

News & Notes

A Publication of the Prince George's County Historical Society

XXXVI Number 1

January-February 2008

Marietta House Museum

*Home of the Prince George's County
Historical Society*

Facility Manager: Susan Reidy
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 & Sunday, 12 noon to 4 pm
Weekday & Evening tours by
appointment only

Frederick S DeMarr Library of County History

Historian: Susan G. Pearl
301-464-0590
Open Saturday, 12 noon to 4 pm

Marietta House Gift Shop

301-464-0590
Temporarily closed during renovation

Society Sponsors

The Society would like to thank our sponsors. Their generosity helps to fund the Society's programs, events and general activities, as well as the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History. We greatly appreciate your support!

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Anacostia Museum Posts Diary of Riversdale's Adam Francis Plummer

In September 2007 the Smithsonian Institution's Anacostia Museum posted on the Web—at http://anacostia.si.edu/Plummer/Plummer_Diary.htm—images of both the original manuscript diary of Adam Francis Plummer (1819–1905) and a typed transcription of its contents. A man of mixed African, European, and Native American ancestry, Adam Plummer was held as a slave by George Calvert (1768–1838) and his son Charles Benedict Calvert (1808–1864) until the Civil War, and he lived most of his life on or near the Calverts' Riversdale plantation. A free, black, itinerant Methodist preacher had taught Plummer the rudiments of reading and writing, skills he used to record in his diary the most important developments in his extraordinarily challenging family life. It is indeed rare that we get a glimpse of plantation life from the point of view of a slave. This manuscript preserves in Adam Plummer's own words information he found worthy to record during more than twenty years of his life as a slave.



In 1841 Adam married Emily Saunders, a slave at Sarah Ogle Hilleary's Three Sisters plantation east of present-day Glenarden, and the ceremony took place at the imposing New York Avenue Presbyterian Church at 14th Street in Washington, D.C. Although he was unable to live with his wife for the first twenty-two years of their marriage, Adam visited her as often as he could, walking the eight

miles between Riversdale and Three Sisters most weekends, and the couple raised a large and ultimately, very successful family. Adam's visits with his wife and children became less frequent after 1851, when Emily and four of their then-six offspring were sold to a new owner who took them first to Meridian Hill in Washington and then to Ellicott's Mills (now Ellicott City) in Howard County. In 1860 their eldest child, Sarah Miranda, who had been serving a minister in Georgetown, was sold to a new owner who took her to New Orleans, leaving her mother disconsolate.

Plummer, Cont.

Nellie Arnold Plummer, Adam and Emily's eighth child, born on September 7, 1860, brought the epic story of the travails and triumphs of the Plummer family to the awareness of the reading public in 1927 when she published in Hyattsville, *Out of the Depths*, or *The Triumph of the Cross*. G. K. Hall & Co. republished this 400-plus-page family history and memory book with a new introduction in 1997 in its series "African-American Women Writers, 1910-1940." The Prince George's County Library system has more than half a dozen copies of this edition available for loan, so the book can easily be perused. Some of the most poignant passages in Nellie Plummer's book are contained in its stark quotations from her father's diary. These begin with Adam's account of Sarah Hilleary's first effort to sell his wife in September 1849, a sale that was delayed for two years due to Emily's bearing a child six days before the scheduled auction. The book also highlights the joyous return of Sarah Miranda from New Orleans to *Riversdale* in 1867; her role in the founding of St. Paul's Baptist Church, which Adam Plummer's descendant Rev. Jerome Fowler now leads; the ministry of Nellie's brother Henry Vinton Plummer, the first African-American chaplain in the U.S. Army; and Adam's purchase of ten acres of land adjacent to *Riversdale* in 1868.



An examination of the Adam Plummer diary available on the Web shows that Nellie not only drew from her father's entries when she wrote



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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Newsletter Contributors: Susan Pearl, Nathania
Branch Miles, Laurence Winston, Elizabeth
Lingg, Donna Schneider, Charles Hendricks,
Joan Christian

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News & Notes is published six times a year.
You are invited to submit a relevant article for
print (subject to space limitations). The deadline
for the March April edition is February 15.

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 each month at
9:00 am (January 12 and February 9) (Dates are
subject to change. Call to confirm the date if
you would like to attend.)

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!

Plummer, Cont..

her book but also made copious additions to the diary herself. Indeed it appears that she contributed a majority of the entries, many of them made after her father's death, with the last inscribed in June 1931.

The Plummer diary contains interesting and sometimes tantalizing pieces of information that Nellie Plummer did not publish. Adam and possibly Nellie noted the dates of death of more than a dozen individuals surnamed Beckett, the maiden name of Adam's grandmother Eleanor, who by 1790 had begun a long affair with her master George Calvert that produced at least two, and probably five, children. Could the Nilly or Nelly Beckett whom Adam Plummer observed died on 16 November 1849 be that Eleanor? Margaret Law Calcott found Eleanor Beckett recorded in the 1840 census living in Montgomery County, Maryland (Mistress of Riversdale, p. 383), but her date of death has remained uncertain. Could the John Beckett whom Adam listed as dying on 17 December 1847 be Eleanor's son John, a man who, Calcott observes, was probably one of George Calvert's illegitimate children? At the least, the diary demonstrates that Adam Plummer and his daughter remained close to members of the Beckett clan for decades.

The diary also contains interesting tidbits about Nellie Arnold Plummer's life and her career in teaching and educational administration, as well as her reactions to some important events of the period. A graduate of Wayland Seminary, a Baptist institution in Washington, D.C. (now absorbed into Virginia Union College in Richmond, Va.), Nellie served as principal of the Orphans School of the D.C. Public School system for 32 years. She also taught in Prince George's and Charles Counties in Maryland. Recording in the diary the death in 1911 of Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan, the lone dissenter in the case that gave federal constitutional sanction to "separate but equal" facilities, Nellie calls him "the best friend of humanity since Abraham Lincoln." She also records the joy she experienced in voting the straight Republican ticket in Hyattsville in 1920, when women's suffrage took effect.

The Anacostia Museum has done a great service in placing the Adam Plummer diary and transcript on the Web. Cautious

readers are advised, however, to consult both the original and the transcript because the latter, although it generally provides a wonderful aid in deciphering the challenging handwriting of the original, does contain some apparent errors. Thus I believe Adam recorded the fate of his daughter Sarah Miranda Plummer as "Sold [not "Solo"] to Louisiana," as the transcriber interpreted. And when Nellie recorded the seventieth anniversary of the death of her mother's owner, she properly wrote that owner's name as Sarah Ogle (not Ogler) Hilleary. But these are very minor problems, and the original is available for comparison. So let us simply rejoice that this precious record is now readily accessible on the Web and thank the folks at the Anacostia Museum for this contribution to understanding the rich history of Prince George's County. Thanks too are due to the descendant of Adam Plummer who donated the diary to the museum, where it is presently undergoing conservation.

Charles Hendricks

2007 Annual Dinner Meeting

The 2007 Prince George's County Historical Society's annual dinner meeting was held at Mount Airy mansion on November 5. The historic nature of the site made it quite fitting for the occasion. The keynote speaker, Joan Chaconas, provided more than sufficient coverage of the Halloween theme, with her accounts of the ghostly haunts of Maryland and nearby places mixed in with the history.

Everyone enjoyed the parlor games, which kept the guests engaged with each other. There was obvious delight as old members and new mixed to make the occasion a success. We hope to make this a recurring activity. A review of our 2007 activities placed in perspective our involvement in the recognition of Prince George's County history. That review set the stage to begin talking about, and planning for, 2008 activities.

We thank Susan Pearl for providing the historical account of the Mount Airy mansion and property. John Petro and Donna Schneider, as usual, assisted with their expertise and hospitality. We welcome again our new directors, John Brunner and Sealani Weiner. We look forward to a productive 2008.

Laurence Winston

Presidential Musings

One year ends, another begins. When I take a moment to gather my thoughts and think about what all of us in the Prince George's County Historical Society have achieved during 2007, I am both energized and a bit overwhelmed. We have set an enviable record of achievement this past year. For example, during Black History Month we took the lead in presenting a very successful program on Rosenwald Schools by the grandson of Julius Rosenwald, and made contact with many Rosenwald school graduates. At our St. George's Day program in Laurel we encountered new friends by taking our awards program to a "new" neighborhood. Later, led by Board member Nathania Branch Miles, we helped support the Juneteenth celebration for the first time by contributing to a stimulating program on African-American genealogical research. In May, a group of Historical Society members, Board members included, were willing to share their historic houses, both interiors and gardens, with the public for the Prince George's County Tour of the 2008 Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, to showcase the marvelous range of historic properties with which this county is blessed; the funds raised from the tour will benefit our Frederick DeMarr Memorial Library of Prince George's County History! Later in the summer, guided by Jane Eagan Dodd and Dan Louck, adventurous members were treated to a day-long "maritime visit" to historic Smith Island in the Chesapeake Bay—home to generations of watermen, who, once assured a livelihood by the bay's rich marine life, now struggle to eke out a living from it, faced with the twin challenges of the effects of development and the declining water quality of the bay itself. September took us to Brandywine for a visit to see preservation in action—what a single family can do for its community—at the historic William Early House owned by Board member Joyce Dowling and her husband Race, and it was one of the most perfect days for our always-anticipated *Prince of a County* reception, tour, and benefit. And one of the greatest blessings for this organization was the offer made by the Prince George's County library system to provide two rooms on the lower level of the Greenbelt Library branch for our Frederick DeMarr Library. We will be a good fit, providing a remarkable source for those conducting research on Prince George's County, Maryland, just as we have at Marietta. We will continue to have our Board meetings and other events at beautiful Marietta, home of our distinguished jurist Gabriel Duvall. This listing is just part of what this organization offered to all of its members in 2007.

Our tasks for 2008 will be a bit overwhelming for a small organization like ours—an all-volunteer group that serves a public purpose and is open to any who would join. Planning for the design of the new library space in Greenbelt has been underway for months, and our loyal, hard-working library volunteers — Susan Pearl, Sarah Bourne, Dusty Rhodes, Diane Stultz, et al, working with society member and architect Kent Abraham —have given much thought to the plan and its implementation. The actual move will demand a lot of volunteer help. The packing, unpacking, and re-shelving will all require "person power." So please keep this in mind, and when we put out the call for whatever volunteer needs we might have, we hope you will be there to answer the call. We will need both physical work and financial contributions. We are, indeed, fortunate that the funds awarded from the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage for our Prince George's County Tour will help purchase much-needed shelving, archival supplies, and research equipment, but we anticipate that we will require additional funds. When the Frederick DeMarr Library is fully installed in the Greenbelt Public Library, we will enjoy the bonus of a nice, well-lighted parking lot, public facilities, and a full-sized branch library upstairs to serve you and your family. Our currently cramped situation will be much alleviated, and the physical conditions will be far more conducive to a pleasant historical research experience. Our planned move into the new space is certainly the most important event on our horizon as we march forward into the "next fifty years."



From the Frederick S. DeMarr Memorial Library of Prince George's County History

A professional plan for the new library space at the Greenbelt Library is in the process of design. At the same time, the PGCHS Library Committee is busy organizing, accessioning, and preparing the collection for its move. We will let you know as soon as we can just when the move will actually happen. In the meantime, the library will continue to be open for research at its present location at Marietta, at its regular hours - noon to 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays, and other days only by appointment. Call 301-464-0590 to make appointments.

We are excited about the plans for the move, and feel that, as part of the Greenbelt branch library, our outstanding library will be more easily accessible to more researchers. We are determined to continue the good work of the library, evidenced by a thank-you message that we recently received from a very enthusiastic researcher: "I cannot think of a better Christmas present than this (the answers to many questions I had for 50 years or so, about my Maryland ancestors) .. You have made me (and some others) very, very happy I simply cannot thank you enough for all your help."

We'll let you know soon when the library move will take place, and how you can help!

*Susan G. Pearl, Historian
PGCHS Library Committee*

Key Ingredients

Belair Mansion is hosting a Smithsonian traveling exhibit entitled "Key Ingredients" from November 16, 2007, to January 5, 2008. This exhibit arrived at Belair from Frostburg State College in 28 trunks. No one cuisine defines American culture. Americans have taken their foods and recipes from many different countries; thus the exhibit is entitled "Key Ingredients." One of the displays features food often central to the imagery of a specific place;

for example, sourdough bread symbolizes San Francisco, and Idaho is known for potatoes.

You are invited to view the exhibit at Belair Mansion, located at 12207 Tulip Grove Drive in Bowie, on Tuesday through Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. To read more about this unique exhibit, visit:

www.cityofbowie.org/museum For specific questions, call Pam Williams, Assistant Director, at 301-809-3089. If you have missed the exhibit at Belair, you can catch it at its' next venue, the Calvert Library, 850 Costley Way, Prince Frederick, MD (from Jan. 11, 2008 – Feb. 23, 2008). For more information contact: Robyn Truslow, 410-535-0291 rtruslow@somd.lib.md.us

Meanwhile, the nearby Belair Stable is showing an equine-oriented food exhibit, "What Horses Eat for Dinner."

Elizabeth Lingg

Genealogically Speaking

Genealogy is a study of the origin of a person and of the family or group from whom the person descended. The research of our family history answers a need to know who we are and will help us to understand where we are going. Searching for our ancestors can open a window of kinship that will unite unknown relatives and families. This will bring into focus generations of historical knowledge, traditions, and heritage.

Family history is much more than a collection of names, dates, and pictures on charts. For the family historian, these names, dates of births and deaths, and places of birth and death are the basic elements of our genealogical search. For the genealogist this information opens up the doors of opportunity to teach us about the struggles, personal hardships, and times in which our ancestors lived. The Civil War, Lincoln's assassination, the Great Depression, and other events in American history become more meaningful when we realize that our ancestors were there when they took place.

We may start tracing our family history by securing family papers containing birth, death, marriage, military and educational records. Family historical information may also be found in Bibles, journals, letters, postcards, and, for African Americans, mainly Negro newspaper clippings and photographs.

Genealogy, cont.

As simple as it sounds, you start with your generation or your immediate family on a family pedigree chart. Work backward to secure information about your parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, going as far back as possible. You will be surprised by what you may learn and to whom you may be related.

Genealogy research is the same for all ethnic groups, and the same basic research techniques should be followed by all. For those who are descendants of former slaves, our ancestral search is a challenge but not impossible. One has to be a little more creative and become a history detective to look a little bit closer at the clues before you. Before the 1870 federal census, the names of slaves did not appear in any census. The 1850 and 1860 federal censuses contained slave tallies that listed only the sex and age of each slave under the name of the slave owner. No names of slaves were included. If you know the state, county, and the family name of the slave owner, you may "make the connection" and follow it up with the 1870 census. The 1870 census was the first in which all former slaves were listed by first and last names with their own households. If they didn't relocate, they may have stayed near the slave-owning family as sharecroppers. Needless to say, one must be very aggressive in searching for information about our ancestors before 1865, especially when the families were broken up either by transfer or sale.

African Americans should be aware during their search that many slave children were fathered by the master and that Negro men were valued both for labor and for breeding. Intermarriage was also a common practice between runaway slaves and Native Americans or Indians and their slaves.

It is very important to document your sources, particularly when you are trying to find a person who changed his or her name or when you do not know their name or the maiden name of a female ancestor. In this case, you should backtrack. The most valuable sources for additional information are courthouse records, which include, among many other things, mortgages, probate records, wills, gifts, and deeds of transfer. Census records and the records of the Freedmen's Bureau (Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands) at the National Archives are also very helpful.

We cannot deny that slaves were owned like chattel. In that vein, if you are an African American, it is essential to research the slave-owning family or white side of your family. In many *instances there may be significant information in their private papers. Learning more about the slave owners* also gives us insight about the circumstances in which our ancestors lived.

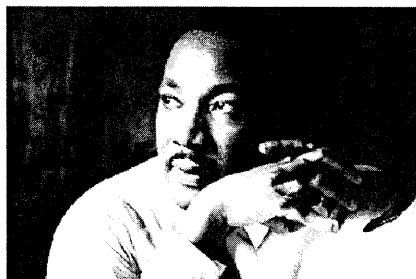
Nathania A. Branch Miles



Nathania Branch Miles, an author, lecturer and resource specialist is a 30 year resident of Prince George's County. Nathania was born in Brooklyn, New York and educated in the New York City school system. She is a graduate of the University of Maryland, with a minor in Business Management.

Nathania is currently pursuing a graduate degree in Women's Studies and African-American History at Howard University. She has served as an officer of several community organizations and was a former candidate for the Maryland House of Delegates. Currently, Nay is an officer and member of the Prince George's County Chapter of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. (AAHGS) and has authored several articles on the history of her family. Nay serves as a lifestyle instructor at Prince George's Community College and has made several presentations at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, Howard University and for the Prince George's County Department of Tourism on Family Reunion Planning, Family Newsletters, and Introduction to African-American Genealogy and state specific genealogy. She is a co-founder of the Black Women's Health Council. Last year she taught Introduction to African-American Genealogy as an elective at the University of the District of Columbia. She is the mother of 4 daughters and two grandchildren who all reside in Prince George's county. Nay has co-authored the Images of America Oxon Hill and Images of America Fort Washington in 2006. Most recently she participated as a speaker at the Office of the Inspector General for the Department of Defense Diversity Day. She is a member of the Speakers Bureau for the Prince George's County Conference and Visitors Bureau. Her passion includes improving the quality of life for all women and her hobbies are photography, sewing and genealogy.

The Prince George's County Historical Society Joins Hands with the MLK Commemoration Committee of Bowie



The Prince George's County Historical Society is delighted to announce a partnership with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Committee of Bowie in the observance of the birthday, life and legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in its second annual celebration program January 19-21, 2007. The three-day activities will be held at several Bowie locations commencing at Bowie City Hall with the honorable Maryland State Senator J.J. Peters as the opening speaker; the Village Baptist Church on Mitchellville Road with a string ensemble and culminating at the Christian Community Presbyterian Church at 3120 Belair Drive with a ecumenical service filled with music and the word. The planning committee chaired by Joan E. Christian includes community leaders, educators, the Clergy Board and local politicians who are committed to education and cultural diversity. Intergenerational and genealogical workshops will engage teens and seniors alike in fast moving discussion pertinent to historical date and modern perspectives. A roundtable discussion featuring high school and college students, scientists, artists, engineers, and educators will focus on the issues of global warming, the greening of the planet, and our role in saving the home given to us. A repeat performance of the wonderful PinPoint Theater's dramatic portrayal of the Meeting between Malcolm X and Martin will set the tone of the weekend. Students from local schools will perform a step show and musical contributions will include the instrumental and vocal music talents by students and members of the community.

As in last year's program, the words and music from the historical context of Dr. King's life will fill the halls. In keeping with Dr. King's life's work the 3-day event is designed to encourage appropriate ceremonies and activities

throughout the city that relate to the observance of the legal holiday honoring the birthday and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.; to celebrate our diversity and promote education, as well as accepting and appreciating others; to help youth make a difference in their lives and inspire them to contribute to the well-being of their families, schools, communities, and government; and to encourage the citizens of the City of Bowie to recognize their commonalities and to appreciate the potential strength of the racial and cultural diversity that so richly enhances our city and state.

In addition, the committee has established the MLK Student Media Awards Panel which is designed to encourage high school and college students to use their electronic talents to create public service announcements to spread the word of the three-day event throughout the greater Bowie community. Professionals in the field of radio, television, and link media will help select the outstanding student creators, who will be awarded internships at various media outlets during the summer of 2008. In the spirit of Dr. King, another group of members has seeded a Service Scholarship to be awarded to high school seniors recognized for their outstanding service to the community, the MLK Student Service Awards.

There is no charge for any event, but donations to the MLK Commemoration Committee, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, will be accepted. Other sponsors of this event include Grace's Fortune Restaurant, District 23 Democratic Team of Prince George's County, the Afro American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. Prince George's County Chapter, Earlmann Company, Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation, and the CCPC Pantry to name a few. All proceeds will be devoted to the education programs and the newly established service scholarship for high school seniors.

Nathania Branch Miles and Joan Christian

Calendar of Events January – February 2008

January 5 – Mad Science of Washington at College Park Aviation Museum, 11 AM & 1 PM; an exciting interactive program that instills an understanding of what science is really about and how it affects aviation and the world around us; \$5/person, ages 6 and up, register through SMARTlink

January 5 & January 12– Harmony Hall

Historic Home Grounds Hike at Harmony Hall Historic Home, 10 AM; two-hour walk and talk about the cultural and natural histories of Harmony Hall and its neighborhood, dress for weather, wear comfortable walking shoes, bring bottled water; all ages, for more information contact Bambi Sears at 301-763-4600 or Bambi_Sears@nps.gov

January 5 – Twelfth Night Ball at Riversdale Mansion, 7:30 PM; attend in period attire or black tie to celebrate the traditional end of the holiday season; resident \$25/person, non-resident \$30/person, capacity is limited and advanced registration is required by calling 301-864-0420

January 8 – Second Tuesday Lecture on Weaving at Belair Mansion, 7:30 PM; free, for more information call 301-809-3089

January 25-26 – Hands-On History: Teen Immersion Overnight at Riversdale Mansion, 5:30 PM; girls ages 13-19 will experience life in early Federal America, including cooking, crafts and other activities; resident \$75/person, non-resident \$90/person, advance registration required by calling 301-864-0420

February 9 – Fine Fare & Wine With My Valentine at Riversdale Mansion, 2:30 PM; taste pairings of European wines and period-inspired dishes; resident \$30/person, non-resident \$35/person, advance registration required by calling 301-864-0420

February 10 – Speaking of Flight Lecture at College Park Aviation Museum, 2 PM; Von Hardesty, Aeronautics Curator from the National Air Space Museum will speak on the history and challenges of African American pilots from WWII to NASA and sign his book *Black Wings: Courageous Stories of African Americans in Aviation and Space History*; regular admission

February 12 – Hands-On History: Folk Arts at Riversdale Mansion, 10 AM; children ages 8-12 can sample a variety of traditional early American crafts; resident \$15/person, non-resident \$18/person, advance registration required by calling 301-864-0420.

February 12 – Second Tuesday Lecture on Rosenwald Schools by Susan Pearl at Belair Mansion, 7:30 PM; free, for more information call 301-809-3089

February 16 – Sweetheart Tea at Belair Mansion, 4 PM, \$23/person, advance reservations required by calling 301-809-3089

February 23 – “The Tuskegee Airmen” at College Park Aviation Museum, 1 PM; the HBO special is the story of the “Fighting 99th”, the first squadron of black American pilots to be allowed to fight for their country. After the movie join us on the mezzanine to design your own Tuskegee Airmen airplane; movie and supplies included with regular admission

February 23 – Parent/Teen Teambuilding Workshop at College Park Aviation Museum, 1 PM; adults and teens pair up to build a full-size 1909 wing rib using the same techniques and materials that the Wright Brothers used. This program was made possible by the Wright Experience/Discovery of Flight Foundation; \$7 workshop fee includes museum admission, pre-registration required by calling 301-864-6029

February 23 – Highland Tea at Darnall’s Chance, 2-3:30 PM; celebrate Darnall’s Chance’s Scottish heritage by partaking in the tastes and sounds of Scotland; \$20/resident, \$25 non-resident, reservations are required, please call 301-952-8010 for details

February 24 – The Plummers’ Kitchen at Riversdale Mansion, 12 PM; see the Riversdale Kitchen Guild prepare foods common among Maryland’s 19th century African-Americans; regular admission fees apply

The Laurel Museum will be closed from December 20, 2007 until early February 2008. Our new exhibit **Buy It Here: Advertising in Laurel** will open in early February 2008 and run through December 2008. Call 301-725-7975 for more information.

Surratt House Museum is featuring a special exhibit on **“The Road To Freedom”**. Trace the history of the struggle for freedom by enslaved people of Prince George’s County, the State of Maryland, and the nation over a two-hundred-year period. On display during regular tour hours: Thursdays & Fridays, 11 AM-3 PM and Saturdays & Sundays, 12-4 PM; regular tour admission price. For details and additional events, please visit www.accokeek.org, www.cityofbowie.org/museums, www.pg parks.com

Donna Schneider

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 6% sales tax.

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Prince George's County Historical Society

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

☐ For membership in the Maryland Historical Society, include an additional \$35 for individual or \$45 for family

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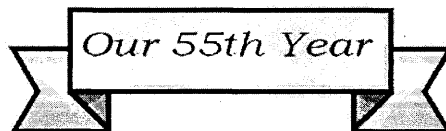


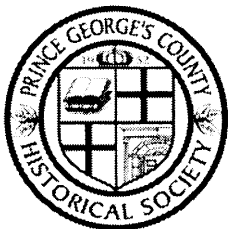
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News & Notes

A Publication of the Prince George's County Historical Society

XXXVII Number 2

March – April 2008



St. Barnabas Church

Marietta House Museum

*Home of the Prince George's County
Historical Society*

Facility Manager: Susan Reidy

5626 Bell Station Road

Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120

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TTY 301-699-2544

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and Planning Commission*

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Friday, Saturday & Sunday

12 noon to 4 pm

Weekday & Evening tours by appointment only

Frederick S. DeMarr

Library of County History

Historian: Susan G. Pearl

301-464-0590

Closed in preparation for move

Marietta House Gift Shop

301-464-0590

Open during tour hours & special events

St. George's Day, 2008

This year we will gather at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Oxon Hill, on Sunday, April 27, to celebrate the county's 312th St. George's Day. The church itself dates from 1851, but its history extends well before that date. We will find that St. Barnabas and its community have direct connections with St. Ignatius Catholic Church (Oxon Hill), where we celebrated St. George's Day in 1999, and with St. John's Church at Broad Creek, where we enjoyed St. George's Day just two years ago in 2006.

The congregation of St. Barnabas Church formed circa 1830, when the first church was built at this site as a mission chapel for St. John's Church, Broad Creek. At that time, two acres of land were donated for the chapel by Henry Addison Callis of nearby *Barnaby Manor*. Callis was a grandson of Reverend Henry Addison, former rector of St. John's. Callis' support continued even after his death (1855) through a legacy which provided the church with additional land. Today the church stands on 27 acres of calm and beautiful land in the midst of a fast developing area, the largest church ground in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington.

The 1830 chapel was apparently destroyed by fire, and a new brick church was built in 1851. The original gabled meetinghouse-style building has been enlarged over the years, with the addition most notably of the handsome bell tower which forms an entry vestibule for the church, and also the apse and small side wings. To the northwest is the larger,

St. George's Day, cont.

modern church building, built in 1954, and near it is the Parish Hall, where we will hold our St. George's Day celebration.

The historic church stands near St. Barnabas Road. It is adjoined on the northeast by an ancient graveyard and sheltered by large oaks. Well preserved and a prominent local landmark, the historic St. Barnabas Church is important for its mid-nineteenth-century vernacular architecture and its long history in the Oxon Hill community. It will be a wonderful place to celebrate St. George's Day, 2008. You will receive your invitations soon, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Susan G. Pearl

Society Sponsors

The Society would like to thank our sponsors. Their generosity helps to fund the Society's programs, events and general activities, as well as the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History. *We greatly appreciate your support!*

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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: Lynn Roberts
Secretary: Dusty Rhoads
Treasurer: Donna Schneider
Historian: Susan G. Pearl
Membership: Donna Schneider
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Susan Pearl, Vicki Styles, Sealani Weiner
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Elizabeth Dougherty, Joyce Dowling,
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Nathania Branch Miles, Jack Thompson Jr.,
William Uber, Andrew Wallace, Sealani Weiner,
Laurence Winston

News & Notes is published six times a year. You are invited to submit a relevant article for print (subject to space limitations). The deadline for the May – June edition is April 10.

All members of the Prince George's County Historical Society are invited and welcome to attend Society Board meetings. We meet one Saturday each month at 9:00 am (March 8 and April 12) (Dates are subject to change. Call 301-249-9000 to confirm the date and location if you would like to attend.)

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!

LESTER H. SWEETING

It is with great sadness that we inform the membership of the death of Lester Sweeting in an automobile accident on February 5, 2008. Lester had served as our Historical Society president in 2000 and 2001, and both he and his wife, Sharon, were very active supporters of the Society from the late 1980s until they moved to New York State in 2005.

Lester was a graduate of Syracuse University, with an undergraduate degree in political history as well as a law degree. After law school, he began work with the IRS, and in 1968 moved to the Washington, D.C., area with his wife, Sharon Howe of Cherry Creek, N.Y. His career over the next two decades included international projects in England and Brazil, followed by work in the early 1990s as senior counsel to Congressman Matthew Martinez of California.



Lester and Sharon moved to Hyattsville early in the 1980s; they were the proud owners of the beautiful, historic Lewis Holden House, and were among the founders of the Hyattsville Preservation Association. Lester was a founding member and first chair of the Maryland Heritage Alliance, the statewide preservation advocacy organization, and was one of the prime movers in the creation of the Maryland Heritage Area program. Both Lester and Sharon were very active with the *Prince George's Heritage*, our own local preservation non-profit; it was largely through Lester's legal expertise that arrangements were made for the *Heritage* to play a role in the planned preservation of *Bowieville*, and later in the *Anacostia Trails Heritage Area*. Both Lester and Sharon became active members of our Historical Society; Lester served as editor of the *News and Notes* from 1992 to 1996. When he left in the summer of 1996 to serve as tax advisor in Moldova, a former Soviet republic, Sharon took over the editorship of the newsletter.

Returning to Hyattsville, Lester was elected president of the Historical Society at the end of 1999, and he served in that capacity for two years; he then returned to Eastern Europe, serving for three years as tax advisor to the newly formed country of Macedonia. But even before he returned to Hyattsville in 2004, he was able to devote some of his overseas time to scanning back issues of our *News and Notes*, thus creating the base upon which we hope to have all of the issues indexed.

Lester and Sharon were constant supporters of the Historical Society, working many, many hours in the library at Marietta. They provided equipment for the library out of their own generosity, and paid for archival assistance when needed. The Historical Society grieved when Lester and Sharon moved to Cherry Creek, N.Y., in the summer of 2005, to open and operate the *Cherry Creek Inn* in the gorgeous Italianate building that they had bought. But they kept in touch, both Lester and Sharon advising us especially on library matters and newsletter production, and always encouraging the many projects of the Historical Society with which they had been so importantly involved. The loss of Lester now is devastating, and the Society extends its most heartfelt sympathy to Sharon.

Susan G. Pearl

Presidential Musings

A strong focus of the Prince George's County Historical Society is the preservation of our cultural heritage. Recently we were rewarded by a kind act of colleagues in an auction business on Maryland's Eastern Shore, who brought to Susan Pearl's attention some historic items of Prince George's County provenance. On November 27th, three of our Board members—Susan Pearl, Andrew Wallace, and Lynn Springer Roberts—whose combined expertise extends not only to the history of our county and state but includes substantial knowledge of American furniture and documents as well, visited the Marshall Auction Company of Parsonsburg, Maryland. They were able to carefully examine an intriguing secretary desk, along with three diaries dating from 1861 to 1863 that had been concealed in a "secret" drawer. These items, along with news clippings and genealogical papers, were sold to the PGCHS on behalf of a direct descendant of John W. Burroughs, builder of *Waverly* in the vicinity of Croom, who was not only the author of the diaries but also fashioned the secretary, as he explains in one of the diaries. This was an exciting find for historians since little documented vernacular furniture is known from Prince George's County. The French furniture form—the *secretaire abbatante* (drop-front secretary desk)-which inspired the piece's format, is, indeed, rare in this area.

The diaries are equally exciting. Susan Pearl, who has had a chance to review them, relates that they reveal important aspects of the daily life of a Prince George's County planter during three tumultuous years of the Civil War. Events in the lives of John W. Burroughs' wife, four children, parents, neighbors, and slaves are discussed, as are the frequent patterns of travel both locally around Croom and Upper Marlboro and to Washington and Baltimore.

Containing a great deal of wonderful material pertaining to daily life at *Waverly* and important Civil War remembrances, these diaries will be of great interest to students and historians of nineteenth-century Maryland life. Susan plans to transcribe all three diaries and to place copies of them in our new library facility at the Greenbelt Public Library. We are working on plans for the installation of the secretary.

Some of you have asked for an update on the move of the Frederick DeMarr Memorial Library into our new space on the ground floor of the Greenbelt Public Library. Much has been accomplished so far. The Library Committee, assisted by several devoted volunteers, has been busy sorting and packing the contents of the library. The painting and carpeting of our two new rooms in the Greenbelt Library and the transfer there of all of the files and their contents will have been completed before the end of February. The next job will be to set up these files in the new space according to our professional architectural plan and then to complete the move of all of the books and bookcases. Sorting and organizing all of the collections, as well as setting up new furniture in the public reading room in our new location, will take all of March and April. It will be a very exciting time, and we look forward to physical as well as financial assistance from Society members. We heartily thank those of you who have already volunteered, and we hope to hear from many more. Please call us at 301-464-0590. We are planning to have a grand opening of the new library (coupled with book-signings by authors of Prince George's County histories) on May 31!

John Petro, President

Lynn Roberts, Vice President

Calendar of Events - March and April 2008

March 1 – Building Houses Out of Chicken Legs: Black Women, Food & Power, at Montpelier Mansion, 2 PM; lecture by Dr. Psyche A. Williams-Forsen, who explores how chicken, both the bird and the food, has played multiple roles in the lives of African American women from the slavery era to the present; reservations required by calling 301-953-1376

March 1 – Mistresses & Murderers: Famous Prince George's County Women Bus Tour, 10 AM; departs and returns to Darnall's Chance with stops at Riversdale and Surratt House, box lunch provided, \$27/person, advance registration required by calling 301-952-8010

March 2 – Fort Tours by the Fort Washington Guard, at Fort Washington Park, 11 AM-2 PM; all ages, for more information call 301-763-4600

March 8 – Introduction to Genealogy at Belair Mansion, 10 AM-4 PM; learn the basics to start researching your family history; free, but reservations required by calling 301-262-2063

March 8 – 7th MD Company A U.S. Drill Day at Marietta Mansion, 10 AM-3 PM; Civil War re-enactors demonstrate military drills, weaponry and tacticals; free

March 9 – The State of John Smith's Chesapeake Bay, 1608 at the Accokeek Foundation Education Center, 2 PM coffee, 3 PM lecture; Dr. Kent Bountford will discuss the manner of exploration and how the ecosystem looked and worked during the time of Native American settlement, before European intervention; free

March 11 – Second Tuesday Lecture at Belair Mansion, 7:30 PM; "Girlz in the 'Hood'" offers a look at 18th century craftswomen in the Chesapeake Region; free, for more information call 301-809-3089

March 11 – Spring Lecture Series at Riversdale Mansion, 7:30 PM; Michael Twitty, Director of Interpretation for Menare Foundations, discusses "Fighting Old Nep: The Food Culture of Enslaved Afro-Marylanders"; free, made possible by a grant from the Maryland Humanities Council

March 15 – Colonial Tavern Dinner at Darnall's Chance, 7-9 PM; enjoy a mid-18th century tavern dinner with entertainment of sea chanties and tavern songs by Ship's Company; \$55/resident, \$65/non-resident, advanced reservation required by calling 301-952-8010

March 15 and 16 – Hands-On History: Be a Woodturner's Apprentice at Montpelier Mansion, 10 AM-12 noon; children of all ages can help make chairs the old-fashioned way, \$7/child, advance registration required by calling 301-953-1376

March 15 – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; costumed interpreters demonstrate preparation of food representative of "middling" tobacco families in the late 1700s; admission fee, rain or shine

March 18 – Building Houses Out of Chicken Legs: Black Women, Food & Power at Greenbelt Community Center, 7:30 PM; lecture and book signing by Dr. Psyche A. Williams-Forsen, see March 1 entry for details; free

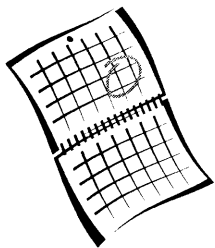
March 18 – Spring Lecture Series at Riversdale Mansion, 7:30 PM; Mary Ann Jung's costumed living history presentation of "Julia Child: America's Favorite French Chef"; free, made possible by a grant from the Maryland Humanities Council

March 22 – Laundresses at Fort Washington at Fort Washington Park, 2-4 PM; talks every 30 minutes about the story and hardships of 19th century military laundresses; all ages; for more information call 301-763-4600

March 28-30 – Ninth Annual Symposium "Lincoln's Assassination: Many Facets" at Surratt House; speakers, off-site bus tours and banquet; for more information call 301-868-1121

April 5 – Civil War Preservation Trust's 11th Annual Park Day at Fort Washington Park, 10 AM-3 PM; a nationwide volunteer event to clean and repair grounds at over 100 Civil War sites; ages 8-adult; for more information call 301-763-4600

April 5 – Tavern Night at Riversdale Mansion, 8 PM; entertainment by the Ship's Company Chanteymen and partake of tavern-style food and beverages; resident \$20/person, non-resident \$24/person, advance registration required by calling 301-864-0420



Calendar of Events March and April, Cont..

April 6 – Artillery Training Day at Fort Washington Park, 10:30 AM-3:30 PM; volunteers learn and refresh their memories of the proper procedures to load and fire the Park's Civil War cannons; all ages, for more information call 301-763-4600

April 8 – Second Tuesday Lecture at Belair Mansion, 7:30 PM; "John Shaw Furniture at the Hammond Harwood House in Annapolis"; free, for more information call 301-809-3089

April 8 – Spring Lecture Series at Riversdale Mansion, 7:30 PM; Nancy Struna, Professor and Chair, Department of American Studies, University of Maryland discusses Taverns in Early America; \$5/person

April 12 – Pirate for a Day at Darnall's Chance, 10 AM-2 PM; a chance for boys and girls ages 8-12 to learn about life aboard a pirate ship and hunt for pirate gold; \$20/child, advanced registration required by calling 301-952-8010

April 12 & 13 – 1859 Militia Weekend at Fort Washington Park, 9 AM-5 PM on Saturday and 9 AM-1 PM on Sunday; members of the Chesapeake Volunteer Guard will be training, including marching and musket drills; all ages, for more information call 301-763-4600

April 12 – Lantern Tour at Fort Washington Park, 6:30-9 PM; see Fort Washington as it was in 1861, tours leave every 30 minutes from visitors center, last tour at 8:30 PM; all ages, for more information call 301-763-4600

April 16 – Spring History Lecture Series at Montpelier Mansion, 7:30 PM; Mary Ann Jung brings Margaret Brent to life, recounting her lively adventures as the first female landowner in Maryland as well as the first woman lawyer in Maryland; free

April 19-20 – Marching Through Time at Marietta Mansion, 11 AM-5 PM; spend the day at our living history encampment that encompasses re-enactors from 1st century Rome through 20th century Vietnam; free parking at Glenn Dale Community Center with continuous shuttle service; \$8/adult, \$5/ages 5 and older, free/4 and under

April 19 – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; costumed interpreters demonstrate preparation of food representative of "middling" tobacco families in the late 1700s; admission fee, rain or shine

April 22 – Spring Lecture Series at Riversdale Mansion, 7:30 PM; Jenny Masur, Underground Railroad Regional Coordinator, National Capital Region, National Park Service will discuss "Seeking Freedom: The Underground Railroad"; \$5/person

April 26 – Pirate for a Day at Darnall's Chance, 10 AM-2 PM; a chance for boys and girls ages 8-12 to learn about life aboard a pirate ship and hunt for pirate gold; \$20/child, advanced registration required by calling 301-952-8010

April 27 – St. George's Day Awards and Luncheon at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Oxon Hill, see article and invitation for details

Buy It Here: Advertising in Laurel at the Laurel Museum open through December 2008. The exhibit explores how advertising illustrates one American town's story. Open Wednesdays and Fridays 10 AM-2 PM and Sundays 12-4 PM; call 301-725-7975 for more information; free

For details and additional events, please visit www.accokeek.org, www.greenbeltmuseum.org, www.cityofbowie.org/museums, www.pgparcs.com, www.laurelhistory.org

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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Prince George's County Historical Society

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Membership Category (Please check one)

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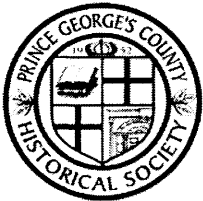
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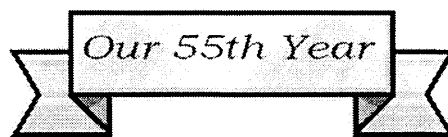
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We appreciate your support!



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News & Notes

A Publication of the Prince George's County Historical Society

XXXVII Number 3

May – June 2008

Preservation Week Reception to be Held at Oxon Hill Manor May 15th, at 6 p.m.



Oxon Hill Manor

Marietta House Museum

Headquarters of the
Prince George's County Historical Society
5626 Bell Station Road
Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120
(off MD 193, near MD 450)
Facility Manager: Susan Reidy
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Weekday & Evening tours by appointment
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Marietta Gift Shop

Open during tour hours and special events

Frederick S. DeMarr

Library of County History

Greenbelt Library Building
11 Crescent Road, Greenbelt
301-220-0330

Grand Opening May 31, 2008!

The 2008 Preservation Week Reception will be held on Thursday, May 15, at 6 p.m. at Oxon Hill Manor, 6901 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD. The reception is hosted by Prince George's Heritage, Inc., Prince George's County Historical Society, Prince George's County Historical and Cultural Trust, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

The reception provides an opportunity for those interested in our county's heritage to get together and celebrate the individuals and organizations that promote historic preservation, to review the state of preservation in the county, and to look to the future. The evening's agenda will include a keynote address by State Senator David Harrington, the awarding of preservation plaques to historic property owners, and the announcement of the County's Endangered Sites list for 2008. Doug McElrath, President of Prince George's Heritage, will serve as master of ceremonies. Music will be provided by the Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation.

There will also be ample time to socialize and enjoy Oxon Hill Manor, which was closed after the fire of January 2004 until July of 2007. The history of the Oxon Hill Manor estate dates back to the 17th century. Colonial merchant John Addison acquired the land in 1685, and in 1710, his son, Colonel Thomas Addison, erected a large brick plantation house approximately four hundred yards north of the present Oxon Hill Manor. In 1767 the Colonel's grandson (also Thomas Addison) had the 3,663-acre property resurveyed, and named it Oxon Hill Manor, the first official use of the name.

**JOIN US FOR THE GRAND OPENING OF THE NEW
FREDERICK S. DEMARR LIBRARY OF COUNTY HISTORY,
MAY 31, 2008 – See article, page 4.**

This Thomas Addison died in 1774, and four years later his widow married Thomas Hanson, nephew of John Hanson, the first president elected by the Continental Congress under the Articles of Confederation. John Hanson visited Oxon Hill Manor often and died there in 1783; he is believed to be buried in the family cemetery at the site. More than a century later, after residence at Oxon Hill Manor by Addison descendants and then members of the Berry family, the original mansion was destroyed by fire in 1895.

The present 49-room neo-Georgian style estate house was designed by Jules Henri de Sibour and built in 1928/29 for American diplomat and writer Sumner Welles, Undersecretary of State in the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration. Roosevelt was a frequent visitor to the estate. In 1952, Fred Maloof acquired the estate and established a museum for fine art and John Hanson memorabilia. The property was purchased by M-NCPPC in 1976, and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. Now fully

restored, Oxon Hill Manor is available for public and private functions.

All Society members are invited to the reception, but must make reservations. Please call the Natural and Historical Resources Division, M-NCPPC, at (301) 627-2270 to make a reservation, or you may notify Pam Cooper by email at pamelakcooper@verizon.net by May 7.



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

Society Sponsors

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Susan Pearl, Vicki Styles

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Joyce Dowling, Charles Hendricks, Elizabeth
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If you would like to volunteer your time and talents to the Historical Society in any capacity, please call us. All ages are definitely welcome!

Musings from the President.....

Last year at this time many of our members, Board members, and their friends and families were fully engaged in The Prince George's County Tour of The Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage. We welcomed our many visitors to an amazing array of privately-owned historic houses and an 18th century church that dotted the landscape south from Mitchellville all the way to once-thriving Nottingham, now a mere whisper of its important past. The 18th, 19th and early 20th century buildings featured in the 2007 Tour were but a small percentage of this county's bounty of preserved historic buildings that continue to play a vital role in the daily lives of its citizens. Because of your patronage, over \$10,000 derived from both the Prince George's County Tour and its advertising, was awarded to the Prince George's County Historical Society by the Pilgrimage Committee. It was earmarked to pay for equipment and materials to improve the Frederick DeMarr Library of County History that will be re-opening shortly in its new, expanded quarters in the Greenbelt Library building. (See article on page 4.)

For the past 25 years, Kathleen and I have attended every county tour for the Pilgrimage. We enjoy it and learn so much from these tours —about architecture, gardens and landscape, interiors and decorative arts, people and families, history of places that interacted with one another, and Maryland. By supporting the Pilgrimage annually, all of us are helping to support preservation throughout Maryland. In buying a ticket you are enabling the various county tours to fulfill their special preservation project goals, just as all of you are doing for our PGCHS Library. Please let your friends and family members know that their patronage and support of this great endeavor is helping the cause of preservation in Maryland. Since it began in 1926, the Pilgrimage tours have helped secure and improve hundreds and hundreds of sites, structures, and landscapes.

While the Pilgrimage traditionally takes place during Preservation Month - the month of May - let's remember to keep the banner of historic preservation held high throughout the year. It may have been a while since you visited one of the many fine historic properties here in Prince George's County. What about planning to re-visit some? Changes and improvements, as well as new interpretive programs, are taking place all the time. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) manages and operates a marvelous range of historic buildings and sites. Have you been to the College Park Aviation Museum? Have you had a chance to see some of the changes being introduced at Riversdale? Have you been to Bowie's Radio and Television Museum? It's fun and waves of nostalgia will sweep over you! Get the current edition of M-NCPPC's *Illustrated Inventory of Historic Sites* (available in the gift shops of the M-NCPPC's historic properties or in this county's libraries) to see where the properties are located if you are unsure, and better yet, when you plan a visit, invite someone—a friend, a child, a grandchild, or a neighbor—someone who might not have been able to get there on his/her own. Introduce others to the historic riches of Prince George's County. In doing so, you will help to build an audience for these sites which is so crucial to their surviving and prospering.

John Petro, President
Prince George's County Historical Society

HOLD THIS DATE! July 19, 2008, at Glenn Dale Hospital

On Saturday afternoon, July 19, 2008, the Historical Society will meet on the grounds of the Glenn Dale Hospital, to hear about and discuss the background and the future of this historic hospital establishment. If you know of individuals, i.e., former staff, patients, or patients' families, with legitimate interest in or information about the hospital, please make sure that they join us there. For more information about the event, call Susan Pearl at 301-262-3367, and look for more details in the next issue of *News & Notes*.

Authors to Fete Grand Opening of County Historical Library

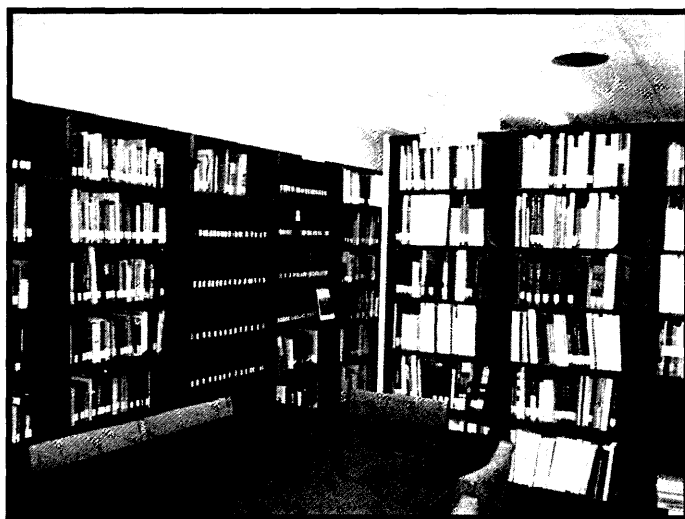
Come one, come all, on Saturday afternoon, May 31, to the Grand Opening of the Historical Society's **Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History** in its new, expanded accommodations in the Greenbelt Library building. We are sure you will be impressed by the well-appointed, modern facilities of our library's new home. A rich collection of books focusing on state and local history will beckon to you, while a wide assortment of maps, newspapers, and specialized files will be readily available for your research needs.

In honor of the writers whose books have contributed so much to our understanding of the County's history, the Society will begin the May 31 program with an Authors Forum, featuring brief discussions by noteworthy authors of their historical publications. The featured individuals will include the writers of scholarly studies on important events in which the county played a crucial role, guides to historical sites and local governments in the county, and illustrated histories of its communities. Typical of the wealth of the DeMarr Library's collections, books by these authors will also be available for sale and autograph at the program to enrich your personal libraries. This program will begin at 1 p.m. in Room 201 of the Greenbelt Community Center, located at 15 Crescent Road in Greenbelt, adjacent to the Greenbelt Library building.

After talking with the authors, looking through their various publications, and enjoying refreshments together at the Greenbelt Community Center, we will walk next door to the Greenbelt Library building for the festive ribbon-cutting ceremony and Grand Opening of the new **Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History**. The relocation of the library has been a major undertaking, as we're sure you have glimpsed from earlier issues of *News & Notes*. Packing began in January, and during the same time our two new spaces at the Greenbelt Library were painted and

carpeted, and new counters, cabinets, and work stations, as additional bookcases, were installed. Several separate movings of books, bookcases, file cabinets, supplies and other equipment took place through February and March. The last two months have been devoted to unpacking what seemed like endless boxes, and filling shelves and file cabinets, as well as getting the phones and computers connected, and acquiring and arranging furniture and office equipment. The Historical Society is grateful to the Parks Department of M-NCPPC for providing trucks and staff for the major moving, and we are immensely grateful to the host of volunteers, who have patiently packed, unpacked, sorted, and shelved. We are also grateful for your generous financial donations already received, and look forward to your continued assistance in helping to defray the substantial cost of this relocation.

We are thrilled with our new space, and think that you also will be impressed. Be sure to join us on May 31 for the Authors Forum, followed by the Grand Opening of the Society's new library! If you have any questions, call Susan Pearl at 301-262-3367.



The new **Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History**.

Juneteenth Celebration

The Prince George's County Historical Society is proud to announce that it will partner with the Prince George's County Chapter of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc., to host a Juneteenth celebration, on Saturday, June 21st, 2008, 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., at the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, 5300 Auth Road, Suitland, Maryland. The seminar is free to the community, but pre-registration is required. The theme **"Footprints and Roots"** symbolizes the footprints and roots of our ancestors as we continue the legacy of our forefathers through genealogical research.

Juneteenth is celebrated throughout the United States. It symbolizes for many African Americans what the Fourth of July symbolizes for other Americans. This year's Juneteenth celebration will serve as a historical milestone to remind Prince Georgians and all those in attendance of the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelties of slavery. A special children's session has been designed to introduce the county's youth to combining history with genealogy and preservation.

Dr. Sandra Jowers-Barber, professor of history at the University of the District of Columbia will serve as the keynote speaker. The workshops will focus on resources, research methods, and historical events designed to enlighten the participants on the history of Juneteenth and the tracing of their roots. Experienced educators, historians and genealogists will provide lectures on the *Underground Railroad in Prince George's County*, *Slave Genealogy*, *Interview Techniques*, *Research Depositories* and more. Representatives from the National Archives and Records Administration, the Maryland State Archives, the Smithsonian Institute, Howard University, the Daughters of the American Revolution, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and AAHGS members will conduct the workshops and participate in a panel discussion.

For information, visit the website <http://aahgs.org> or contact one of the Planning Committee Co-Chairs: Jane Taylor Thomas (301) 292-1207 or Carolyn Corpening Rowe (301) 292-6987.

~Nathania Branch Miles

St. George's Day 2008

This year's St. George's Day, celebrated on April 27 at St. Barnabas Church in Oxon Hill, was highlighted by the annual presentation of St. George's Day awards and a new induction into the Hall of Fame.

The six St. George's Day awardees were: the City of College Park for the establishment of the College Park Historic District; the Gasch Funeral Home for 150 years of continuous service to residents of Prince George's County; Barry Gossett for outstanding contributions to historical projects and especially for the funding of the Visitors Center at Riversdale; the National Park Service for the restoration of historic Fort Washington; the Town of North Brentwood for the establishment of the North Brentwood Veterans Memorial Park; and Pamela Williams for many years of service creating and sustaining interest in the Belair Mansion in Bowie.

The Hall of Fame inducted G. James Gholson (1912 - 2006), first principal of Fairmont Heights High School, and designer of the 1972-73 plan for the desegregation of Prince George's County schools.

Thanks and congratulations to all!



FREE **University of Maryland** **Diamondback newspapers!**

The Prince George's County Historical Society has a large collection of individual issues of the *Diamondback* to be given away. In the course of relocating our library from Marietta to the Greenbelt Library building, we have given all of our bound (by year) issues of the *Diamondback* to the University of Maryland library. The remaining miscellaneous unbound issues (packed into 11"x 17"x 9" boxes) include the years 1954 to 1956, 1962 to 1964, and 1979 to 1994. These issues (or any of them) are yours if you can pick them up at Marietta. Call Susan Pearl at 301-262-3367.

May 18 – 29th Annual Historic Hyattsville House Tour, 1 to 5 p.m.; advance tickets \$10 at Franklin's General Store, 5121 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville, or \$12 day of sale. 301-985-5126 for information.

Calendar of Events – May & June 2008

May 3 – Montpelier Festival of Herbs, Tea and the Arts at Montpelier Mansion, 10 AM – 4 PM; music, exhibits, vendors, food, games and crafts for children; free, call 301-953-1376 for details

May 3 – Start Small: Container Gardening for Beginners at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 1-3 PM; master gardeners will share ideas for creating beautiful and tasty container gardens; \$20 members, \$25 non-members, class size is limited, registration required, call 301-283-2113, ext. 32

May 3-4 – Annual Spring Open House at Surratt House Museum, 12-4 PM; free guided tours; for more information call 301-868-1121

May 4 – Children's Day at Riversdale Mansion, 12 noon; games, a Maypole dance, a puppet show, crafts and house tour; \$2/child and adult

May 6 – Rain Barrel Workshop at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 7-8 PM; take this first step for water conservation and learn how to install, maintain and landscape around a rain barrel; workshop is free, rain barrels available for \$90; registration required by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32

May 10 – Mother's Day Tea at Belair Mansion, 4 PM; honor a special lady at an elegant tea amidst art and antiques; \$23/person, reservations and advanced payment required by calling 301-809-3089

May 10 – Victorian Scrapbooking at Marietta Mansion, 1-4 PM, for ages 15 & up; learn scrapbooking history and create your own traditional Victorian scrapbook highlighting May Day and summer festivities, guests may bring their own photographs; \$7/person and reservations required by calling 301-464-5291

May 11 – Mother's Day Tours at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 12-4 PM; complimentary tours for mothers and grandmothers when accompanied by paying child or grandchild

May 17 – Old Fashioned Baseball Game at Marietta Mansion, 11 AM - 2 PM, for ages 7 & up; children will learn about the history of America's favorite pastime by playing 19th century baseball or "Town Ball"; \$7/person, reservation required by calling 301-464-5291

May 17 – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; costumed interpreters demonstrate preparation of foods representative of "middling" sort tobacco growing families in the late 1700s in Prince George's County, demonstrations vary monthly

May 18 – 29th Annual Historic Hyattsville House Tour 1 to 5 p.m.; advance tickets \$10 at Franklin's General Store, 5121 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville, or \$12 day of sale. 301-985-5126 for information.

May 18 – Annual Bowie Heritage Day at Belair Mansion and Stable Museums, 12-4 PM; history, horses and heritage, free pony rides, tours and music

May 20 – Nature Nuts at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 11 AM - 12 noon; ages 3-5, limited to 15 children, must be accompanied by an adult; explore the Museum Garden and learn about the wonders of nature, create a craft, hear a story and go on an outdoor adventure; \$5 members, \$6 non-members, call 301-283-2113, ext. 32 to register

May 20-21 – Native American Scholarly Colloquium at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 9 AM - 4:30 PM on May 20, 9 AM - 2:30 PM on May 21; experts will discuss unique issues in the interpretation of Native American history in the Chesapeake Bay region; free

May 31 – Authors Forum and Grand Opening of the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History at Greenbelt Community Center and Greenbelt Library, 1PM, see article on page 4 for details

May 31 – Campfire Stories at Belair Mansion, 8 PM; join the Bowie Rangers for history 'round the campfire, for details call 301-809-3089

May 31 – Conservation Landscaping with Watershed-Wise Gardens at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 10-11:30 AM; \$10 members, \$15 non-members, register by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32

May 31 – Life of Leisure: Victorians at Play at Surratt House Museum, 12-4 PM; come for an afternoon of fun and games from yesteryear on the lawn

June 1 – "Who Killed the Darling Duke of Darjeeling?" A Murder Mystery Tea at Belair Mansion, 3 PM; enjoy traditional tea and treats after the culprit is unmasked; \$30/person, reservations and advanced payment required by calling 301-809-3089

June 7 – Colonial Cooking at National Colonial Farm, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM; a hands-on, open-hearth cooking workshop focusing on "receipts" from the 18th century; \$15 members, \$20 non-members, class size limited to 10, registration required by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32

June 14 – Old Fashioned Baseball Game at Marietta Mansion, 11 AM - 2 PM, for ages 7 & up; children will learn about the history of America's favorite pastime by playing 19th century baseball or "Town Ball"; \$7/person, reservation required by calling 301-464-5291

June 14 – Building a Rain Garden at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 9-11 AM; free for members, \$15 non-members

June 15 – Father's Day Tours at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 12-4 PM; complimentary tours for fathers and grandfathers when accompanied by paying child or grandchild

June 17 – Nature Nuts at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 11 AM - 12 noon; ages 3-5, limited to 15 children, must be accompanied by an adult; explore the Museum Garden and learn about the wonders of nature, create a craft, hear a story and go on an outdoor adventure; \$5 members, \$6 non-members, call 301-283-2113, ext. 32 to register

June 21 – Juneteenth Workshop co-sponsored with the Prince George's County Chapter of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, see article for details

June 21 – Pirate Fest '08 at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 10 AM - 4 PM, rain or shine; if it's a pirate life fer ye, then get your fill of cutthroats, scallywags, sea-farin' scoundrels and thieves; music, food, costume contest, treasure hunt and more for pirates and land-lubbers alike; \$5/person

June 21 – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; costumed interpreters demonstrate preparation of foods representative of "middling" sort tobacco growing families in the late 1700s in Prince George's County, demonstrations vary monthly

June 22 – Senior Sunday at Surratt House Museum, 12-4 PM; did you just graduate from high school or college or are you a card-carrying senior citizen? Bring proof of either status and receive a FREE tour

June 23-27 – Hands-On History Week I – Early American Life at Riversdale Mansion, 10 AM - 2:30 PM; Resident \$30/session or \$135 for all 5 days, Non-Resident \$36/session or \$144 for all 5 days; advanced registration required at 301-864-0420

June 25 – Jazz on the Portico at Riversdale Mansion, 7 PM; bring blanket or lawn chair and relax on the grass, concert inside in case of rain; dinner available for purchase or bring your own picnic basket; concert is free; call 301-864-0420 for details

June 26 – Family Fun Days at Montpelier Mansion, 6-8 PM; celebrate our birthday with indoor and outdoor activities/games; free, canned goods accepted for donation to local food banks; 301-953-1376

June 29 – Family Fun Sundays at Montpelier Mansion, 3-5 PM; celebrate our birthday with indoor and outdoor activities/games; free, canned goods accepted for donation to local food banks; 301-953-1376

June 30 – "Can You Dig It" at Belair Mansion, 9 AM - 2 PM; youngsters ages 5-11 discover archeology at Belair, a hands-on, fun morning outdoors and in the dirt; free, reservations required by calling 301-809-3089

June 30-July 3 – Hands-On History Week II – Fairytale Days at Riversdale Mansion for children ages 5-8, 10 AM - 12 noon; Resident \$15/session or \$55 for all 4 days, Non-Resident \$18/session or \$60 for all 4 days; advanced registration required at 301-864-0420

For details and additional events, please visit www.pgparcs.com, www.accokeek.org, www.greenbeltmuseum.org, www.cityofbowie.org/museums, www.laurelhistory.org

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:

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Prince George's County Historical Society

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☐ Member/Family \$25 ☐ Sustaining Member \$50 ☐ Institutional Member \$50 ☐ Life Member \$500

☐ Additional Contribution

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

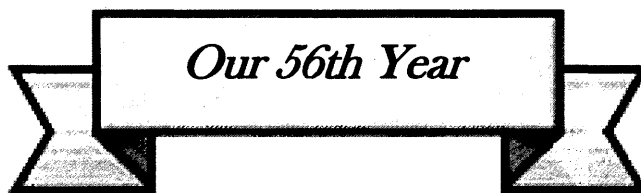
☐ For membership in the Maryland Historical Society, include an additional \$35 for individual or \$45 for family

Please make checks payable to PGCHS and mail your check and this form to:

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News & Notes

A Publication of the Prince George's County Historical Society

XXXVII Number 4

July—August 2008



Hitching Post Hill

Marietta House Museum

Headquarters of the
Prince George's County Historical Society
5626 Bell Station Road
Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120
(off MD 193, near MD 450)
Facility Manager: Susan Reidy
301-464-5291

*A facility of the Maryland-National Capital
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Marietta House Tours

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
12 noon to 4 p.m.
Weekday & Evening tours
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Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History

Greenbelt Library Building
11 Crescent Road, Greenbelt
301-220-0330
Hours: Saturdays Noon to 4 pm
and by appointment

Hitching Post Hill Will Host Prince of a County 2008

The Historical Society will hold its annual *Prince of a County* event on Sunday, September 14, at a beautiful private home that many of our members have not yet visited. This year we will celebrate the 20th anniversary of our first *Prince of a County* by returning to the site of that first gathering in 1988 – *Hitching Post Hill* (also known as *Ash Hill*) in the University Park/Hyattsville area.

At that first *Prince of a County*, we were invited to *Hitching Post Hill*, the home of the Historical Society's then president, John Giannetti, as we initiated this tradition of Society fundraisers. The event took its name from the title of an article that had appeared in the September 1987 issue of *Preservation News*, a publication of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. That article outlined the challenges and successes of the county's then-new Historic Preservation Ordinance and crowned our county with the headline, "*A Prince of a County: Preservation gains firm footing in Washington's neighbor.*"

Historic preservation continues to be prominent in the efforts of the county government, and the Historical Society continues to combine its support for preservation with its additional goals of visiting private historic houses and necessary fundraising. Some things change, however. The Giannettis, who have moved to Anne Arundel County while remaining active members of our Society, will not be our hosts this time at *Hitching Post Hill*, but we will be welcomed instead by Randy and Rose Fletcher, the gracious new owners of this magnificent property.

Hitching Post Hill, cont..

The house is a wonderful example of Greek Revival-style domestic architecture. Its large square footprint, Georgian floor plan, and outstanding decorative detail make it unique in Prince George's County. It is two stories high, 50 feet square, and built of brick on a high brick basement; its hip roof is topped by a central square cupola with an overhanging boxed cornice supported by jigsaw brackets. The formal entrance is in the central bay of the five-bay main south façade, and this entire façade, as well as the east- and west-side elevations, is sheltered by a deep one-story porch with Tuscan columns and a plain balustrade. In the interior, there are two large parlors on each side of the central stairhall. Many of the rooms are highlighted by beautiful ornamental plaster created and installed by expert craftsman John Giannetti during his nearly 25-year residence.

This substantial brick plantation house was built circa 1840 for British businessman Robert Clark on 425 acres of land that he had purchased from George Calvert of Riversdale. In 1875 the property was sold to Edward Fitzgerald Beale, a former Navy lieutenant and government agent in the Old West, who had heroically assisted in the American seizure of Alta California (now the state of California) during the Mexican War. Beale's city residence was the Latrobe-designed Decatur House on Lafayette Square in Washington, but he maintained *Hitching Post Hill* as his country home and horse farm. Here he indulged his passion for raising horses and entertained such friends as Buffalo Bill Cody and President Ulysses Grant, who would appoint him ambassador to Austria-Hungary in 1876. Grant stabled his horses at *Hitching Post Hill* and enjoyed riding around the countryside from there. Cody wintered the bison and other animals featured in his Wild West Show at Beale's farm. (continued page 3)



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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News & Notes is published six times a year. You are invited to submit a relevant article for print (subject to space limitations).

All members of the Prince George's County Historical Society are invited and welcome to attend Society Board meetings. We meet one Saturday each month (next meetings will be July 12 and August 9). Dates are subject to change. Call 301-249-9000. If you would like to volunteer your time and talents to the Historical Society in any capacity, please call us. All ages are definitely welcome!

Hitching Post Hill, cont.



Edward Fitzgerald Beale (1822-1893)

Two years after Beale died in 1893, *Hitching Post Hill* was sold to Navy lieutenant and future rear admiral Chauncey Thomas, who was then assigned to the Hydrographic Office in Washington, D.C. Thomas is credited with constructing the spacious Tuscan porch.

The property was home to a series of owners in the early twentieth century and during that time was known by several different names. It was purchased in 1947 by realtor T. Raymond Burch, a delegate in the Maryland General Assembly, and it has been known since then as *Hitching Post Hill*; it remained in the possession of the Burch family until 1983, when it became the home of the John Giannetti family. In 2007 Rose and Randy Fletcher, principals in the Arlington, Virginia, print- and web-media design firm *Exarte Design*, purchased this beautiful house and its nearly two-acre property. We are delighted that they will open their home for this year's anniversary gathering!

The handsome and imposing house stands on a knoll shaded by mature trees of many varieties. It will be a lovely place to celebrate our annual *Prince of a County*! Watch for your invitations, which you will receive early in August – we look forward to seeing you there!

~Susan Pearl and Charles Hendricks

Further information about *Hitching Post Hill* and its owners is available in T. Raymond Burch et al., *Historic Hitching Post Hill—Ash Hill: General Beale and Its Other Owners* (n.p., 1986); Carl Briggs and Clyde Francis Trudell, *Quarterdeck & Saddlehorn: The Story of Edward F. Beale, 1822–1893* (Glendale, Calif., 1983); and Gerald Thompson, *Edward F. Beale & the American West* (Albuquerque, N.M., 1983). The first of these books is available at the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History, as well as at the Bowie and Hyattsville libraries, and all of them are available in the University of Maryland libraries.



CHANGE IN DATE!
October 4, 2008,
At
Glenn Dale Hospital

For a variety of reasons, the Historical Society has postponed the Glenn Dale Hospital meeting until fall.

On **Saturday afternoon, October 4, 2008**, the Historical Society will meet on the grounds of the Glenn Dale Hospital, to hear about and discuss the background and the future of this historic hospital establishment.

If you know of individuals, i.e., former staff, patients, or patients' families, with legitimate interest in or information about the hospital, please make sure that they join us there.

For more information about the event, or to suggest individuals who had associations with the hospital in the past, call Susan Pearl at 301-262-3367. Look for more details in the September/October issue of *News & Notes*.

Special Thanks!

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who so graciously participated to make the May 31st Library Opening and Literary Event a true success.

- ◊ Special thanks to Susan Pearl, Charley Hendricks, Donna Schneider, Lynn Roberts, Beth Lingg, Bill Uber, Dan Louck, Dusty Rhoads, Diane Stultz, Sarah Bourne and many others
 - ◊ Special thanks to all of the authors!!
 - ◊ Special thanks to members and guests!! What great attendance!
- This was truly an event worth repeating!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Dougherty



- FREE -
University of Maryland
Diamondback
newspapers!

In response to our offer in the May/June issue of *News & Notes*, many of our *Diamondback* issues have found happy homes. But we still have unbound issues from the years 1981 to 1994, packed into 11"x 17"x 9" boxes. These issues (or any of them) are yours if you can pick them up at Marietta. Call Susan Pearl at 301-262-3367.

Society Sponsors

The Society would like to thank our sponsors. Their generosity helps to fund the Society's programs, events and general activities, as well as the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History.

We greatly appreciate your support!

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Sandra Cross
D.J. Cover Plastering Co.
E.H.T. Traceries, Inc.
Edward and Evamaria Hawkins
JDS Associates, Inc.
Dan Louck
Douglas and Susan McElrath
Donna Schneider
Judy and Ken Schneider
Peter Shapiro
Victoria Thompson
Andrew and Sondra Wallace
James and Susan Wolfe

MUSINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT....

All members of The Prince George's County Historical Society as well as the larger community can be justly proud of our recent celebratory event on May 31st - the Author's Forum and Reception in conjunction with the opening of the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History in its new and larger home at the Greenbelt Library building. Over eighty members and friends turned out, despite severe storms in the area, for what was an inspiring, educational and entertaining event. It connected our organization's past to its future, in bringing members of Fred DeMarr's family, constant supporters of the Historical Society, to celebrate with us on this occasion.

The day was not only a celebration of the relocation of our library, but it was a hearty thank you to so many volunteers and behind-the-scenes players who care deeply about the DeMarr Library and the service which PGCHS performs for any who seek research assistance about Prince George's County, Maryland. As many of you are aware, that includes not only citizens of this county, but a never-ending stream of individuals from elsewhere trying to connect with antecedents or home places in our county. A devoted team of volunteers, including Diane Stultz, Sarah Bourne, Susan Pearl, Dusty Rhoads, Beth Lingg, George Denny, Donna Schneider, Bill Uber, Dan Louck and others, catalogued, sorted, culled, packed, unpacked, shelved, organized and reinstalled our ever-growing collections of books, photographs, ephemera, maps, plans, card files, technical equipment, and artifacts in two wonderful rooms made available by Micki Freeny, Director of the Prince George's County Memorial Library system, and the Library Board of Directors. Members of the Petro Design/Build crew put in many hours making the new space both handsome and efficient. Another volunteer to whom we owe a large debt is the architect and designer of our new space, the distinguished Washington/Maryland architect and Professor of Architecture at Catholic University, Kent Abraham. Kent's design of both the public space and the behind-the-scenes work area for the two-room suite—his personal contribution-- is both handsome and efficient. Our new information center at the entrance will help the volunteer staff maintain a level of security for our collections.

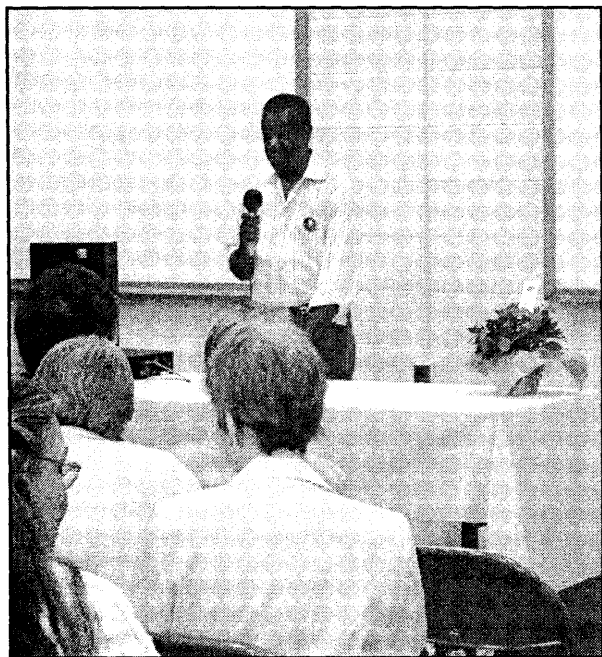
What better way to celebrate the opening of our facility than with a distinguished group of 15 authors whose works reflect the histories of individuals, communities, and events in Prince George's County! (See article on page 6.) Elizabeth Dougherty, organizer of the day's events, opened the festivities by introducing County Executive Jack Johnson, who spoke eloquently about growing up in the Charleston area and admiring the great architecture preserved there, and about the parallels he found when he came to this county and discovered a wonderful range of well-preserved historic buildings. I was delighted to escort Mr. Johnson to preview the DeMarr Library where he browsed through many volumes that he would love to pore over when time permits. Works by the 15 authors at the May 31st Forum may be found on the shelves of our "new-and-improved" Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History. Whether you are a County Executive, a student doing a research project, a girl scout pursuing a history merit badge, or just someone trying to find the site of an ancestor's house in 1875 - all of you are welcome! We look forward to your visit and your support!

John Petro, President

Society Celebrates Reopening of the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History

"Wow! This is the best event the Historical Society has ever had!" Those were the words of one Historical Society member who attended the grand re-opening of the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History and the preceding special literary event. No wonder the Historical Society's Board of Directors and Library Committee feel so good about the afternoon of 31 May 2008!

In spite of torrential rain, thunder, and the threat of a tornado, more than 80 visitors packed into the meeting room at the Greenbelt Community Center to hear local authors talk about their books on Prince George's County history, and then to witness the library reopening. The crowd comprised not only members of the Society, but also many interested members of the public, who we hope will have been inspired to join us.



County Executive Jack B. Johnson

County Executive Jack Johnson joined the group, and gave very apropos remarks about his childhood memories of the arrival of a library in his rural community. Elizabeth Dougherty, as mistress of ceremonies, acknowledged the contributions of many who made the event possible- individuals from the County Library system, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, architect Kent Abraham, the Petro Design/Build crew (Greg Sullivan, Bob Cookson, Pat Sullivan, Eraico (Stewart) Sical, Dale Davis), Society sponsors, the Library Committee, and many hardworking volunteers. Special thanks were given to the DeMarr family who joined us for the occasion, especially Louise DeMarr Tatspaugh and Robert DeMarr, sister and brother of Fred DeMarr, the founding father of our library. Elizabeth then introduced each of the 15 authors, who briefly introduced



their books on various aspects of Prince George's County History.

After the forum, the crowd took advantage of the opportunity to talk with the authors, examine and buy books, and enjoy punch, cookies and cake. The gathering then adjourned next door to the Greenbelt Branch of the County Library system for the ribbon cutting and

FOR SALE

"Sunnyside" (Dr. Michael Stone House) 16005 Dr. Bowen Road, Aquasco, MD. National Register and P.G. County Historic Site Circa 1780-1844

Located in Historic Aquasco, MD, 26 miles from the US Capital Building. Situated on 22 picturesque acres of pasture, woodlands and stream. Entire Estate is in mint condition. Main House (3,700 sq ft) 5 bedrooms, 5 fireplaces, 9 ft. ceilings, heart pine flooring throughout, mature boxwoods, a true showplace. Located approx. 100 yds from the Main House is the charming Guest House (900 sq. ft). Authentic and unique Colonial charm and warmth with modern elegance best describes this Classic Southern Maryland Estate. Totally and elegantly restored with the finest amenities, including 1st floor, 900 sq ft. master suite and library. Offered at \$1,780,000

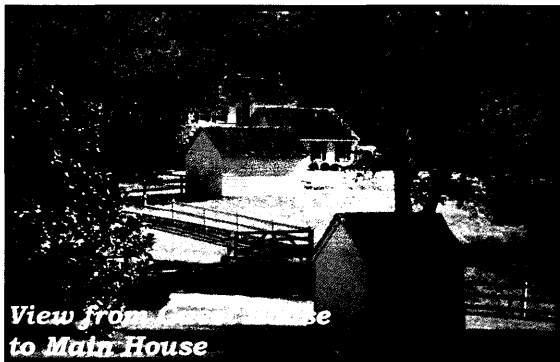
Contact: **Monique Stanwick** (owner-agent) 301-643-3200 StanwickC@cs.com
Real Star Premier Properties Inc. 410-295-7827



*Sunny Side Main House
Front Porch*



Sunny Side Main House



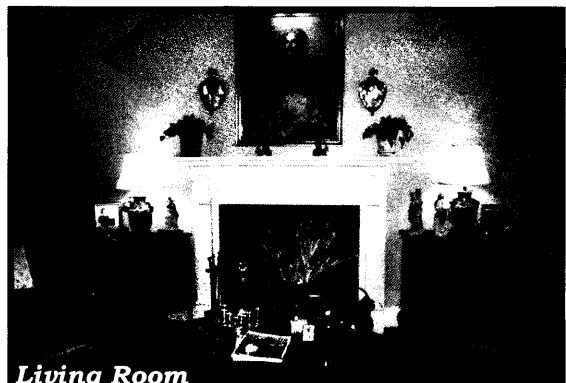
*View from Guest House
to Main House*



Back of Main House



Dining Room



Living Room

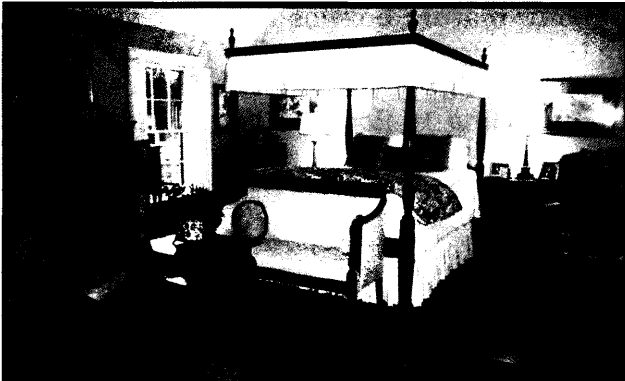


Library



Kitchen

In addition to the lush landscaping including formal boxwood garden, orchard, magnolia trees and horse fencing, the property has eight (8) historic and utility out buildings; 18th Century chestnut corn crib, 18th Century smoke house (electric), 19th Century tobacco barn (restored /electric), run in shed (electric), auxiliary power shed (24KW APU generator/electric), play house, garden shed, wood/storage sheds. Magnificent views of sunrises, sunsets, open fields and woodlands. Gated driveway entrance leads to circular drive at Main House.



1st Floor Master Bedroom w/Vaulted Ceiling



2nd Floor Bedroom #2



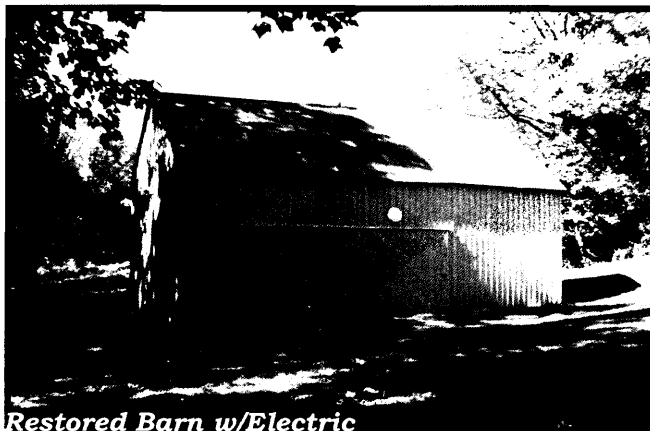
Second Floor Bedroom #3



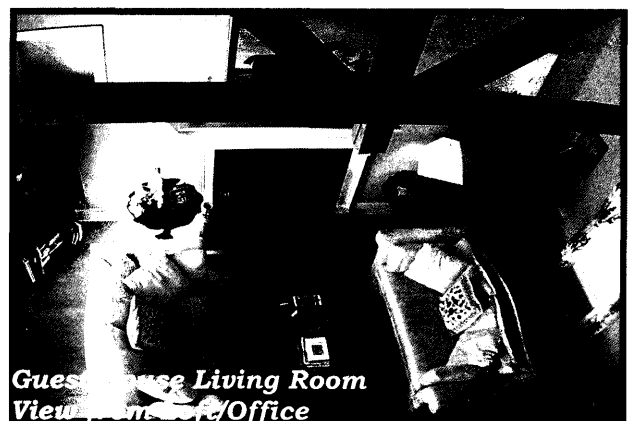
Family Room Circa 1780



***1 Bedroom Guest House
(900 Square Feet)***

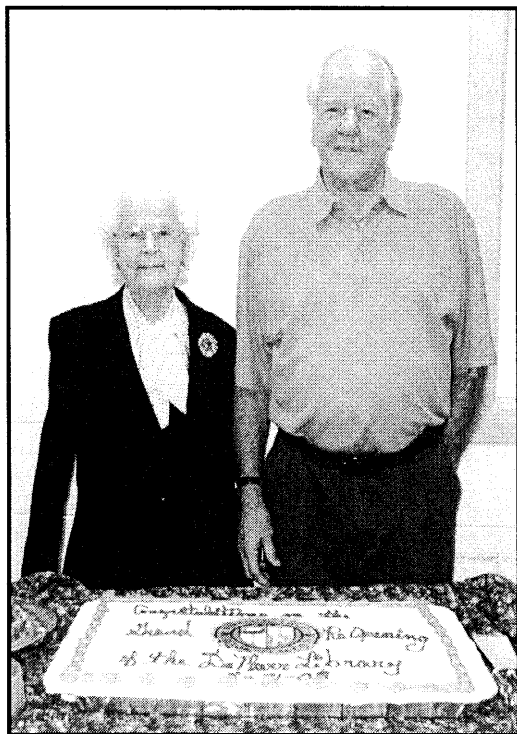


Restored Barn w/Electric



***Guest House Living Room
View from Office***

formal reopening – and what a delight it was to see the ribbon cut by Fred DeMarr’s sister and brother!



Louise DeMarr Tatspaugh and Robert DeMarr
at the Formal Reopening of the
Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History

The happy event continued, with tours of the new library rooms. All expressed great admiration for our handsome new space, the extent of our collection, and the efficiency of its arrangements.

The library will now be open for research and browsing on Saturdays from noon to 4:00 p.m., and we will soon announce additional hours of service during the week. Feel free to call the library staff at our new number, 301-220-0330. The e-mail address for library inquiries has not changed – it is still pgchslibrary@aol.com – and you can also direct inquiries to us by clicking **BOARDhost** on our website www.pghistory.org

We will try to respond to all inquiries as promptly as possible. Remember, we are now located in the Greenbelt

library building at 11 Crescent Road in Greenbelt, but inquiries sent by mail should still be addressed to the Historical Society address, P.O. Box 14, Riverdale, MD 20738-0014.

Several guests at the reopening event asked for a list of the authors and books from the Authors' Forum. We reprint it here.

Authors and Books, Authors' Forum, **31 May 2008**

1. **Fannie L. Basim**, *Town of Bowie, Maryland, 1870–1960* (Bowie, Md.: Huntington Heritage Society, Inc., 2006)
2. **Virginia Beauchamp**, on behalf of herself and Mary Lou Williamson, *Greenbelt: History of a New Town, 1937–1987* (updated ed., Norfolk, Va.: Donning Company, 1997)
3. **Katharine D. Bryant** and **Donna Schneider**, *Prince George's County, Maryland*, Images of America Series (Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2000)
4. **George H. Callcott**, *A History of the University of Maryland* (Baltimore, Md.: Maryland Historical Society, 1966); and *The University of Maryland at College Park: A History* (Baltimore, Md.: Noble House, 2005)
5. **Margaret Law Callcott**, ed., *Mistress of Riversdale: The Plantation Letters of Rosalie Stier Calvert, 1795–1821* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1991)
6. **Ann Harris Davidson**, *Berwyn Heights*, Then and Now Series (Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2008)
7. **George D. Denny**, *Proud Past, Promising Future: Cities and Towns in Prince George's County, Maryland* (Brentwood, Md.: G. D. Denny Jr., 1997); and *Brentwood, Town in Transition* (Brentwood, Md.: G. D. Denny, Jr., 2008)
8. **Michael W. Kauffman**, *American Brutus: John Wilkes Booth and the Lincoln Conspiracies* (New York: Random House, 2004)

9. **Cathy D. Knepper**, *Greenbelt, Maryland: A Living Legacy of the New Deal* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001)

10. **Nathania Branch Miles** on behalf of Nathania Branch Miles, Jane Taylor Thomas, and Beverly Babin Woods, *Fort Washington*, Images of America Series (Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2005); on behalf of Nathania Branch Miles and Jane Taylor Thomas, *Oxon Hill*, Images of America Series (Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2006); and on behalf of Carolyn Corpening Rowe, Jane Taylor Thomas, and Beverly Babin Woods, *Prince George's County, Maryland*, Black America Series (Chicago, Ill.: Arcadia Publishing, 2003)

11. **Susan G. Pearl**, *Illustrated Inventory of Historic Sites: Prince George's County, Maryland* (Upper Marlboro, Md.: Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 2006); and *African-American Heritage Survey, Prince George's County, Maryland* (Upper Marlboro, Md.: Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 1996); and on behalf of Jack E. Boucher, Susan G. Pearl, and Catherine C. Lavoie, *Landmarks of Prince George's County* (Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993)

12. **Anthony Pitch**, *The Burning of Washington: The British Invasion of 1814* (Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute Press, 1998)

13. **Stephanie E. Stullich** and **Katharine D. Bryant**, *College Park*, Images of America Series (Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2005)

14. **Diane Stultz**, on behalf of the Prince George's County Genealogical Society, *Early Records of the White Marsh Church, Prince George's County, Maryland* (Bowie, Md.: Prince George's County Genealogical Society, 2005); and *Gleanings from the Records of the Francis Gasch's Sons Funeral Home, Prince George's County, Maryland 1860-1940* (Bowie, Md.: Prince George's County Genealogical Society, 1996); and *Records of the Almshouse of Prince George's County, Maryland* (Bowie, Md.: Prince George's County Genealogical Society, 2003); and Jean A. Sergeant, *Stones and Bones, Cemetery Records of Prince George's County, Maryland* (Bowie, Md.: Prince George's County Genealogical Society, 1984, now available **on compact disk**).

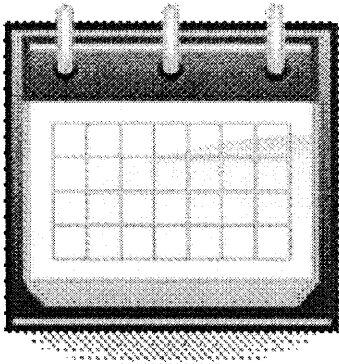
~Susan G. Pearl



HISTORICAL SOCIETY FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

As you have read in this issue of *News & Notes*, we are celebrating the relocation and re-opening of the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History. Together with your expressions of pleasure and support, many of you have made generous contributions to help to defray the considerable expenses of the move. The preparation of the space at the Greenbelt Library has been very costly, however, and we sincerely hope that more of our friends and supporters will be able to make donations toward this goal. Any amount will be much appreciated, and will be totally tax deductible. You may send your check, made out to PGCHS, to P.O. Box 14, Riverdale, MD, 20738-0014. If you have questions, please call our Treasurer, Donna Schneider, at 301-952-8539. Thank you so much!

Calendar of Events – July & August 2008



To Dec. 17 – Buy It Here: Laurel Advertises at Laurel Museum, Wednesdays & Fridays 10 AM – 2 PM, Sundays 1-4 PM, free; call 301-725-7975 for more information.

July 5 – Independence Concert at Fort Washington Park, 7 PM; the Fort Washington Community Chorus and Kings Park Concert Band of Flint Hill, VA, presents patriotic music, bring a blanket or lawn chair; free, canned donations accepted for Fort Washington Food Pantry; for details call 301-763-4600

July 5 – Hands-On History Day for Kids: A Day in the Life of a Soldier at Montpelier Mansion; re-enactors of the American Revolution will show you what it was like to be a soldier in the 18th century; \$7/child, reservations recommended by calling 301-953-1376

July 6 – Civil War Artillery Demonstration at Fort Washington Park-Old Fort, 12:30 – 3:30 PM; volunteers in Civil War period uniforms will demonstrate and explain procedures used during the muzzle-loading era of American Artillery; free; for more information call 301-763-4600

July 6 – Family Fun Sunday at Montpelier Mansion, 3-5 PM; celebrate our birthday with indoor and outdoor activities and games; free, canned goods accepted for donation to local food banks

July 7-11 – Colonial Ways and Days for Children at National Colonial Farm in collaboration with the National Children's Museum, 9 AM – 3 PM, rain or shine; through art, drama, games, crafts, stories and hands-on experiences step back in time to explore what Colonial children would eat, wear and do "back then"; workshop limited to 20 children; children should bring their lunch; \$225/child for members and \$250/child for non-members, call 301-283-2113, ext. 32 to register

July 10 – Family Fun Night at Montpelier Mansion, 6-8 PM; celebrate our birthday with indoor and outdoor activities and games; free, canned goods accepted for donation to local food banks

July 12 – Birding for the Blind at Patuxent Research Refuge – North Tract, 8:30 – 11:30 AM; program introduces visually impaired people to nature and birding through hands-on activities and exploration of outdoor habitats; free, but registration is required by calling 301-497-5887

July 15 – Fighting for Freedom: Black WACs During WWII at Greenbelt Community Center Room 201, 7:30 PM; Dr. Janet Sims-Wood will discuss the courageous example set by the first African-American WAC unit in Europe; for details call 301-507-6582

July 15 – Nature Nuts at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 11 AM – 12 noon; ages 3-5, limited to 15 children, must be accompanied by an adult; explore the Museum Garden and learn about the wonders of nature, create a craft, hear a story, and go on an outdoor adventure; \$5 members, \$6 non-members, call 301-283-2113, ext. 32 to register

July 19 – National Concert Band of America at Harmony Hall Mansion, 3 PM; bring a blanket or lawn chair; parking available at Harmony Hall Regional Center; free; call 301-763-4600 for details

July 19 – A Young Girl in the 19th Century at Marietta House Museum, 11 AM – 2 PM; children ages 5 and up will discover through the eyes of Gabriella Duvall, Judge Duvall's granddaughter, what it was like to be a young girl in the 19th century; \$7/person, registration required by calling 301-464-5291

July 19 – 27 – Needleart 2008 at Montpelier Mansion, 11 AM – 4 PM; see a dazzling array of stitched art, from needlepoint to ribbon work, including demonstrations of various needleart techniques

July 19 – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; 10 AM – 4 PM, rain or shine; costumed interpreters demonstrate food preparation representative of "middling" sort tobacco-growing families in the late 1700s in Prince George's County, demonstrations vary; admission fee, members free

July 20 – Pastimes from the Past at Belair Mansion, 12 noon – 4 PM; Colonial fun and games for the whole family; free; call 301-809-3089 for details

July 26 – Canning Your Harvest at National Colonial Farm Education Center by Sandra Womack, Maryland Master Gardener; 9 - 11 AM, rain or shine; learn about appropriate fruits and vegetables for canning, the canning process, tips and tricks, shelf life, what you need to get started, great recipes and a little history; \$15/non-member, \$10/member, registration by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32

July 30 – Jazz on the Portico with Sandy Asirvatham, vocalist, at Riversdale Mansion, 7 PM; bring blanket or lawn chair and relax on the grass, concert inside in case of rain; dinner available for purchase or bring your own picnic basket; concert is free; call 301-864-0420 for details

August 2 – The Maryland Soldier in the Civil War at Belair Mansion, 11 AM – 4 PM; explore North and South sides of the conflict, tour the camps, watch demonstrations; free; call 301-809-3089 for details

Calendar, continued...

- August 2** – Life of Leisure: Let the Music Begin at Surratt House Museum, 4 – 5 PM; enjoy the tunes of the 1800s that will get your toes a'tapping with vocalist Henry Wixon entertaining; free, for more details call 301-868-1121
- August 3** – Civil War Artillery Demonstration at Fort Washington Park-Old Fort, 12:00 – 3:30 PM; volunteers in Civil War period uniforms will demonstrate and explain procedures used during the muzzle-loading era of American Artillery; free; for more information call 301-763-4600
- August 3** – Family Fun Sunday at Montpelier Mansion, 3-5 PM; celebrate our birthday with indoor and outdoor activities and games; free, canned goods accepted for donation to local food banks
- August 7** – Family Fun Night at Montpelier Mansion, 6-8 PM; celebrate our birthday with indoor and outdoor activities and games; free, canned goods accepted for donation to local food banks
- August 9** – Rain Barrel Workshop at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 1 – 2 PM; take this first step for water conservation and learn how to install, maintain, and landscape around a rain barrel; workshop is free, rain barrels available for \$90; registration required by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32
- August 9** – 13th Annual Battle of Bladensburg at Riversdale Mansion, 12 noon; join British and American War of 1812 troops as they camp on the lawn to prepare for battle; free, but fee for house tours, refreshments for sale; call 301-864-0420 for details
- August 10** – Airmail Day at the College Park Aviation Museum, 1 – 4 PM; commemorate the first postal airmail flights by enjoying airmail-themed activities including designing your own airmail stamp; free with museum admission
- August 16** – A Young Girl in the 19th Century at Marietta House Museum, 11 AM – 2 PM; children ages 5 and up will discover through the eyes of Gabriella Duvall, Judge Duvall's granddaughter, what it was like to be a young girl in the 19th century; \$7/person, registration required by calling 301-464-5291
- August 16** – Great Architecture Symposium at Montpelier Mansion, 9 AM – 4 PM; architectural and landscape historians will examine Montpelier and its environs to reveal what the Snowden estate meant to its owners and their peers, neighbors, servants and slaves; fee (includes lunch) and reservations required by calling 301-953-1376
- August 16** – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; 10 AM – 4 PM, rain or shine; costumed interpreters demonstrate food preparation representative of "middling" sort tobacco-growing families in the late 1700s in Prince George's County, demonstrations vary; admission fee, members free
- August 16** – Xeriscaping: Drought Tolerant Landscaping at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 1 – 3 PM; Esther Mitchell, Prince George's Master Gardener Coordinator, discusses xeriscaping as the solution for drought, and heat-tolerant, low-maintenance and stress-free gardens; \$10 members, \$15 non-members, register by August 11 by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32
- August 18** – Monday Morning at the Mansion at Belair Mansion, 10:30 – 11:30 AM; listen to stories from the past and make a craft to take home for ages 4-10; free; call 301-809-3089 for details
- August 19** – Nature Nuts at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 11 AM – 12 noon; ages 3-5, limited to 15 children, must be accompanied by an adult; explore the Museum Garden and learn about the wonders of nature, create a craft, hear a story, and go on an outdoor adventure; \$5 members, \$6 non-members, call 301-283-2113, ext. 32 to register
- August 20** – Insects in Your Garden: Friend or Foe? at National Colonial Farm Education Center, 3 – 5 PM; Pam King, Entomologist and Senior Agent of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department at the University of Maryland shows how to identify insects and discover ways to battle undesirable bugs; \$10 members, \$15 non-members, register by August 14 by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32
- August 23** – African American Heritage Day at National Colonial Farm, Noon – 6 PM, rain or shine; celebrate the cultural, educational and creative contributions of African Americans to Maryland through music, artists, foodways demonstrators, crafts, storytellers, hands-on activities and entertainers; admission fee, members free
- August 27** – Jazz on the Portico with Bruce Ewan, harmonicist, at Riversdale Mansion, 7 PM; bring blanket or lawn chair and relax on the grass, concert inside in case of rain; dinner available for purchase or bring your own picnic basket; concert is free; call 301-864-0420 for details
- August 30 – September 1** – Trains and Planes at the College Park Aviation Museum, 10 AM – 5 PM; the National Capital Trackers bring a fascinating and constantly moving display of model railroads; free with museum admission

For details and additional events, please visit:

www.pgparcs.com, www.accokeek.org, www.greenbeltmuseum.org, www.cityofbowie.org/museums,
www.laurelhistory.org and <http://patuxent.fws.gov>

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, 1993. 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 6% sales tax.

Mail your order to:

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

Book Total: \$ _____	Name: _____
Tax: \$ _____	Address: _____
Shipping & Handling \$ _____	City, State, Zip: _____
Total Enclosed: \$ _____	Phone: _____
	Email: _____

Prince George's County Historical Society

Membership Application

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

Membership Category (Please check one)

Sponsor: ☐ Platinum Level \$1000 ☐ Gold Level \$500 ☐ Silver Level \$250 ☐ Bronze Level \$100

☐ Member/Family \$25 ☐ Sustaining Member \$50 ☐ Institutional Member \$50 ☐ Life Member \$500

☐ Additional Contribution

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

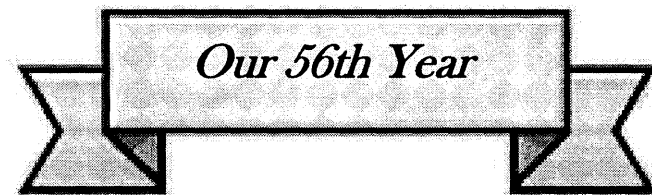
☐ For membership in the Maryland Historical Society, include an additional \$35 for individual or \$45 for family

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

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

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News & Notes

A Publication of the Prince George's County Historical Society

XXXVII Number 5

September—October, 2008



Glenn Dale Hospital

Marietta House Museum

Headquarters of the
Prince George's County Historical Society
5626 Bell Station Road
Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120
(off MD 193, near MD 450)
Facility Manager: Susan Reidy
301-464-5291

*A facility of the Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission*

Marietta House Tours

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
12 noon to 4 p.m.
Weekday & Evening tours
by appointment only

Marietta Gift Shop

Open during tour hours and special events

Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History

Greenbelt Library Building
11 Crescent Road, Greenbelt
301-220-0330
Hours: Saturdays Noon to 4 pm
and by appointment

HISTORICAL GATHERING AT GLENN DALE HOSPITAL SITE

Saturday, October 4, 2008

In 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt approved construction of an adult tuberculosis sanatorium at Glenn Dale, 15 miles outside the nation's capital in rural Prince George's County, Maryland. A TB hospital for infected children of Washington, D.C., had already been built atop a hill on the site, but the TB epidemic was taking a toll on the city's adult population as well. Eventually, Glenn Dale Hospital would grow into a self-contained community with 23 buildings on 216 acres, accommodating doctors and staff who lived on the property and patients who stayed for years, even decades. In the 1960s, Glenn Dale expanded its mission to treating the chronically ill, having already become an important source of jobs and incomes for generations of families in the area.

Join former patients, staff, and their families on **Saturday, October 4, at 10:30 a.m.**, for a gathering on the grounds of historic Glenn Dale Hospital. The event, hosted by the Prince George's County Historical Society and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), which currently owns and administers the site, marks the first time in more than 25 years that the public has been invited onto the property.

The morning's featured speaker will be former *Washington Post* reporter Leah Y. Latimer, author of an award-winning *Post* magazine article based on her mother's commitment to Glenn Dale in the 1950s ("Quarantined," December 10, 2006). Ms. Latimer will talk about her continuing research on Glenn Dale and her efforts to collect personal stories about its years as a TB sanatorium. Former medical staff, patients, and employees will share their memories.

Closed at the beginning of 1982, the hospital property has been the subject of a variety of

Glenn Dale, cont.

unsuccessful development proposals. Representatives from the M-NCPPC will be on hand to talk about the status of the site.

The Historical Society is pleased to partner with Ms. Latimer and the M-NCPPC in sponsoring this event, and we hope that individuals interested in the history and future of the site will join us there. Come and learn about the largely-forgotten era of the public TB sanatorium, participate in a discussion with former staff and patients, and have your own questions answered.

The entrance to the Glenn Dale campus is at Route 450 and Glenn Dale Road. Those wishing to attend the gathering are asked to RSVP by calling the Historical Society at 301-220-0330 or Susan Pearl at 301-262-3367. More detailed directions to the event will be provided to respondents. To share information or personal stories about Glenn Dale Hospital, please call 301-499-3574 or e-mail GDhospitalhistory@comcast.net



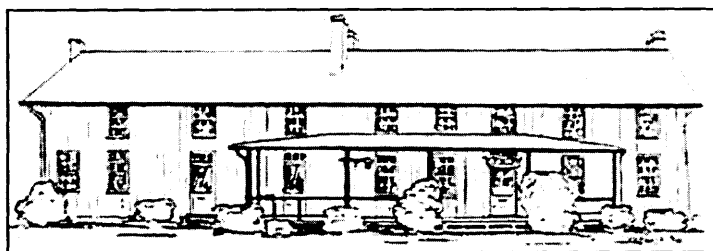
The Prince George's County Historical Society

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



Marlborough Hunt Club

SAVE THE DATE: 2008: A YEAR TO CELEBRATE!

The Annual Meeting of
The Prince George's County Historical Society
will be held at the Marlborough Hunt Club,
Monday evening, November 10, 2008.

Details will follow in early October.

- ♦ Election of Officers and Board of Directors
- ♦ Program given by the Joint Masters of the Club and its Huntsman who will introduce the Club's prize-winning Penn-Marydel hounds, offer hunting horn techniques, and explain the actions of the hunt field
- ♦ Dinner will be a traditional Southern Maryland "Hunt Breakfast" prepared by Club member, Paula Sothoron

President: John Petro
Vice President: Lynn Roberts
Secretary: Dusty Rhoads
Treasurer: Donna Schneider
Historian: Susan G. Pearl
Membership: Donna Schneider
Newsletter Committee: Charles Hendricks, Susan Pearl, Vicki Styles
Directors: John Brunner, Elizabeth Dougherty, Joyce Dowling, Charles Hendricks, Elizabeth Lingg, Dan Louck, Nathania Branch Miles, Jack Thompson Jr., William Uber, Andrew Wallace, Sealani Weiner, Laurence Winston

News & Notes is published six times a year. You are invited to submit a relevant article for print (subject to space limitations).

All members of the Prince George's County Historical Society are invited and welcome to attend Society Board meetings. We meet one Saturday each month (next meetings will be September 6 and October 4). Dates are subject to change. Call 301-249-9000. If you would like to volunteer your time and talents to the Historical Society in any capacity, please call us. All ages are definitely welcome!

Society Sponsors

The Society would like to thank our sponsors. Their generosity helps to fund the Society's programs, events and general activities, as well as the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History.

We greatly appreciate your support!

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Victoria Thompson
Andrew and Sondra Wallace
James and Susan Wolfe

Thank You!

Musings from the President....



I love the idea of endless summer. While I'm writing this, we are still in the middle of a wonderful, rain-filled, and remarkably pleasant summer with gardens, lawns, trees, shrubs, and herbs growing amazingly, compared to last summer's intense dry spell. With the abundance of rain this year, one can literally watch things grow!

Good fortune has rained down on our Society as well, allowing for growth and improvement in many areas of its operation. Thanks to Micki Freeny and the Board of Trustees of the Prince George's County Memorial Library (and help from a lot of other individuals!), our newly-installed Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History is up and running on the ground level of the Greenbelt Public Library and is a great success! If you haven't been there yet, visit some Saturday afternoon. If you can, come back on Sunday afternoon, stroll the walkways and take in the Greenbelt Museum across the street—a wonderful 20th-century “period house museum.” Though seeming modern to some eyes, it was produced over 70 years ago. It underscores the fact that important modernist ideas in both architecture and the decorative arts were introduced in this important working class WPA-era community here in our own Prince George's County.

Also beginning to blossom are some changes that will benefit PGCHS before the year is over. You will be hearing more about this, so stay tuned! In late September when we have our annual “fund-and-consciousness-raiser” at Hitching Post Hill—at this beautiful place for the second time in a quarter of the century—we hope we can count on each one of you to identify a candidate for membership who will help broaden our base of activities and programs. Invite someone! We could also use more volunteer help in the Library. If each member encourages a friend or family member to join our membership ranks and enjoy the programs and outings to special places in our county, we can watch our organization bud and grow like this summer's foliage. Let's make it happen!

John J. Petro, President

Memorial for Lester Sweeting

As many of you know, when Lester and Sharon Sweeting left Prince George's County in 2005, they bought and opened the *Cherry Creek Inn*, a Bed & Breakfast in Chautauqua County, New York. Lester had served as *News & Notes* editor and then president of the Historical Society, and Sharon had served on the Board of Directors as editor and librarian. Tragically, Lester was killed in an automobile accident in February of this year (see *News & Notes*, Vol. XXXVII, #2, March-April 2008).

A memorial service was held for Lester at *Cherry Creek Inn* this summer on June 28. My husband and I and many other friends of Les and Sharon from Prince George's County attended. Several of us participated in the ceremony, talking about our individual experiences with Lester and his many interests and accomplishments; it was a very beautiful and moving ceremony. *Cherry Creek Inn* is a lovely 1860 Italianate house, with beautifully landscaped grounds in an absolutely gorgeous setting of fields and rolling hills. A beautiful new pavilion was dedicated to Lester as part of the ceremony.



Sharon was glad to hear that several donations in support of our Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History had been given in memory of Lester. She will continue to run the *Cherry Creek Inn* (1022 West Road, Cherry Creek, NY 14723). All of us, especially the Library Committee, miss her! She would be very happy to hear from you!

Susan G. Pearl, August 2008

St. Mary's City and Skipjack Tour

The Prince George's County Historical Society is planning a tour of historic St. Mary's City on Saturday, October 11, that will include a 90-minute cruise on a skipjack and lunch at St. Mary's College.



The Dee of St. Mary's

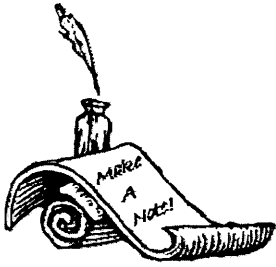
Captain Jack Russell will meet us at the St. Mary's College dock at 9:30 AM for a sail into the Chesapeake Bay on his skipjack *Dee of St. Mary's*. Skipjacks are a type of sailboat used on the Chesapeake for oyster dredging that became popular in the late 1800s. As the oyster harvests have declined, so has the number of skipjacks, with approximately 30 remaining today. Maryland designated the skipjack as its state boat in 1985.

After the cruise, we will return to the dock at St. Mary's College and proceed to lunch at the college cafeteria. At 2 PM we will embark on a guided two-hour walking tour of St. Mary's City to see the replica of the *Dove*, the ship that along with the *Ark*, brought English adventurers including Leonard Calvert to the colony in 1633. The walking tour will also include the State House and Main Street. St. Mary's City, Maryland's first capital, is the site of the fourth permanent settlement in British North America and the birthplace of religious toleration in the New World.

Please join us for a day of adventure on land and sea. Costs are \$45 per adult and \$38 for children under 12. **Space on the skipjack is limited. The deadline to sign up is October 1, 2008, so get your reservation in early!** Send the name(s) of those touring and a check payable to PGCHS to Donna Schneider, 4701 Colonel Ewell Ct, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772. Once your reservation has been received, we will mail you a map and directions for parking at St. Mary's College.

If you have any questions, please call Donna Schneider at 301-952-8539.

Calendar of Events – September & October 2008



September 6 – Belair on the Civil War Homefront at Belair Mansion; 11 AM – 4 PM; join the Atlantic Guard Soldiers Aid Society in domestic activities experienced during the Civil War; free, call 301-809-3089 for details

September 6 – Civil War Weapons Demonstrations at Fort Washington Park-Old Fort; 12, 1, 2, 3 PM; demonstrations of procedures used during the muzzle-loading era of American Artillery; fee; for details call 301-763-4600

September 7 – Grandparents' Day Tour at Marietta House Museum; 12-4 PM; celebrate National Grandparents' Day by treating your grandparents or grandchildren to a tour highlighting the relationship between Gabriel Duvall and his grandchildren; \$3/adults, \$2/seniors, \$1/ages 5-18, free ages under 4

September 7 – Plummer Family Celebration; 1:30 p.m., reception at Riversdale, unveiling of commemorative sign soon to be erected at the Plummer family homestead in nearby Edmonston; free, call 301-864-0420 to RSVP by September 2.

September 9 – Second Tuesday Lecture at Belair Mansion; 7:30 PM, on the subject of beekeeping; call 301-809-3089 for details; free

September 13 – Colonial Cooking at National Colonial Farm; 10:30 AM-12:30 PM, rain or shine; open-hearth cooking workshop focuses on "receipts" from the 18th century; \$20 non-members, \$15 members, class size limited to 10, registration required by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32

September 14 – Prince of a County Reception hosted by the Prince George's County Historical Society at Hitching Post Hill; 2-5 PM; \$50/person; for reservations contact Donna Schneider at 301-952-8539

September 14 – Hunting and Fishing Day at Patuxent Research Refuge-North Tract; learn about wildlife conservation, hunting and fishing opportunities and explore wildlife habitats; for details call 301-776-3090

September 16 – Nature Nuts at National Colonial Farm Education Center; 11 AM – 12 noon, rain or shine; explores the Farm's Museum Garden, hear a story, create a craft; limited to 15 children ages 3-5, \$6 non-members, \$5 members, registration required by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32

September 17 – Fall History Lecture Series at Montpelier Mansion; 7:30 PM; John Wing, a naval engineer and maritime archaeologist, will give a presentation on early Chesapeake Bay shipping, and will include the ship *Snowden*, owned by Richard Snowden; free; for more details call 301-953-1376

September 17 – Hands on History – To Arms at Riversdale House Museum; 10 AM; visiting North American War of 1812 living history troops will interpret events of 1814; \$2/person, capacity is limited, reservations required by calling 301-864-0420

September 18 – Reception celebrating the restoration of the George Washington House at 4302 Baltimore Ave., Bladensburg; 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Call 301-699-6204 to RSVP.

September 18 – Kids Kaboose at the Bowie Train Station; 10:30 AM – 12 noon; railroad fun and games; free, call 301-575-2488 for details

September 20 – Pirate for a Day at Darnall's Chance; 10 AM – 2 PM; for ages 8-12 to learn about life aboard a pirate ship as a pirate-in-training by navigating using a compass, make a pirate flag and hunt for treasure, costumes optional; \$20/child, reservations required by calling 301-952-8010

September 20-21 – Are You Up for the Challenge? 6th Annual Maryland Lighthouse Challenge at Fort Washington; 8 AM – 6 PM; visit other Maryland lighthouses in addition to the Fort Washington lighthouse, which is open only this weekend; for more information go to www.cheslights.org or call 301-763-4600; fee

September 20 – Tree Identification Walk at National Colonial Farm Education Center; 10-11:30 AM, light rain or shine; walk along Bluebird and Paw Paw trails and identify trees with Joe Clements, owner of Heaven's Garden in Port Tobacco, MD; \$2 non-members; for details call 301-283-2113

September 20 – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; 10 AM – 4 PM, rain or shine; costumed interpreters demonstrate preparation of foods, representative of "middling" tobacco growing families in the late 1700s; admission fee for non-members

September 27 – National Public Lands Day at Fort Washington Park; 9 AM – 12 noon; celebrate with a free day at the park; river cleanup is planned

September 27 – "In Our Backyard Tour: A Visit to Hampton National Historic Site" sponsored by the Laurel Historical Society; 9:30 AM – 3 PM; free admission, lunch on your own; for details call 301-725-7975 or visit www.laurelhistoricalsociety.org

September 27 – Open Hearth Cooking Class at Riversdale House Museum; 10 AM; Riversdale Kitchen Guild will teach basic techniques using a variety of equipment and seasonal ingredients; \$32 resident, \$40 non-resident, capacity is limited, advanced registration required by calling 301-864-0420

September 28 – Annual Old Town Bowie Fall Fest at Bowie Train Station/Old Town; 10 AM – 5 PM; celebrate the fall with food, crafts and history; free

Calendar, cont....

- October 4** – Colonial Day at National Colonial Farm; 11 AM – 4 PM, rain or shine; join the Bolton Family in celebrating the annual harvest, experience life from the late 1770s, observe colonial demonstrators; admission fee for non-members
- October 4** – Mr. Stier's Bulb Sale at Riversdale House Museum; 12 noon
- October 4-November 23** – “A Polite Recreation – Landscape Drawings by the Ogle Family” at Belair Mansion; Tuesday-Sunday, 12-4 PM; exhibit features the pencil drawings of Benjamin Ogle II illustrating the artistic skills of one of Belair's residents; free; call 301-809-3089 for details
- October 5** – Civil War Weapons Demonstrations at Fort Washington Park-Old Fort; 12, 1, 2 PM; demonstrations of procedures used during the muzzle-loading era of American Artillery; fee; for details call 301-763-4600
- October 11** – St. Mary's City and Skipjack Tour sponsored by the Prince George's County Historical Society; for details, please see the article in this issue
- October 11** – Tree Planting at National Colonial Farm Education Center; 8-11:30 AM, rain or shine; celebrate Gorgeous Prince George's Day by planting trees around the site; wear closed-toe shoes, tools and gloves will be provided; free
- October 11** – By the Light of the Moon Harvest Dance at Surratt House Museum; 7-9 PM; free and no registration required
- October 14** – Second Tuesday Lecture at Belair Mansion; 7:30 PM; topic to be announced, call 301-809-3089 for details; free
- October 15** – Fall History Lecture Series at Montpelier Mansion; 7:30 PM; Nathan Maddox, miller at Colvin Run Mill historic site in Great Falls, VA, will discuss the role mills played in the life of the early settlers in the area; free; for more details call 301-953-1376
- October 16** – Kids Kaboose at the Bowie Train Station; 10:30 AM – 12 noon; railroad fun and games; free, call 301-575-2488 for details
- October 18** – Mrs. Sowers' Tea Lessons for Young Ladies at Darnall's Chance; 1-2:30 PM; young ladies ages 8-12 learn 18th century tea lessons and dance instruction and partake in their own tea party; \$20/child, reservations required by calling 301-952-8010
- October 18** – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; 10 AM – 4 PM, rain or shine; costumed interpreters demonstrate preparation of foods, representative of “middling” tobacco growing families in the late 1700s; admission fee for non-members
- October 18** – Colonial Candle-Making at National Colonial Farm; 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM; learn about wicks, waxes, uses of candles in the 1700s, safety instruction and recipes; \$20 non-members, \$15 members, class size limited to 10, registration required by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32
- October 18** – Patuxent Wildlife Festival at Patuxent Research Refuge-National Wildlife Visitor Center; 10 AM-3 PM; Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week and Earth Science Week with live animals, kid's crafts and behind-the-scenes research tours; for details call 301-497-5510
- October 19-30** – Needleart 2008 at Montpelier Mansion; Oct. 19 reception at 2 PM, exhibit Oct. 20-30 open 11 AM - 4 PM; free; for details call 301-953-1376
- October 21** – Nature Nuts at National Colonial Farm Education Center; 11 AM – 12 noon, rain or shine; explores the Farm's Museum Garden, hear a story, create a craft; limited to 15 children ages 3-5, \$6 non-members, \$5 members, registration required by calling 301-283-2113, ext. 32
- October 24-25** – Mayhem in Marlborough Ghost Walk at Darnall's Chance; 7-9 PM; meet colonial spirits and mischief-makers who once lived and worked in the county seat; 1 hour guided tours run continuously every 20 minutes; not for children under 6, \$6/adult, \$4/child (ages 6-15)
- October 24** – Gothick Evening at Riversdale House Museum; 7:30 PM; a candlelight performance of an eerie 19th century tale, along with funereal refreshments, costumes optional; \$20 advanced purchase required by calling 301-864-0420
- October 25** – An Evening at Fort Washington; 6:30-8 PM, tours every 30 minutes; join the Fort Washington Guard for a lantern light evening tour of Fort Washington; free; call 301-763-4600 for details

For details and additional events, visit:
www.accokeek.org, www.cityofbowie.org/museums,
www.greenbeltmuseum.org, www.laurelhistory.org,
<http://patuxent.fws.gov>, and www.pg parks.com

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, 1993. 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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Prince George's County Historical Society

Membership Application

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

Membership Category (Please check one)

Sponsor: ☐ Platinum Level \$1000 ☐ Gold Level \$500 ☐ Silver Level \$250 ☐ Bronze Level \$100

☐ Member/Family \$25 ☐ Sustaining Member \$50 ☐ Institutional Member \$50 ☐ Life Member \$500

☐ Additional Contribution

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

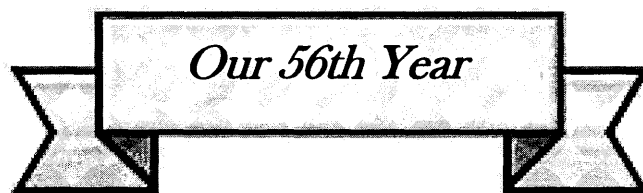
☐ For membership in the Maryland Historical Society, include an additional \$35 for individual or \$45 for family

Please make checks payable to PGCHS and mail your check and this form to:

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News & Notes

A Publication of the Prince George's County Historical Society

XXXVII Number 6

November—December, 2008



Marietta Mansion

Marietta House Museum

Headquarters of the
Prince George's County Historical Society
5626 Bell Station Road
Glenn Dale, MD 20769-9120
(off MD 193, near MD 450)
Facility Manager: Susan Reidy
301-464-5291
*A facility of the Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission*

Marietta House Tours

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
12 noon to 4 p.m.
Weekday & Evening tours
by appointment only

Marietta Gift Shop

Open during tour hours and special events

Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History

Greenbelt Library Building
11 Crescent Road, Greenbelt
301-220-0330
Hours: Saturdays Noon to 4 pm
and by appointment

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 6, 2008

TIME: 2:00 to 5:00 PM

THEME: An Old Fashioned Christmas

MENU: Bring a favorite dish
(casserole, salad or special
vegetable) or a
favorite dessert (cookies,
cake, brownies, etc.).
Drinks will be provided.



We invite you to bring a guest or two
and join us in the celebration.
What a great way to introduce others
to our membership!

The Prince George's County Historical Society's Annual Meeting, Program & Dinner

Monday, November 10, 2008
6:00 PM

TALLY HO!

The Board of the Prince George's County Historical Society will hold its Annual Meeting at The Marlborough Hunt Club, a fascinating building whose four principal construction phases have spanned more than a century. The Club's historic site, along the western shore of the Patuxent River, south of Hills Bridge, looks out over the salt marshes where ospreys nest and eagles soar and where, long ago, railbirds were in such abundance they are said to have darkened the sky in flight. Even earlier, in 1814, this site on the Patuxent witnessed Admiral Joshua Barney's flotilla, torched by Barney himself lest the American ships fall into the hands of the invading British.

The building where we will meet was originally a small mid-19th century farmhouse situated at a steamboat landing on the River. This property, part of the Hill family's *Green Landing* farm, was inherited by Helen Hill Beale from her father, William Beanes Hill, proprietor of the larger adjoining *Compton Basset* estate. Even before the death of William Beanes Hill in 1890, this building had been enlarged and was being used by the Patuxent Rod and Gun Club, an affiliate of The Metropolitan Club in the District of Columbia. In 1908, Helen Hill Beale and her husband, Buchanan Beale, completed the sale of the house and approximately 20 acres to the Patuxent Rod and Gun Club. Soon after this, probably in the 1920s, the scenic wallpaper (*Chasse à Courre*, printed in Paris in 1830) was installed in the newly added dining room. From the 1880s until its sale in 1950, the Gun Club provided rooms where members



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info@pghistory.org

Website: www.pghistory.org

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Vice President:	Lynn Roberts
Secretary:	Dusty Rhoads
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Historian:	Susan G. Pearl
Membership:	Donna Schneider
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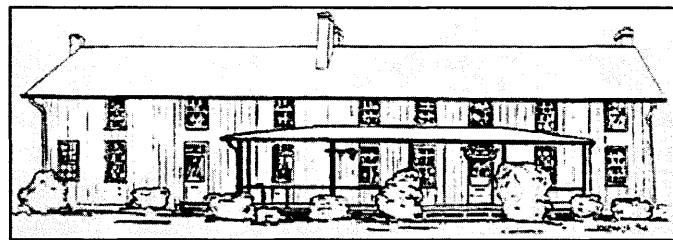
Annual Dinner, cont..

could spend the night after a day of shooting railbirds and other waterfowl along the Patuxent, plentiful in those early years. The game was prepared by a woman named Florence, who served as cook to the club during the 19-teens and 1920s; drinks were plentiful, and the proverbial good time was had by all. A red leather-bound log records over many decades the names of distinguished guests who came to shoot. Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1917) and Theodore Roosevelt (1919) are among the guests recorded.

Before the middle of the twentieth century, two members of The Patuxent Rod and Gun Club and the Metropolitan Club, Fleming Newbold and Eugene Bowie Roberts, brought the property to the attention of members of The Marlborough Hunt Club, which had begun in 1936, but had no permanent home. Fleming orchestrated the sale, with a very young Ralph Powers giving legal advice to the Hunt Club Board and their Masters, William H. Brooke and John D. Bowling. Ownership by The Marlborough Hunt Club was finalized in 1950.

In 1978 a large ballroom was added on the West façade and smaller interior rooms were opened up by removing interior walls. In quite recent years the building has been restored and stabilized, with chimneys tuck-pointed, a new roof put on, gutters replaced, a new kitchen installed, an accessible bathroom added and the interiors refurbished. A cottage for the huntsman, a barn, kennels for the hounds, paddocks, a dock on the river and a new pavilion complete the landscape. To this day, both hunting members and social members enjoy a series of events throughout the year, including the Opening Hunt and the Closing Hunt, and culminating in the annual Hunt Ball.

Following our Annual Meeting and the election of Historical Society officers



Marlborough Hunt Club

for the coming year, members will be entertained by the program prepared for them by Katherine Kelly Cawood, one of Marlborough's Masters of the Hunt, who has participated in the Club's activities since her youth. She is one of the unofficial historians of The Marlborough Hunt Club, is well versed in the European foundations of hunting with hounds, and its modern American counterpart in Maryland, fox chasing. Katherine grew up down the road at "Ashland", home of the Brooke family. During the evening she will introduce members to Jim Faber, professional huntsman of the club and his wife Christy, and they will introduce members to the prize-winning Marlborough Penn Marydel hounds. Jim may even display his expertise on the hunting horn. We are keeping our fingers crossed that the other joint masters, Patty Sasscer and Christy Clagett, will be able to join us for the evening to explain the serious agricultural origins of what is now the American version of the pastime. Also on hand will be Club President, Dorothy Dixon Chaney.



Photo By: Isabel Kurek, Marlborough Hunt Club

Historical Society Board member, Andy Wallace and his wife Sondra, both

Annual Dinner, cont.

knowledgeable students of folklore and folkways, will perform several English fox hunting songs for your entertainment and amusement. (It is true serendipity to discover such ideal and useful talents among our own Board members!).

Completing our focus on the hunt and its history, the finale of our evening will be a typical Southern Maryland "Hunt Breakfast" catered by Paula Herring Sothoron who is both a hunting member of Marlborough as well as one of its favorite caterers. Paula's famous ham biscuits will feature country ham cured in Upper Marlboro in a tradition handed down for generations—a tradition still very much alive among several dozen descendants of early families and their friends.

The cost of the 2008 Annual Meeting at The Marlborough Hunt Club will be \$40.00. For further information, call Lynn Roberts at 301-627-8622. **Please join us for a fascinating evening at this historic location!**

~Lynn Springer Roberts

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Musings from the President

On this past Saturday, October 11th, a group of members of the Prince George's County Historical Society spent a glorious fall day in St. Mary's County, reconnecting with Maryland's earliest history. Our morning was devoted to two hours on a modern (30 year old) skipjack, the sailing vessel of master oyster dredger, Jackie Russell—a jovial man familiar with Southern Maryland waterways and well versed in the lore of watermen and the history --of both land and waterways at the southern boundary of the state. Jackie's great jokes and humor belie the fact that he has a far more serious side as President of the St. Mary's County Commissioners, and serves as a member of the Maryland Critical Area Commission representing St. Mary's County. Jackie pointed out historic features of the St. Mary's River, and our group sailed into the estuary, seeing sites and hearing of their role in history. From the experience of being on the water, we climbed up the gangplank of The Maryland Dove, the replica of the small supply ship that accompanied the passengers on The Ark as the two entered Maryland waters the first time in 1634. After climbing down into the hold and realizing how small this vessel was, all of us were amazed at the courage exhibited by Maryland's earliest immigrants. The thought of 66 days on the open Atlantic seemed incomprehensible in such a vulnerable craft.

Many of our members had never seen the reconstructed sites at Old St. Mary's City that the State of Maryland has been undertaking since the 1930s. In recent decades, archaeology has been the key to interpreting history and recreating structures, and the artifacts found—and the manner in which they have been found-- have informed what modern interpreters have erected on the site. The most recent reconstruction-based-on-archaeological-remains is the great Jesuit-inspired church, recently completed on the site of nearly 600 burials. But today's huge

cost of creating replicas has forced the state to seek alternative ways to delineate excavated and studied sites. Simple outlines in wooden elements—like an outline of a house drawn by a child—stand sentinel over all the completed excavations, covering the precise square footage of their precursors. As we walked the pathways from the Ordinary to the Printers Shop, the sight of these solitary structures was haunting. With visits like this, of course, there is never enough time!

This wonderful tour having so much to do with water and sailing and vessels, made me realize how, in the last years, we have had some exceptional events planned for our members. It is interesting how Maryland waters have played a featured role in our most popular Historical Society trips of the last year. I was reminded of last summer's visit to the unique Smith Island - our boat trip of a year ago. That visit still stands out in the minds of those who traveled there as a wonderful learning experience. Yet in contrast was last week's visit and tour of the grounds of Glenn Dale Hospital—so different in nature, and yet perhaps not so very different. It was a visit to an important assemblage of our county's important 20th century architecture built for a single, humane purpose—one that would change over time. While we learned about the history of the site from the '30s through the early '80s, we also learned that it was perceived very differently by people whose lives were intertwined with it.

As with nearly all our events, we would welcome greater participation from our members who did not join us. We could have accommodated more. Please read the listings of upcoming events and think about joining us. We'd love to meet you and share these wonderful experiences.

John Petro,
President

THANK YOU!!

We would like to thank our members and sponsors for supporting the Society.
We greatly appreciate your contributions and look forward to your continued participation with the Society in the future.

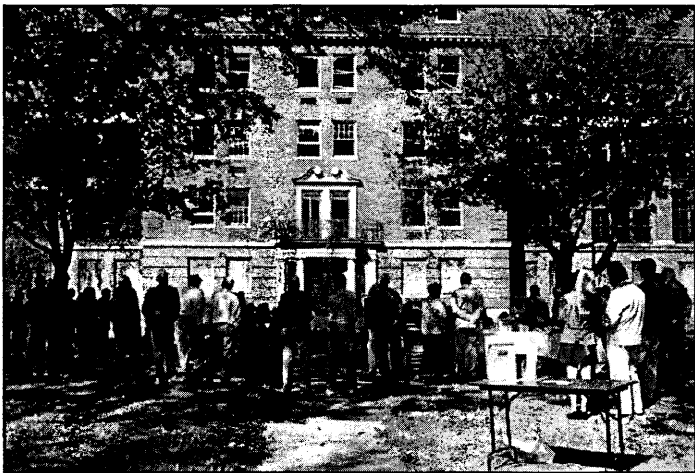
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EYEWITNESSES TO PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORY: TESTIMONIALS FOR THE GLENN DALE HOSPITAL

On a breathtakingly beautiful fall day, over 115 people assembled on October 4th, 2008, in front of the Adult Hospital Building of the Glenn Dale Sanatorium, built in 1937 for the treatment of District of Columbia residents afflicted with tuberculosis. The large assembly consisted of Prince George's County Historical Society members as well as individuals who had either served as staff or had been patients at the complex of buildings. Friends and families of all the above joined in. Chief among those present was the catalyst for the event, the journalist, Leah Latimer. The event could not have taken place at all were it not for the kind permission to enter the carefully secured property offered by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) which has owned the derelict site since 1995 and which, for the public good, due to the present condition of all the buildings, protects the site from trespassers and vandalism.



Glenn Dale Hospital

This opportunity to visit the Glenn Dale Hospital grew out of Ms. Latimer's research and the resulting award-winning feature article, *Quarantined*, published in the *Washington Post Magazine* in December 2006. The subject of the article was Ms. Latimer's mother's experience of several

months as a patient at the hospital in 1954. Leah has continued her research on the history of the hospital, seeking first-hand accounts from people who worked or were patients at the hospital, or who lived on the grounds during the early days of the hospital's treatment of tuberculosis patients from the District of Columbia.

Susan Pearl, Historian for the Board of the Historical Society, began the program with a capsule history of the hospital that initially began with the opening of the Children's Hospital in 1934. Before the advent of antibiotic treatment of tuberculosis, the medical field relied on sunshine, fresh air, rest, and healthy food to attempt to return patients—many of them from poor families—to good health. The goal of building “out in the country” resulted in a large and self-contained complex of hospital buildings for both children and adults, as well as residences for doctors, nurses, engineers, cooks and other staff required to run the institution 24 hours a day. Lung surgery was regularly performed on those requiring the most extreme treatment. By the early 1960s when TB was gradually being eliminated through the use of antibiotics, the hospital complex began to take in patients with other chronic illnesses. By 1982, the Glenn Dale Hospital could not comply with stricter laws for accessibility in public institutions, and had to be closed. In 1995, the beautiful 216-acre campus, with its 23 buildings beginning to deteriorate, was acquired by the M-NCPPC.

The group that gathered on October 4th observed the apparent good structural condition of the handsome Colonial Revival style buildings, despite the obvious evidence of deterioration. A short shuttle-bus tour enabled all to see the

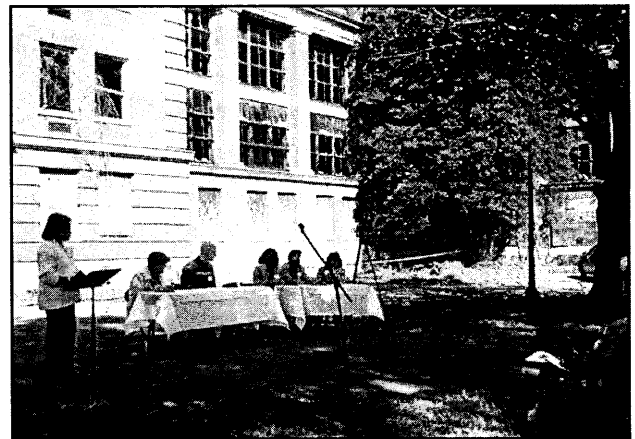
Glenn Dale, cont..

Children's Hospital, as well as the doctors' and nurses' residences, now boarded up along the ground floor levels.

Leah Latimer searched out, during her years of research into her mother's Glenn Dale experience, numerous individuals who had served as doctors, nurses, attendants, cooks, and plant engineers, or who grew up with their families living on the grounds. She learned from them that Glenn Dale Hospital was more than a treatment center—it was, in fact, a close community. The testimony of several of the medical staff indicated that there was a joyful, caring relationship among staff and patients. Staff members were obviously very serious about their work, and had great respect and affection for one another and for their patients. Leah assembled a number of those who worked and lived at Glenn Dale into a panel; at the October gathering, they spoke of their experiences, and responded to questions from the audience about how the place functioned, its typical daily routine, the role various people played, and how patients reacted to "life in the country."

The morning's program and tour of the grounds was a great success—a beginning for many who had never seen the property or understood its original and changing role in our county. Leah plans to expand on her story of Glenn Dale Hospital, and is writing a family memoir/social history that will use the site as its setting. Toward that effort, she will welcome new information and new contacts with individuals associated in any capacity with the hospital complex. Many gathered on October 4th expressed the hope that they might convene again; many of them will contact and bring other individuals who will want to meet and tell their own stories. Susan Pearl assured Leah that the Prince George's County Historical Society would be glad once again to facilitate such a meeting. So many of the visitors who attended and shared testimonials of life at Glenn Dale were genuinely interested in the history and potential future of this remarkable

and historic hospital complex. They expressed their deep appreciation for the event and many said they finally felt a sense of closure about that part of their past.



Glenn Dale Panel

Members of the audience and panel introduced themselves to each other, explained what their associations had been, chatted about the distinguished architectural features of the buildings, and enjoyed punch and cookies. All of us were grateful to M-NCPPC for providing the shuttle bus for visits across the campus and for cleaning up the site in preparation for our visit. All agreed, after hearing the many stories, and learning what took place there, that Glenn Dale Hospital had a new face for most of us and would no longer represent the cold, forbidding site of myth and mystery of recent decades.

Our event at Glenn Dale was very timely. Because the Glenn Dale Sector Plan is now in progress, the local community was deeply interested in learning and understanding the role of this historic property. The Board of the Historical Society was grateful that it could rally its forces to provide leadership in support of projects of historical interest, that it could call attention to important preservation-related issues, and aid in focusing on future planning through a better understanding of this important historic site.

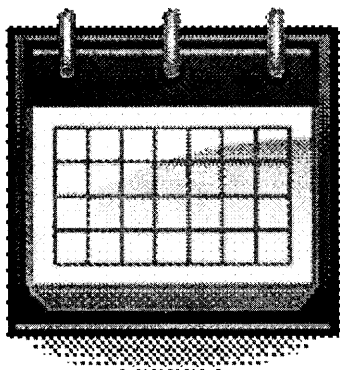
Susan Pearl and Lynn Roberts

Calendar of Events – November & December 2008

- November 1-30** – Snoopy as the World War I Flying Ace at College Park Aviation Museum; the exhibit showcases 40 of Snoopy's most exciting adventures in his transformed doghouse – a Sopwith Camel airplane – as he flies through the skies of Europe and battles his archenemy the Red Baron; free with museum admission
- November 1-30** – 225th Anniversary Photo Exhibition at Montpelier Mansion; enjoy the many facets of the Montpelier grounds in this celebratory exhibit
- November 1-30** – "A Polite Recreation: Landscape Drawings by the Ogle Family" continuing exhibit at Belair Mansion, Tuesday-Sunday, 12-4 PM
- November 1** – Fall Campfire at Marietta House Museum, 7:30-9 PM; enjoy the warmth of the fire as we roast marshmallows and tell stories; light refreshments; \$1/person, no reservations necessary
- November 3** – "An Hour of Respite...or a Day of Rest" lecture and lunch symposium at Belair Mansion, 9 AM – 3 PM; a look at early 19th century leisure; \$40/person, advanced registration required by calling 301-809-3089
- November 4** – Hands on History: Political Animals at Riversdale House Museum, 10 AM; in honor of election day, children learn about the history and stories behind political party symbols through crafts, games and activities; \$15/ county resident and \$18/non-resident, advanced registration required by calling 301-864-0420
- November 8** – Victorian Scrapbooking at Marietta House Museum, 1-4 PM; learn about the history of scrapbooking and how to create your own traditional scrapbook highlighting the holiday season (you can include your own photographs); ages 15 and up, \$7/person, reservations required by calling 301-464-5291
- November 8** – Book Signing at Surratt House Museum, 12-4 PM; Andrew Jampoler will discuss and sign "The Last Lincoln Conspirator: John Surratt's Flight from the Gallows" about Mrs. Surratt's son who conspired with John Wilkes Booth and then fled to Canada, the Vatican and on to Egypt before being captured; free
- November 9** – Eat Here: A Taste of Laurel at the Laurel Museum, 1:30-3:30 PM; enjoy the museum's exhibits, taste the food of Laurel and see advertisements done by Laurel children; free
- November 10** – **Prince George's County Historical Society Annual Membership Meeting at Marlborough Hunt Club, 6 PM; \$40/person, for more information contact Lynn Roberts at 301-627-8622**
- November 11** – Second Tuesday Lecture: "Rosenwald Schools" by historian Susan Pearl, at Belair Mansion, 7:30 p.m.; free; for information call 301-809-3089
- November 15** – "Who Killed the Darling Duke of Darjeeling?" Mystery Tea at Belair Mansion, 4 PM; \$25/person, advanced registrations required by calling 301-809-3089
- November 15** – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; 10 AM – 4 PM, rain or shine; costumed interpreters demonstrate preparation of foods, representative of "middling" tobacco-growing families in the late 1700s; admission fee for non-members; for details call 301-283-2113
- November 15** – Regency Ladies' Day in the Country at Riversdale House Museum, 10 AM; fans of the early 19th century will choose from a variety of pastimes and amusements and enjoy lunch and afternoon tea, period costume is optional; \$50/county resident and \$60/non-resident; advanced registration required by calling 301-864-0420
- November 15 & 16** – Fall Open House at Surratt House Museum, 12-4 PM; free tours and special gift shop sale
- November 19** – Graveyards in Maryland Lecture at Montpelier Arts Center, 7:30 PM; James Gibbs discusses the timeworn tombstones found throughout Maryland and how grave markers can provide a valuable lesson in community and family history; all ages, free, no reservations required
- November 28-30** – 9th Annual Gingerbread House Contest and Show at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 12-5 PM; view and vote for your favorite adult and child entry; \$1/person
- November 30** – Trainspotting at Bowie Railroad Museum, 10 AM – 4 PM; watch lots of unusual cars roll by on Amtrak's busiest day of the year; free
- December 4-7 and 11-14** – 9th Annual Gingerbread House Contest and Show at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 12-5 PM; view and vote for your favorite adult and child entry; \$1/person

Calendar, cont..

- December 6** – Santa Fly-in at College Park Aviation Museum, 12-4 PM; watch Santa fly in to College Park Airport and enjoy holiday arts and crafts; free with regular museum admission
- December 6** – Prince George's County Historical Society Holiday Party at Marietta House Museum, 1-4 PM; bring your favorite holiday dish to share
- December 6** – Hands-on History Day for Kids at Montpelier Mansion, 10 AM – 12 noon; \$7/child, call 301-377-7817 for details and reservations
- December 6** – Sint Niklaas Day: A Winter Afternoon for Children at Riversdale House Museum, 2:30 PM; children will receive a gift bag from Sint Niklaas, make a craft and enjoy refreshments with their parents; \$6/child, \$2/adult, advanced registration required by calling 301-864-0420
- December 6-7 and 13-14** – Once Upon a Time at Marietta House Museum, 5-8 PM; rooms are transformed into scenes from some of your favorite fairytales, nursery rhymes and children's stories; \$5/person
- December 7** – Candlelight Tours at Belair Mansion and Stable, 4-7 PM; visit historic holidays from the past; donation requested
- December 7** – Guided Tours at Fort Washington, 11 AM – 2 PM; the Fort Washington Guard, dressed in 1861 Civil War uniforms or Mexican War uniforms provided guided tours of the historic fort; free, for more information call 301-763-4600
- December 11-13** – Holiday Candlelight Tours at Montpelier Mansion, 6-9 PM; festive music by area performers, lovely candlelight and fragrant holiday greens warm up your winter evening; light refreshments, \$3/adult, \$1/child
- December 12** – Snowflake Tea at Belair Mansion, 4 PM; fee, reservations required by calling 301-809-3089
- December 12-14** – Laurel Museum Open House; last chance to see current exhibit "Buy it Here: Laurel Advertises"
- December 13** – Tastes of the Past from Belair Mansion Kitchen, 12-4 PM; sample bits of holiday culinary history
- December 13-20** – Holiday Trains and Planes at College Park Aviation Museum; the National Capital Trackers bring a fascinating and constantly moving display of model railroads for the holiday season; free with museum admission
- December 13** – Winter's Eve at National Colonial Farm, 5-8 PM; tour the seasonally decorated farm, light refreshments, singing carols and shop for unique gifts; \$2 fee or a canned food donation to support a Maryland food bank
- December 14** – Kids Kandlelight at Belair Mansion, 3-6 PM; holiday history for kids and a craft; free but donation requested
- December 20** – Hansel & Gretel Tea Party at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 2-3:30 PM; listen to the story of Hansel and Gretel and enjoy tea and dessert; ages 5 and up, children must be accompanied by a paying adult, \$12 per county resident, \$15 for non-county resident, reservations required by calling 301-952-8010
- December 20** – Colonial Foodways at National Colonial Farm; 10 AM – 4 PM, rain or shine; costumed interpreters demonstrate preparation of foods, representative of "middling" tobacco-growing families in the late 1700s; admission fee for non-members; for details call 301-283-2113
- December 27** – Winter Wonderland Tea at Belair Mansion; a holiday high tea to celebrate the season; fee and reservations required by calling 301-809-3089
- December 27** – The Calverts by Candlelight at Riversdale House Museum, 6 PM; pay an evening call on the Calverts and enjoy refreshments, live music and children's activities; \$5/adult, children 12 & under are free



For details and additional events, visit:
www.accokeek.org, www.cityofbowie.org/museums,
www.greenbeltmuseum.org, www.laurelhistory.org,
<http://patuxent.fws.gov>, and www.pgparcs.com

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, 1993. 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: \$20.00.
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