 301-464-0590

Email: pgchslibrary@aol.com or
info@pghistory.org

Website: www.pghistory.org

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Historian: Susan G. Pearl
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Mrs. Hannah C. Cox
The Henry N. Wixon Family

Bronze Level – \$100

Ms. E. Louise Tatspaugh

Samuel Ogle of Belair, an appointed royal governor, was an ardent racing enthusiast who imported several notable thoroughbreds from the royal stables of England. Among these were Spark and the mare, Queen Mab. Continuing the interests of his brother-in-law, Benjamin Tasker, who became of Belair, another fancier and breeder of fine horses, imported the famous mare, Selima to Belair in 1751. Often referred to as the "Queen of the Turf," Selima distinguished herself as a champion racehorse. She produced many outstanding offspring, the most famous of which was Selim. Selim was so successful, that it is reported that often, "he was not permitted to enter races because it was believed that he would win" (Alexander Young, *Pre-Civil War Horseracing in Maryland*, 1963). In the September 1829 issue of *American Turf Register*, Gabriel Duvall wrote a letter to the editor, J. S. Skinner, "According to [my] promised [to provide] you [with] an account of the race run at Philadelphia in the year 1767, by Selim and other horses." It is copied from the *Maryland Gazette* of Mr. Green, October 22, 1767, by him taken from a Philadelphia paper.

"On Tuesday last, the following horses started for the Gentleman's subscriptions purse of one hundred guineas: Samuel Gallaway, Esq's bay horse Selim, Mr. Leary's bay horse, Old England, Mr. Samuel's bay horse, Granby, Mr. Andrew Orr's grey horse, Northumberland. The first heat was run in 8 minutes 2 seconds. Selim winning from Old England by a single length. The second heat, after running three miles close at the heels of Selim, Old England flew the course." The standard was 10 stone. Selim was then 8 years old and carried 140 lbs. full weight. Old England and Northumberland were both imported. It is believed that the running was never exceeded, if equaled in this country. To form a correct judgment of the speed of a horse, the weight carried must always be recollected. If, as the old and experienced sportsmen say, seven pounds are equal to a distance which is 240 yards, it follows that 14 lbs. will make a difference of 480 yards, a space which would consume 32 seconds of time in running at the rate of running in Philadelphia. Deduct this from 8 minutes 2 seconds and it leaves 7 minutes and a half, in which the race would have been run if the standard had been 9 stone. I have never seen an account of a race where the 4 miles were run in 7½ minutes in the United States. Figure beat Selim in 1768 at Upper Marlboro, but Selim was undoubtedly in bad condition and had been lately cured of distemper in the throat. He was certainly a capital racer. I saw him beat the celebrated Silver Legs from Virginia in the year 1772 at Annapolis, a 4 miles and repeat. He was then 12 years old and Silver Legs was only 9. With respect and esteem, G. Duvall"

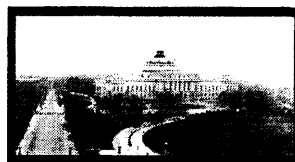
This accolade about the prowess of Selim from the pen of Gabriel Duvall carries great weight as the *American Turf Register and Sporting Magazine* in January of 1834 upon the editor's request for Judge Duvall to preview a publication of *American Race Turf Register*, *Sportsman's Herald* and *General Stud Book*, notes for his

readers, "We recently paced the volume in the hands of Judge Duvall; to whom the readers of this magazine are much indebted for valuable information and who is ever ready to communicate, in the most obliging manner, his knowledge of races and race horses of the olden time. His memory runs back further and embraces more minute details, than that of any other person. Its tenacity is almost incredible." In his response letter back about the book, Duvall notes several errors among which was "P. 153 - Mr. Gallaway's Selim was not imported. He was bred at Belair, within 3 miles of the residence of the writer of this." [Judge Duvall was not only an observer of and commentator on horse races, but he also was an owner of horses. The *Maryland Gazette* of October 31, 1799, notes his horses, Hamlet and Leboo won purses of 100 and 50 Pounds respectively. He also owned a horse which raced one owned by President Jackson which caused the Congress and the Court to recess while the race was run.]

Horse racing has a long history in Prince George's County. For over 250 years quarter horse, thoroughbred and harness racing has been a part of the County's life. While Belair was undoubtedly the cradle of breeding thoroughbreds and horse racing in the county and English America in colonial times, the sport continued to be a great popular amusement through the 20th century. Belair was the home of 1930 Triple Crown winner Gallant Fox (which is history's only triple crown winner to sire a triple crown winner) and his son 1935 Triple Crown winner Omaha. Race tracks of a mile were built in Laurel in 1911 and Bowie in 1914, and a smaller track was built at Upper Marlboro in 1914. A harness track was operating at Rosecroft by 1950. The county still boasts many trainers and breeders as well as training tracks.

To tie into this aspect of our county's history, the Historical Society has selected Laurel Park Racetrack for the setting of our Annual Meeting. This dinner meeting will be held on Monday, November 7, 2005. See details on the enclosed flyer.

- Jim Wolfe



From the Library . . .

Our Historical Society Library (the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of Prince George's County History) participated in a very special event on August 12, 2005; it was part of the first annual *Summer Institute on Art and Museum Libraries* offered by the Catholic University School of Library and Information Science. This Institute consisted of an intensive week of detailed guided tours of several different kinds of art and museum libraries, including the libraries of the Hillwood Museum, the Lincoln Cottage and the National Museum of Health and Medicine, the University of Maryland Art and Architecture Departments, the National Museum of the American

(Continued on Page 4)

(From the Library . . . continued from Page 3)

Indian, and the National Gallery of Art. The PGCHS library staff had been approached by the Institute director (Sally Sims Stokes, formerly Curator of the National Trust for Historic Preservation library at the University of Maryland, College Park), who wanted her students to experience not only the libraries of major government or privately funded facilities, but also to be introduced to the problems and potential of a small library run by volunteers and operated with minimal financial support.

The Institute drew 19 students, all pursuing the MLS (Masters in Library Science) degree. In addition to the day-long museum library sessions, these students participated in daily discussion sessions regarding the libraries to which they had been introduced, and are now submitting a series of papers and reports to complete the credits for the Institute course.

The session on August 12 at our library was very lively indeed (half the class had a guided tour of the Marietta House Museum while the other half had a 1 ½ hour session in the library, and then *vice versa*). During each of the two library sessions, the students were shown the wide range of resources that our library offers: the standard publications, maps, photo archives, community histories, newspapers, biographical and obituary files, vertical files, *Maryland Historical Magazine* and *Archives of Maryland*, etc., as well as a detailed look at one of our special donated collections. The story of Pyon Su (see the July-August 2005 issue of *News and Notes*) was then used as an example of the way that many of these resources can come together and be used to develop a specific research project.

The students had lots of questions about how a small organization can operate a library with such a breadth of resources, but with limited space, funds, and staff. They were particularly interested in the development of the library from Fred DeMarr's personal collection, its growth over more than 30 years, and the efforts of the Library Committee to keep the library going after Fred's untimely death eight years ago. I had provided them in advance with copies of the Historical Society's By-Laws, the Joint-Use Agreement between the Society and M-NCPPC, and the library's Collection Management Policy. They were very much interested in the relationship between the Historical Society and the M-NCPPC in maintaining the library facility. They asked about and commented on our current attempts to properly accession the entire collection, and the ever-daunting challenge regarding staffing and space.

The students and their director had many helpful suggestions, including the establishment of a formal fellowship or internship that would attract the assistance of a MLS student over a semester or a year, thus providing the library with professional guidance and coordination. With the assistance (from afar) of Sharon Sweeting, who lent her own professional library skills over the last decade, and with the encouragement of the Dean of the Catholic University School of Library and Information Science, we are in the process of developing a proposal for just such a fellowship/internship. The Historical Society was very pleased to have been a part of

this very impressive Summer Institute. Our library is not known to a new group of library professional, and we are hoping that the connection will lead to some very good steps forward for the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of Prince George's County History.

— Susan G. Pearl, Historian
PGCHS Library Committee

Prince George's County Historical Society

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2005 - 2006

Join us for our Annual Meeting on Monday,
November 7, 2005 at Laurel Park in the
Terrace Dining Room to vote, have a
wonderful dinner, and a presentation of horse
racing in Prince George's County

President:	John Petro
Vice President:	Jim Wolfe
Secretary:	Dusty Rhoads
Treasurer:	Donna Schneider
Historian:	Susan Pearl
Editor:	Judy Schneider
Membership:	Donna Schneider and Anna Holmes

Board of Directors

1 Year Term

Hannah Cox
Anna Holmes
Lynn Roberts
Andy Wallace

2 Year Term

Wallis Cain
Joyce Dowling
Charles Hendricks
Elizabeth Dougherty

3 Year Term

William Uber
Dan Louck

Thank you to Mildred Ridgley Gray, Iris McConnell and Joyce Uber for serving on the Board for the past three years, and for William Uber for serving another 3 Year Term.

Additional details about the Annual Meeting are on the inserted flyer.

Prince George's County Historical Society

Invites you to our Annual Meeting

Monday, November 7, 2005

Cash bar 6:30 pm - - - Dinner 7:00 pm

at

Laurel Park

Terrace Dining Room

3600 Ft. Meade Rd. (Rt. 198 & Race Track Rd.)

Laurel, Maryland

Menu

Pan Seared Salmon Fillet with lemon butter

Sauteed Breast of Chicken Picatta

Pasta Primavera

All entrees include: salad, baked potato and green beans

Assorted Desserts

Coffee (regular & decaf) and Tea (hot or iced) are included

Cost: \$35 per person

RSVP by: October 26, 2005

A presentation on Horse Racing in Prince George's County will follow a brief business meeting and elections.

Directions to Laurel Park are on the back of this flyer.

Please choose one entree: (if more than one person is attending, please choose an entree for each person)

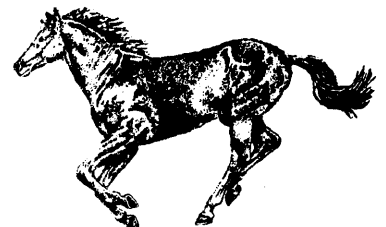
- ☐ Pan Seared Salmon Fillet with lemon butter Qty: _____
- ☐ Sauteed Breast of Chicken Picatta Qty: _____
- ☐ Pasta Primavera Qty: _____

For more information contact James Wolfe at 301-464-3442. Please complete and cut off the bottom part of this flyer, enclose it with your check payable to PGCHS, and mail to: James Wolfe, Marietta House Museum, 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120.

NAME _____

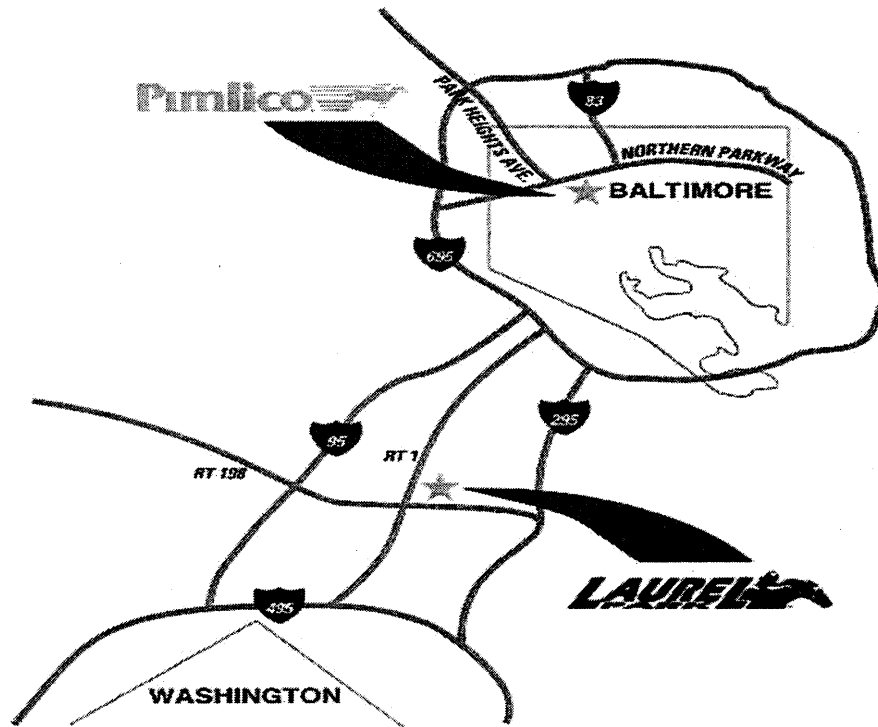
PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____



Directions and map to Laurel Park:

Located 22 miles from Washington or Baltimore on Route 198 in Laurel. Four miles east of I-95 (Exit 33, Route 198 East/Laurel); two miles west of 295, Baltimore Washington Parkway (Exit on Route 198 West/Laurel). www.laurelpark.com



Prince George's County Historical Society's

Annual Holiday Celebration

at

Marietta House Museum
5626 Bell Station Road
Glenn Dale, MD 20769

WHEN: Saturday, December 10, 2005
TIME: 2:00 to 5:00 PM
THEME: The 1940's
MENU: Smorgasbord. We hope you will bring a favorite dish, casserole, cookies, cake, etc., to share.

Drinks will be provided

There will be live entertainment and taped music

We cordially invite you to bring a guest or two and join us in the celebration!

Go through your closets and see if you can 'dig' out some 1940's apparel. Some suggestions are listed below.

Ladies' Apparel

Woollen Plaid Jackets
Short Waist Jackets with Notched Lapels
Straight Skirts (calf length)
Woolen Skirts - front kick pleat or
box pleats
Padded Shoulders ala Joan Crawford
Covered Buttons
Rhinestone Embellishments



Men's Apparel

Woolen Plaid Jackets
Double-breasted Jackets
Rayon Shirts
Pleated Pants with 'Braces'
Cabana Shirts
Padded Shoulders
Spats
Military Style Jacket and Trousers

Committee Members:

Anna Holmes (202-575-1424)
Susan & Jim Wolfe (301-464-5291)
Dusty & Julie Rhoades
Dawn Reeves
Donna Schneider



Calendar of Events

October-December 2005

OCTOBER

- 1-22 **Corn Maze** at Billingsley House Museum, Upper Marlboro. Weekends, 12-5 PM, fee
- 6-9 **Mason-Dixon Rug Hooking Exhibit** at Montpelier Mansion, Laurel, 11 AM - 4 PM, free
- 8 **Riverfest in the Park** at Laurel Museum, Laurel. 10 AM-4 PM, free
- 8 **Colonial Day** at National Colonial Farm, Accokeek. 12-4 PM, fee
- 8 & 9 **Medieval Faire** at Marietta House Museum, Glenn Dale. 11 AM-4 PM, fee
- 9 **Walt Whitman: Poet of Democracy** at Surratt House Museum, Clinton. 2 PM, free but reservations suggested, call 301-868-1121
- 11 **Lecture** by Mary Ann Jung interpreting Margaret Brent, one of Maryland's "Founding Mothers" at Belair Mansion, Bowie. 7:30 PM, free
- 19 **"George Washington and Alexander Hamilton: A Friendship That Helped Build a Nation"** lecture by Michael Harrison at Montpelier Mansion, Laurel. 7:30 PM, free
- 21-22 **Mayhem in Marlboro Ghost Walk** at Darnall's Chance House Museum, Upper Marlboro. Tours every 20 min. from 7-10 PM, fee, not recommended for kids under 6
- 22 **Fall Murder Mystery** Colonial house party at His Lordship's Kindness, Clinton. 2- 6 PM, refreshments, fee, reservations required by 10/15/05, call 301-856-0358
- 22 **Open Hearth Cooking Class** at Riversdale House Museum, Riverdale Park. 10 AM-2 PM, fee, reservations required, call 301-864-0420
- 22 **Campfire and Storytelling** at Marietta House Museum, Glenn Dale. 7 PM, fee
- 23 **Tales of the Spirits** at Surratt House Museum. 5-7 PM, fee, seating on first-come basis
- 28 **A House in Mourning** at Riversdale House Museum, Riverdale Park. 7-9 PM, period attire optional, refreshments, fee, advance reservations required, call 301-864-0420

NOVEMBER

- 1-30 **Chesapeake Woodturners Exhibit** at Montpelier Mansion, Laurel. 11 AM - 4 PM, free
- 7 **Prince George's County Historical Society Annual Membership Dinner** at Laurel Race Track, Laurel, 6:30-9:30 PM, fee
- 7 **Annual History Lecture/Luncheon Day** at Belair Mansion, Bowie. Fee, call 301-809-3089 for more details

- 8 **Lecture: The Baltimore Revolutionary Generation** at Belair Mansion, Bowie. 7:30 PM, fee
- 12 **Under the Sea Tea** at Marietta House Museum, Glenn Dale. Sittings at 1 & 4 PM, fee, reservations required, call 301-464-5291
- 12-13 **Annual Fall Open House** at Surratt House Museum, Clinton. 12-4 PM, free tours
- 16 ****Lecture** by Susan Pearl gives an intriguing look at the letters of a governess for an Upper Marlboro family from 1854-1861 at Montpelier Mansion, Laurel. 7:30 PM, free
- 19 **Une Fete Federale** at Riversdale House Museum, Riverdale Park. 2-5 PM, fee, advance reservations required, call 301-864-0420
- 22 **Lecture: "Preserving the Modern Movement in Maryland"** by Isabelle Gournay and Mary Corbin Sies at Greenbelt Community Center, Greenbelt. 7:30 PM, fee
- 25-
12/11 **6th Annual Gingerbread House Show** at Darnall's Chance House Museum, Upper Marlboro, daily, 12-4 PM, fee

DECEMBER

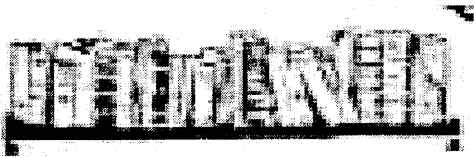
- 3 **Sint Niklass Day: A Winter Afternoon for Children** at Riversdale House Museum, Riverdale Park. 2:30 PM, fee for children
- 3-5 **Holiday Candlelight Tours** at Marietta House Museum, Glenn Dale. 6-8:30 PM, fee
- 8-10 **Holiday Candlelight Tours** at Montpelier Mansion, Laurel. 6-9 PM, fee

For more events and information visit www.pg parks.com.

Be a Society Sponsor

The benefits of becoming a Sponsor of the Society are numerous, the most significant of which are *recognition of your commitment to the preservation of the rich heritage of the county* and our gift to you, membership in the Society. As a member of the Society, you will receive advance notice of upcoming Society events held throughout Prince George's County including historical lectures, tours and trips, and social events. You will also receive the Society's bi-monthly publication **NEWS & NOTES**, which keeps members of the Society abreast of historical activities in the county and provides insight into historic sites, persons, and artifacts pertinent to the county. In addition, as a member of the Society, you will receive invitations to attend Society functions which are not open to the general public.

There are three levels of sponsorship: Gold (\$500 donation), Silver (\$250 donation), and Bronze (\$100 donation). You should be receiving a letter shortly with all the details about becoming a sponsor. If you have any questions, please call Elizabeth Dougherty, Sponsorship Committee Chairperson at 301-780-3976. We look forward to welcoming you as a sponsor for 2006. Thank you.



Publications For Sale

- 1. Landmarks of Prince George's County*** – 125 black and white photographs of the rich architectural legacy of Prince George's County by Jack E. Boucher. Arranged chronologically, the photos and captions offer a panoramic overview of the county's architectural and historical development. Indexed. Hard-cover, 144 pages. Price: \$18.00.
- 2. Prince George's County: A Pictorial History*** – The history and essence of Prince George's County come alive in words and pictures in this beautiful collector's edition. Written in a fascinating narrative with more than 350 photographs, maps, and illustrations. Many of them are in full color and are previously unpublished. Author: Alan Virta. 1998 - Revised and updated edition. Hardcover, 308 pages. Price: \$42.95.
- 3. Journey Through Time – A Pictorial History of the Prince George's County Police Department*** – A history of the county police department covering over 200 years. Author: Lt. Dennis Campbell. Indexed. Printed 1991. Hardcover, 304 pages. Price: \$40.00.
- 4. Calvert of Maryland** – This fact-based novel shows the home life of the colonists from a child's viewpoint. This story is told in the first person by young George Calvert, godson of the first Lord Baltimore, George Calvert. Reprint of James Otis Kaler's 1910 publication. Hardcover, 166 pages. Pen and ink illustrations. Price: \$6.95.
- 5. Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington including the County of Prince George Maryland** – Compiled, drawn and published from actual surveys by G. M. Hopkins 1878 including "historical" sketches. Indexed. Reprint 1979. Soft cover, 32 pages. Price: \$10.00.
- 6. Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland 1861** – Atlas was adapted from Martenet's Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, with information from 1860 federal census for each election district. Indexed. Reprint 1996. Soft cover, 32 pages. Price: \$10.00.
- 7. Prince George's County, Maryland, Indexes of Church Registers 1686-1885** – Volume I - Protestant Episcopal Church, King George's Parish, and Queen Anne's Parish. Author: Helen W. Brown. Reprint 2000. Soft cover, 200 pages. Price: \$18.00.
- 8. Prince George's County, Maryland, Indexes of Church Registers 1686-1885** – Volume 2 - Protestant Episcopal Church, St. Paul's Parish, and Prince George's Parish. Author: Helen W. Brown. Reprint 2000. Soft cover, 196 pages. Price: \$18.00.
- 9. Out of the Past – Prince Georgians and their Land** – Chronicle of everyday life in Prince George's County, Maryland from the time of its founding in 1676 until the beginning of the Civil War. (Information for this book was gleaned from public records, newspapers, and private papers.) Author: R. Lee Van Horn. Reprint 1996. Hardcover, 422 pages. Price: \$20.00.
- 10. Tricentennial Cook Book** – Contains recipes collected from Prince George's County residents as part of the tricentennial celebration. Compiled and edited by Dorothy Rainwater and the Tricentennial Celebration Committee. Printed 1996. Soft cover, spiral bound, 150 pages. Price: \$10.00.

*Shipping and handling for books numbered 1, 2, and 3 is \$3.00 for each copy of the book because of size and weight. They are shipped separately.

Shipping and handling for all other books is \$2.50 for the first book and 50 cents for each additional book.

Shipping and handling for international orders. Please call 301-464-0590 or email the Historical Society for current postage rates.

Make checks payable to: Prince George's County Historical Society. Maryland residents, please add 5% sales tax.

Mail your order to:

Prince George's County Historical Society
Publication Sales
P. O. Box 14
Riverdale, MD 20738-0014

Prince George's County Historical Society

Membership Application

DATE _____ NEW _____ RENEWAL _____
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
PHONE (HOME) _____ (BUSINESS) _____
EMAIL _____

Membership Category (Please check one) ☐ Member/Family \$25 ☐ Sustaining Member \$50
☐ Institutional Member \$50 ☐ Life Member \$300 ☐ Additional Contribution _____

☐ I am also interested in helping the Society as a volunteer. Please contact me.

☐ For membership in the Maryland Historical Society, include an additional \$30 for individual or \$40 for family

Please make checks payable to **PGCHS** and mail your check and this form to: Prince George's County Historical Society, P. O. Box 14, Riverdale, MD 20738-0014

We are funded through your dues and contributions. Contributions are tax deductible. We appreciate your support.

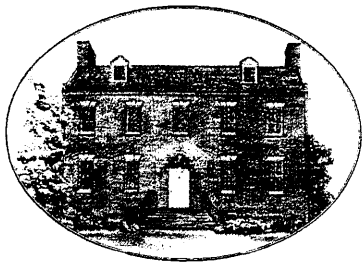


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P.O. Box 14
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TO:



News & Notes

A Publication of the Prince George's County Historical Society

XXXIV Number 6

November-December 2005

MARIETTA HOUSE MUSEUM

(Home of the Prince George's
County Historical Society)

Facility Manager: Susan Wolfe
5626 Bell Station Road
Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120
301-464-5291

TTY 301-699-2544

(Off Route 193, near Route
450) A facility of the Maryland-
National Capital Park and
Planning Commission)

Marietta House Tours

Friday, 11 am to 3 pm

Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon
to 4 pm

Weekday and evening tours by
appointment only

Marietta House Gift Shop

Manager: Stella Uber

301-464-0590

Open Friday, 11 am to 3 pm,

Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon
to 4 pm

(also open during special
events)

Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History

Librarian:

301-464-0590

Open Saturday, 12 noon to 4 pm

Lecture Series:



Maryland Historical Trust Grants

On September 19, 2005, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. and Secretary Audrey E. Scott presented Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) grants to two Prince George's County historic sites. The presentation of the ceremonial checks was held at the College Park Aviation Museum in College Park, MD.

The College Park Aviation Museum (CPAM) received the MHT Museum Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$25,264. The MHT grant encourages professionalism and supports excellence in museum practice. The aspects of museum practice can range from collections care to public interpretation. The grant requires non-state funding to match state investment. CPAM's family-friendly programming attracts over 40,000 visitors each year. The grant will be used to support this programming.

The Town of Bladensburg received a \$50,000 MHT Capital Grant for Bostwick House. The Capital Historic Preservation Grant Program funds are available to non-profit organizations, local jurisdictions, business entities and individual citizens committed to preserving their historic resources. Grant funding is offered to assist efforts to acquire, rehabilitate or restore eligible projects, i.e., properties listed on, or eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places. Private residences are not eligible. Successful grant applicants must convey to the MHT a perpetual historic preservation easement on the assisted property prior to the receipt of funds. A broad range of rehabilitation work will be supported with this grant, including architectural and engineering services, structural analysis, carpentry and masonry repairs, stabilization of the foundation and utility upgrade work.

In addition, Secretary Scott announced that MHT will be transferred to her department, the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), as of October 1, 2005.

CEREMONY AND BOOK SIGNING

Author/Historian Shirley Baltz returns to Belair for the release of
Belair From the Beginning
her new book on the history of Belair

Saturday, December 17, 2005

1 pm and after at

Belair Mansion

12207 Tulip Grove Drive, Bowie, MD

Presidential Musings . . .

The decade of the 1940s saw rapid and lasting changes come to Prince George's County. The population grew from 9,400 in 1940 to 194,182 – a 117% increase! The rural character of the county was transformed into an urban and suburban region. Tobacco barns and fields were replaced by post-war housing developments. The opening of the Suitland Federal Center and Andrews Air Force Base created lasting employment opportunities. Growth of the Department of Agriculture Research Centers and the University of Maryland added other employment. Employment, however, in Federal offices in Washington continued to outpace layoffs due to the end of World War II. While furloughs, lay-offs and closings impacted the wartime industries like Washington Institute of Technology, Air Track Manufacturing and ERCO in College Park, Engineering & Research Corporation in Riverdale and Southern Oxygen Company in Bladensburg, the workers were absorbed into this growing public sector. The towns and cities of the Route 1 corridor attained their 'golden age'. Indian Head Highway, Pennsylvania Avenue, Central Avenue and Annapolis Road became corridors for suburban growth into the countryside.

This period brought about changes in residents' needs for housing, education, employment, libraries, shopping venues, religious centers, entertainment and recreation. These demands led to changes in the country's infrastructure, appearance and "feel."

While subsequent decades would continue this tremendous change in the county's character, it was the 1940s which was the watershed period in Prince George's County. It is this decade which we are remembering and saluting at our Holiday gathering, December 10th.

Editors' Corner . . .

I would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday season, and a very peaceful and safe 2006.

Thank you to the retiring board members – we will miss you. Welcome and congratulations to our newest board member – Dan Louck.

To all of you who worked so hard to give me articles and everything else to try and publish a new and improved version of **News & Notes**, thank you! I can't do it without the help of all of you. I hope you like it.

Starting in January 2006, there will be another change in our newsletter. It will now come out at the beginning of the two-month cycle, rather than in the middle. Hopefully, with the aid of the calendar, your planning will be easier.

Don't forget to visit our gift shop on Dec. 10th. & pick up some great gifts.

– Judy

The Prince George's County

Historical Society

5626 Bell Station Road
Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120
Phone: 301-464-0590
Email: pgchslibrary@aol.com or
info@pghistory.org
Website: www.pghistory.org

President: John Petro
Vice President: James Wolfe
Secretary: Dusty Rhoads
Treasurer: Donna Schneider
Historian: Susan G. Pearl
Editor: Judy Schneider (410-721-2183 and/or
panamfa@comcast.net)

Membership: Donna Schneider and Anna Holmes
Directors: Anna Holmes, Lynn Roberts, Andrew Wallace, William Uber, Joyce Dowling, Wallis Cain, Elizabeth Dougherty, Hannah Cox, Charles Hendricks, and Dan Louck

Newsletter contributors: Susan G. Pearl, Jim Wolfe, John Petro, Donna Schneider, and Judy Schneider

Printer: MinuteMan Press, 410-451-0218

All members of the Prince George's County Historical Society are invited and welcome to attend Society board meetings. We meet at the Marietta Mansion one Saturday (usually the first) each month at 9:30 am. (Dates are subject to change. Call to confirm the date if you would like to attend.)

News & Notes is published six times a year. You are invited to submit a relevant article for print (subject to space limitations). Deadline date for the January-February issue is December 15.

If you would like to volunteer your time and talents to the Historical Society in any capacity, please call us. We'd love to have you join us. All ages are definitely welcome!

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 2005

(see calendar on page 6 for full details
and other special holiday events)

Darnall's Chance – 11/25 to 12/11 – annual Gingerbread house contest.

Candlelight Tours – Marrietta Mansion: 12/3-5; Belair Mansion (adults): 12/4, children 12/17; Montpelier Mansion: 12/8-10; Surratt House: 12/17-19; Riversdale House Museum: 12/23-30.

Marietta Mansion – 12/10 – Historical Society's Annual Holiday Party celebrating the 1940s.



From the Library

Library staff continues to work on developing a proposal for a librarian fellowship/internship, to be presented to the graduate programs in library science at Catholic University of America and the University of Maryland at College Park. We have had much appreciated assistance from three local professional librarians, as well as welcome advice from former Historical Society librarian Sharon Sweeting, in trying to make this project not only of long-term help to our library, but of meaningful use and interest to the graduate student who undertakes it.

As usual the library has received a great variety of interesting inquiries in the last several months. The day before Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele was to dedicate the newly enlarged Marbury wing of the Prince George's County Courthouse in Upper Marlboro in October, we received a request from his staff for information on the Courthouse, and on the man for whom the wing was named. We were, of course, immediately able to send the January/February 2005 issue of *News & Notes*, with its cover article on the history of the Courthouse, as well as biographical information on Judge Benjamin Ogle Marbury.

We have also received inquiries from the editors of the Thomas Jefferson papers at Monticello, seeking information about some of the Prince George's County residents that appear in Jefferson's correspondence. It has been exciting to help them sort out the various members of the Sprigg family, with whom Jefferson was in contact in the later years of his life.

We have had long conversations, e-mails, and a visit from an Indiana University graduate student working on African-American amusement parks and "recreation spaces," including not only the Notley Hall Amusement Park on the Potomac, but also retreat communities such as Eagle Harbor and Lincoln. A graduate student at the University of Maryland, now the resident caretaker of the Market Master's House in Bladensburg, has been spending a great deal of time with our collections, preparing a major research paper on the Market Master's House and early Bladensburg. We have constant visits from other student researchers, e.g., a graduate student working on antebellum free black communities, and another grad student analyzing the history, structure, and purpose of a historic preservation related organization, who chose to concentrate on our Historical Society. Our

library will receive copies of all of the resulting theses/reports.

Students are, of course, frequent visitors, but they comprise only a part of our regular patrons. Staff of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA) has made use of our photo archives, in preparing a new, handsome, and informative brochure for the Heritage Area. Ward Bucher, the architect working on the George Washington House in Bladensburg (Ward is also presently directing the outstanding restoration work at Bowieville), has recently made use of our collections; our library is the repository for all of the plans and photography from the 1976 work on the George Washington House, and these plans and photographs are critical for the present project.

With the County's new emphasis on archaeology required before development, our library has frequently assisted professionals doing research on historic lands in preparation for excavation. This month we were able to help one of these researchers regarding land that was once part of the Pleasant Prospect in the Woodmore area; a small part of the large Pleasant Prospect plantation, including the beautiful mansion, is listed in National Register of Historic Places, and development (preceded by the required archaeology) will be taking place around it.

About a year ago, library staff helped writer Carole Herrick with questions she had regarding the Battle of Bladensburg, and related events of 1814 in Prince George's County. She has now completed her book (*August 24, 1814, Washington in Flames*) and has sent us a review copy. As soon as I have time (certainly not before January), I will read the book and write a review for *News & Notes*, and then add the book to our library shelves.

Finally, the library (thanks to the efforts of Library Committee member Diane Stultz) has acquired a new (previously owned) computer, and we are working on acquiring the new software that we need in order to continue accessioning all of the library materials, as well as to establish networking capability between the two library computers. Any assistance from the membership, in software, funds, or expertise toward this goal will be much appreciated. Just call us at the library (preferably on Saturdays between noon and 4:00 p.m.) at 301-464-0590.

Susan G. Pearl, Historian
PGCHS Library Committee

The Prince George's County Historical Society

would like to thank their members for their time, interest, hard work, and last but not least for their donations without which we could not continue with the work of the Society.

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Calendar of Events December 2005

November 25 – December 11 – 6th Annual Gingerbread House Contest and Show at Darnall's Chance House Museum, visitors can choose their favorite adult and child entries; 12-5 PM, \$1 for ages 5 and up.

December 3-5 – *Holiday Candlelight Tours at Marietta House Museum* including live music, refreshments and children's storyteller; 6-8:30 PM, \$4 for adults and \$2 for ages 4-18.

December 3 – *Winter's Eve Celebration at National Colonial Farm* including refreshments and carol singing; 5-8 PM, rain, shine or snow flurries, free.

December 3 – *Sint Niklaas Day: A Winter Afternoon for Children at Riversdale House Museum* including a special shopping area for kids; 2:30 PM, \$6 per child includes gift and refreshments

December 4 – *Candlelight Open House at Belair Mansion and Belair Stable Museum*; 4-7 PM, \$3 for ages 15 and up

December 8-10 – *Holiday Candlelight Tours at Montpelier Mansion* including entertainment and refreshments; 6-9 PM, \$3 for adults, \$1 for children

December 10 – *Laurel Holiday House Tour*, for more information call 301-725-7975

December 10 – *Prince George's County Historical Society's Annual Holiday Party Celebrating the 1940s at Marietta House Museum*; 2-5 PM, bring your favorite dish to share

December 17 – *Kids Kandlelight at Belair Mansion* with activities for children; 4-7 PM, donation requested at door

December 17-23 – *Holiday Trains and Planes at College Park Aviation Museum*, 10 AM – 5 PM, free with regular museum admission

December 17-19 – *A Victorian Yuletide by Candlelight at Surratt House Museum*; 5-9 PM on 17th & 18th and 6-9 PM on 19th, regular museum admission

December 29-30 – *Winter Evening at Riversdale House Museum* including costumed interpreters, refreshments and children's activities; 7 PM, \$5 for adults and children under 12 are free

December 30 – *Holiday Tea at Belair Mansion*; 4 PM, \$20 by reservation only, call 301-809-3089

January 22 – *An Afternoon of Irish & Celtic Music* by vocalist Dr. Elizabeth Barber at Marietta House Museum; 4 PM, reservations required by calling 301-464-5291, \$5 per person

Through May 2007 – *Rub the Oils and Strew the Powders: The Legacy of European Herbs in Early American Medicine and Cuisine at Montpelier Mansion*

A collaborative effort between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Friends of Montpelier, and Montpelier Mansion, this new exhibit will feature seldom seen pictures and documents from the National Agricultural Library's Rare Book Collection. Learn what herbs, remedies and recipes the first white settlers found essential to bring to the New World.

Be a Society Sponsor

The benefits of becoming a Sponsor of the Society are numerous, the most significant of which are *recognition of your commitment to the preservation of the rich heritage of the county* and our gift to you, membership in the Society. As a member of the Society, you will receive advance notice of upcoming Society events held throughout Prince George's County including historical lectures, tours and trips, and social events. You will also receive the Society's bi-monthly publication *NEWS & NOTES*, which keeps members of the Society abreast of historical activities in the county and provides insight into historic sites, persons, and artifacts pertinent to the county. In addition, as a member of the Society, you will receive invitations to attend Society functions which are not open to the general public.

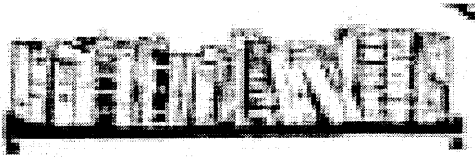
There are three levels of sponsorship: Gold (\$500 donation), Silver (\$250 donation), and Bronze (\$100 donation). You should have received a letter with all the details about becoming a sponsor. If you have any questions, please call Elizabeth Dougherty, Sponsorship Committee Chairperson at 301-780-3976. We look forward to welcoming you as a sponsor for 2006. Thank you.



Our Gift Shop

The Gift Shop features a wide selection of books about Prince George's County history, Historical Society publications and other books of historical and cultural interest. We also have hand-crafted items, small antiques and an array of 19th century toys and games for children.

During the next few months, the shop will be undergoing some changes, the biggest being that by January 2006 you will have the convenience of using your credit card to pay for your purchases.



Publications For Sale

- 1. Landmarks of Prince George's County*** – 125 black and white photographs of the rich architectural legacy of Prince George's County by Jack E. Boucher. Arranged chronologically, the photos and captions offer a panoramic overview of the county's architectural and historical development. Indexed. Hard-cover, 144 pages. Price: \$18.00.
- 2. Prince George's County: A Pictorial History*** – The history and essence of Prince George's County come alive in words and pictures in this beautiful collector's edition. Written in a fascinating narrative with more than 350 photographs, maps, and illustrations. Many of them are in full color and are previously unpublished. Author: Alan Virta. 1998 - Revised and updated edition. Hardcover, 308 pages. Price: \$42.95.
- 3. Journey Through Time – A Pictorial History of the Prince George's County Police Department*** – A history of the county police department covering over 200 years. Author: Lt. Dennis Campbell. Indexed. Printed 1991. Hardcover, 304 pages. Price: \$40.00.
- 4. Calvert of Maryland** – This fact-based novel shows the home life of the colonists from a child's viewpoint. This story is told in the first person by young George Calvert, godson of the first Lord Baltimore, George Calvert. Reprint of James Otis Kaler's 1910 publication. Hardcover, 166 pages. Pen and ink illustrations. Price: \$6.95.
- 5. Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington including the County of Prince George Maryland** – Compiled, drawn and published from actual surveys by G. M. Hopkins 1878 including "historical" sketches. Indexed. Reprint 1979. Soft cover, 32 pages. Price: \$10.00.
- 6. Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland 1861** – Atlas was adapted from Martenet's Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, with information from 1860 federal census for each election district. Indexed. Reprint 1996. Soft cover, 32 pages. Price: \$10.00.
- 7. Prince George's County, Maryland, Indexes of Church Registers 1686-1885** – Volume I - Protestant Episcopal Church, King George's Parish, and Queen Anne's Parish. Author: Helen W. Brown. Reprint 2000. Soft cover, 200 pages. Price: \$18.00.
- 8. Prince George's County, Maryland, Indexes of Church Registers 1686-1885** – Volume 2 - Protestant Episcopal Church, St. Paul's Parish, and Prince George's Parish. Author: Helen W. Brown. Reprint 2000. Soft cover, 196 pages. Price: \$18.00.
- 9. Out of the Past – Prince Georgians and their Land** – Chronicle of everyday life in Prince George's County, Maryland from the time of its founding in 1676 until the beginning of the Civil War. (Information for this book was gleaned from public records, newspapers, and private papers.) Author: R. Lee Van Horn. Reprint 1996. Hardcover, 422 pages. Price: \$20.00.
- 10. Tricentennial Cook Book** – Contains recipes collected from Prince George's County residents as part of the tricentennial celebration. Compiled and edited by Dorothy Rainwater and the Tricentennial Celebration Committee. Printed 1996. Soft cover, spiral bound, 150 pages. Price: \$10.00.

*Shipping and handling for books numbered 1, 2, and 3 is \$3.00 for each copy of the book because of size and weight. They are shipped separately.

Shipping and handling for all other books is \$2.50 for the first book and 50 cents for each additional book.

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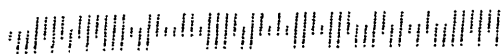
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☐ For membership in the *Maryland Historical Society*, include an additional \$30 for individual or \$40 for family. Please make checks payable to PGCHS and mail your check and this form to: Prince George's County Historical Society, P. O. Box 14, Riverdale, MD 20738-0014

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