



"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County
Historical Society



January 1992

Founded 1952 - Our 40th Year

Vol. XX, No. 1

Happy New Year!

1992 Board Elected

The November 9, 1991 meeting of the Prince George's County Historical Society was called to order by **Dusty Rhoads**, in the absence of President **Bud Dutton** and Vice President **Joyce McDonald**. The first order of business was the election of 1992 officers. The slate was read as presented at the October meeting and was approved as presented. The elected Board is as follows:

President:	W. C. "Bud" Dutton, Jr.	
Vice-President:	Joyce McDonald	
Recording Secretary:	Sarah Bourne	
Treasurer:	John Bourne	
Editor of News & Notes:	Br. David Richardson	
Librarian/Historian:	Fred DeMarr	
Directors:	Cheryl Adams	Ann Ferguson
	Edith Bagot	John Mitchell
	Jane Eagan	Eugene Roberts

Congratulations!

continued on page 4 ...

President:
Bud Dutton

Board Members;
Cheryl Adams
Edith Bagot
John B. Bourne
Sarah Bourne
Susanna Cristofane
Frederick DeMarr
W. C. "Bud" Dutton, Jr.
Jane Eagan
Ann Ferguson
John A. Giannetti
Paul T. Lanham
Joyce McDonald
John Mitchell
Warren W. Rhoads
David Richardson
Eugene B. Roberts

Volunteers Work Over 500 Hours!

Marietta has had a busy schedule this fall thanks to our volunteers. Without them we would not be able to have the house open for special exhibits and programs.

In addition to regular Sunday afternoon tours we sponsored a Quilt Exhibit featuring antique and contemporary quilts, and lectures by Black History Specialist for MNCPPC History Division, **Gail Thomas**, and **Alice Skarda** for three weekends

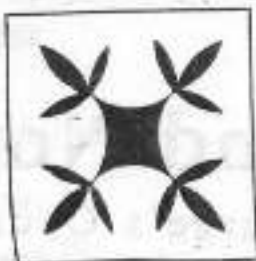
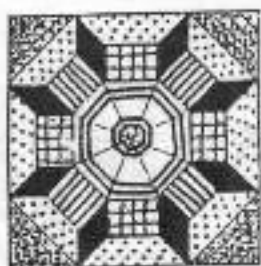
in October. Historical Society Vice President, **Joyce McDonald** and Board Members, **Edith Bagot** and **Dusty Rhoads**

continued on page 2 ...

Newsletter Editor
David Richardson
P.O. Box 31698
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

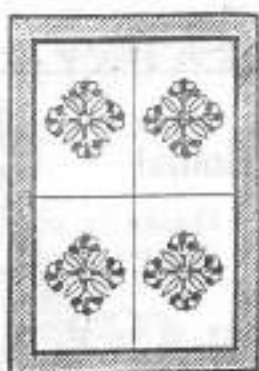
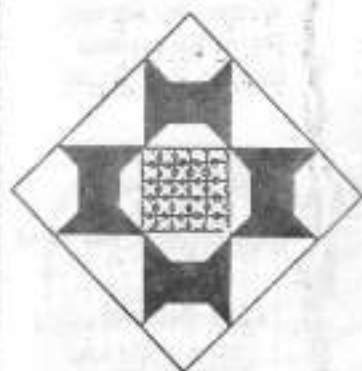
Next Newsletter
DEADLINE
[March issue]
January 25, 1992

"Preserving Our County's
Yesterdays Today
For A Better
Tomorrow"



Volunteers, continued from page 1 ...

spearheaded the project. A special thanks also goes to Alice Skarda for her advice and expertise. Quilts were loaned to Marietta for the exhibit by Betty Atwood, Edith Bagot, Sarah Bourne, Myrna Combs, Gladys Dill, Lena Dixon, Margaret Kelly, Joyce McDonald, Lois Nickel, Isabelle Thompson, Freda Sheridan, Alice Skarda, Margaret Todd, and Susan Wolfe. The show required six volunteers each day it was open. A gracious thank you to each of the following: Betty Atwood, Edith Bagot, Myrna Combs, Eugenia Dixon, Lena Dixon, Pearl Ellerín, Elaine Entwistle, Willard Entwistle, Donna Herritt, Joyce McDonald, Jackie Mosely, Sarah Mosely, Ida Nathanson, Lois Nickel, Maxi Phillips, Jennie Reinhardt, Dusty Rhoads, Julie Rhoads, Renate Ryan, Greg Sayles, Alice Skarda, Louise Tatspaugh, Isabelle Thompson, Margaret Todd, Ruth Trachy, Kim Walker, Jim Wolfe, and Meredith Wolfe.



No sooner was the quilt exhibit down than the Doll Exhibit went up. This exhibit displayed over 200 antique and contemporary collectible dolls, and doll accessories.

Emily Manning, owner of Aunt Emily's Doll Hospital in Riverdale gave a lecture on doll collecting, and Robert Weikel, owner of Weikel's Antiques, Redlion, PA, allowed the Society to bring a number of dolls (and quilts during the quilt show) to sell in the Gift Shop with a commission going to the Historical Society. Board Member Edith Bagot and Vice President Joyce McDonald were in charge of this exhibit. Dolls were loaned to Marietta by Edith Bagot, Dennis and Frances Gulick, Jim and Betty Maher, Emily Manning, Joyce McDonald, Marie Meredith, Miriam Smith, Valerie Smith, Renee Walters, Meredith Wolfe, and Susan Wolfe. A big thank you goes to the many people who helped monitor rooms and work in the gift shop during this exhibit. They were: Betty Atwood, Edith Bagot, Bonnie Baird, Carol Beenick, Myrna Combs, Melissa Leatherman, Joyce McDonald, Sarah Mosely, Lois Nickel, Darlene Thompson, Lisa Thorpe, Kim Walker, Renee Walters, and Meredith Wolfe.



continued on page 3 ...

Volunteers, continued from page 2 ...

The Historical Society and the History Division of Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) sponsored three Prince George's County Teachers' Teas, October 24, November 21 and December 12, 1991. Board member Jane Eagen coordinated this program with Sandra Haney from the History Division. Over 60 teachers attended the teas that introduced them to the resources available to them and their students through the Historical Society and the History Division. President Bud Dutton welcomed the guests as did History Division Manager, John Walton. Each guest received a packet of information on MNCPPC historical sites and a gift of the Calvert of Maryland book reprinted by the Historical Society. Thanks to Board members Cheryl Adams, Sarah Bourne, Fred DeMarr, Joyce McDonald, and Dusty Rhoads, and member Florence Reidisell for helping to make this such a successful event.

Capping off the season was our Holiday Candlelight Tours the first weekends in December. The house was decorated by Edith Bagot, Fred DeMarr, Joyce McDonald, and Dusty and Julie Rhoads. Maxi Phillips donated a generous supply of berry laden Holly and Magnolia branches. This event required seven volunteers per evening and special thanks goes to this group who fit an evening (or two, or three) of volunteering into their busy holiday schedules, and included: Betty Atwood, Edith Bagot, Guy Barron, Carol Beenick, Jack Bourne, Fred DeMarr, Jane Eagen, Elaine and Willard Entwistle, Donna Herritt, Ken Kalisz, Melissa Leatherman, Joyce McDonald, Sarah Mosely, Maxi Phillips, Jennie Reinhardt, Dusty and Julie Rhoads, Alice Skarda, Darlene Thompson, and Jim Wolfe.



The Editor apologizes to PGCHS members for not getting the January issue into your hands sooner. But due to a hectic December '91 schedule, it was not possible. However, on a more positive note, you should be receiving the February issue in the not too distant future. It is my sincere hope that each month's NEWS & NOTES can be in the mail well in advance of programs and events. Please keep your fingers crossed!



The Marietta Gift Shop was open on Saturdays in October, November and the first two weeks of December. Vice Pres. Joyce McDonald who manages the shop gives a hearty thank you to those Saturday volunteers: Betty Atwood, Carol Beenick, Sarah Bourne, Maxi Phillips, Jennie Reinhardt, Renate Ryan, and Darlene Thompson.

It is most obvious from the above that the Marietta House Committee is working hard to present a variety of educational and entertaining programs to the public at the mansion, but it requires a strong commitment on the part of our volunteers to carry out these activities. We express a big THANK YOU to them for contributing over 500 hours of time to help make this Fall's events happen.

The House Committee is always happy to receive new volunteers. If you may be interested in joining the committee or participating in one of its programs, please let us know. Call Susan Wolfe at 301/464-5291.

"Flashbacks" in POST

There's a nice "educational" feature appearing each week in the Sunday comic strip section of The Washington Post. Entitled, **FLASHBACKS**, the artist is Patrick M. Reynolds. The weekly series deals with Washington, D.C. history and has proven to be most interesting. What a great place to put this series: in the "funnies", often the first section many of us head for on a Sunday morning.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

You may be interested in knowing about our group's visit to Marietta mansion on November 14, 1991. Our group was from Collington Life Care Center (Mitchellville, MD) and sponsored by Mrs. Timer from the Prince George County Community College.

The friendly greeting by Mr. Rhoads, combined with coffee and cake made us [feel] really welcome.

His explanations when showing each room and the nearby office building of Gabriel Duvall were very interesting. Also he was open to answering questions.

I was intrigued by the variety, quality and really inviting prices of the items in the Gift Shop. I am delighted with the antique silver coffee spoons I purchased there.

The landscape around is already worth the trip.

I am grateful for what the Prince George's County Historical Society does for us, so that we can learn about the history and tradition of the county.

Sincerely yours,
Irene Heppner
Mitchellville



NEWS & NOTES welcomes any reader suggestions, comments or questions. Letters should be addressed to David Richardson, P.O. Box 31698, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

State Archives To Close Mondays

Due to cutbacks in the State budget, the Public Searchroom of the Maryland State Archives will be closed on Mondays effective immediately. The Searchroom will remain open Tuesday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On Saturdays only, the Searchroom closes for lunch, 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Reductions in Archives' staff have left too few employees to ensure an adequate level of public service and provide adequate security.

The Archives will continue to provide reference assistance on Mondays to state and local government and the general public through telephone and mail inquiries. The Archives' lobby shop will also be open on Mondays.

The Maryland State Archives, the historical agency for Maryland, has professional archivists on duty to assist patrons. Records are also available through photocopies and interlibrary loans of microfilm.

For further information, please call Gregory Stiverson at 301/974-3914.

Nov. PGCHS Meeting, continued from page 1

The following By-Laws amendments were approved:

The elimination of the duty of program chairman from the office of Vice-President. The elimination of the position of Corresponding Secretary and the addition of the Editor of the **News & Notes Newsletter** as a voting member of the Board.

The business meeting was followed by a very interesting presentation by **Patricia Carter Sluby** on unusual patents held by women and minority inventors. **Mrs. Sluby** is a Primary Patent Examiner with the U.S. Department of Commerce and author of **Creativity and Inventions - The Genius of Afro-American Women in the United States Patent System.**

The meeting concluded with refreshments prepared by **Gloria Brown.**

[Editor's note: interested persons may find **Mrs. Sluby's** book at many of the Prince George's County Public Libraries.]

Crypt believed to hold Calvert family remains



ST. MARY'S CITY

On December 4, 1991, Archaeologists uncovered what they believe is the crypt of members of Maryland's founding family, the Calverts, buried beneath the ruins of a 323-year-old chapel.

With a gold-colored trowel, Gov. William Donald Schaefer cleared the earth from the largest of the lead coffins, believed to be that of Philip Calvert. Philip, who died in 1682, was Maryland's first chancellor and a half-brother of Cecil Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore.

"He is the one man who died in Maryland, of sufficient wealth and stature and a Catholic, to be buried in the church, and in a lead coffin," said Henry Miller, chief archaeologist on the dig.

Beside it lay a smaller coffin, about 18 inches wide. That coffin might contain the remains of Cecil Calvert, son of Charles Calvert and grandson of Cecil, Lord Baltimore.

Cecil Calvert, who died in 1681 at the age of 14, was the grand nephew of Philip.

The third coffin, only 9 inches wide and much shorter than the others, might contain the remains of an infant child of Charles Calvert, Miller said.

The three coffins are the first 17th-century lead coffins to be found in the United States since 1799, when vandals broke into a vault at Trinity Church, across from the chapel, Miller said.

The discovery is being called one of the most significant archaeological finds ever in the state.

A team had dug for a week at the Great Brick Chapel before discovering the three gray lead coffins.

Archaeologists had hoped to find name plates on the three coffin lids, but none were found.

Miller said experts will be consulted before a decision is made on whether to open the coffins.

"If we did, we would want to do it in a sterile, oxygen-free environment," he said.

MARYLAND Magazine to Cease Publication

For the past several months, Maryland state government has faced its worst fiscal crisis in recent history. In many respects, the circumstances which currently face our state are totally unprecedented. As a result, state government has been forced to make drastic and unfortunate reductions in its expenditures.

Regrettably, one of the actions taken has resulted in the Department of Economic and Employment Development ceasing publication of **MARYLAND MAGAZINE**. The Winter 1991 issue was the last published by the state.

Efforts are currently underway, however, that may result in a private publishing company assuming control of **MARYLAND MAGAZINE**.

MARYLAND MAGAZINE is one of the best publications of its kind. It has enjoyed a very proud and rich history. With each issue, it has brought to its thousands of readers many wonderful images and stories of our great state.

The above are excerpts taken from a letter sent by Mark L. Wasserman, Secretary to Governor William Donald Schaefer. You may write Mr. Wasserman at 217 East Redwood St., Baltimore, MD 21202 to express any thoughts you might have.



Welcome New Members to PGCHS

Mary N. Babbitt
Barbara Ann Burton
Raymond L. Garthoff
J. G. Jacobsen *
Diane M. Lambert
James McCormick
Mr. and Mrs. George C. Nickel, Jr.
Rev. Aldo P. Petrini
Aimee J. Robertson



*Life Member



Publications List

Prince George's County Historical Society

Prince George's County, A Pictorial History, Alan Virta.

Hard cover, 308 pp. 1991 edition, revised and updated, contains original 1984 publication, plus two new chapters with full color photos. \$29.95 plus \$1.50 MD Tax & \$2.00 post./hand.

Calvert of Maryland, James Otis. Hard cover, 166 pp. PGCHS exclusive reprint of 1910 original, complete with lithographed illustrations. A delightful fact-based children's novel of the first settlement of the colony of Maryland. A great gift.

\$6.95 plus \$.55 post./hand.

Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1878. Hopkins/White. Soft cover, 50 pp. 1975 PGCHS publication of 1878 atlas, 2nd edition printed in 1990. Organized by election districts, shows property owners, roads, and major landmarks of Prince George's County in 1878.

\$5.00 plus \$.25 MD tax & \$.50 post./hand.

Indexes of Church Registers, Helen Brown. Soft cover, 2 vol. Vol. I, King George's Parish/Queen Anne's Parish, 353 pp; Vol. II, St. Paul's Parish/Prince George's Parish, 318 pp. Public records of the county in colonial period. Valuable for genealogists.

2 vol set for: \$20.00 plus \$1.00 MD tax & \$2.50 post./hand.

The Chesapeake Bay of Yore/Rowing and Sailing Craft, Fred Tilp. Hard cover, 148 pp. 1982. Outstanding illustrations and text on every known type of bay craft; ship building, craftsmen, shipyards, folklore. A good present for the sailor or historian. Limited supply.

\$25.00 plus \$1.25 MD tax & \$1.00 post./hand.



Prince George's County Historical Society . . .

The Society

Since 1932 the Prince George's County Historical Society has endeavored to fulfill the objectives of its founders. In addition to a monthly newsletter, *News and Notes*, the Society publishes documents of County history such as the 1878 Hopkins *Atlas* of Prince George's County and the 1861 Martinet map of the County. The library, organized in 1974 by Frederick S. DeMarr, has continued to expand its collections under his direction.

Each year individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to the preservation of the County's heritage are recognized by the Society with St. George's Day Awards, presented on the anniversary of the founding of the County. The Society also cooperates with the Prince George's County Hall of Fame to honor Prince Georgians of the past at an induction ceremony during St. George's Day festivities.

Marietta, Home of the Society

Having outgrown its headquarters at Riversdale, the historic Calvert mansion in Riverdale, in 1985 the Society entered into a long-term lease with The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission for the use of Marietta, the Federal period home of United States Supreme Court Justice Gabriel Duvall (1752-1844). As part of the lease agreement, the Society has undertaken the restoration and interpretive decoration of this historic site. Volunteer docents from the Society conduct public tours each Sunday from March through December, and special fundraising events are scheduled to support the restoration project.

Gabriel Duvall dedicated more than six decades of service to the state and nation, as Clerk of the Maryland House of Delegates, United States Congressman, Maryland Supreme Court Judge, Comptroller of the United States Treasury, and, for 24 years, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Duvall and Chief Justice John Marshall shaped United States history through their interpretation of Constitutional law.

Judge Duvall and his wife Jenny, a good friend of Dolly Madison, made their home at Marietta after 1814. The brick house, with typical Federal-era architectural details, is simple yet elegant. Some of the original furnishings, such as pieces from the Chinese export dinner service, a mahogany linen press, and a Pembroke tea table, have been returned to the house by descendants.

A lawyer by training, Gabriel Duvall conducted his practice from a small brick office adjacent to Marietta. The Society of Maren Duvall Descendants, named for the 17th-century French Huguenot immigrant ancestor of the clan, have restored the law office and furnished it to the period. It is open for tour by arrangement.

The Library

The Society's Frederick S. DeMarr Library specializes in books and materials relating to Maryland, with a particular emphasis on Prince George's County. Designed primarily for research, the library is arranged topically. Social and military history, decorative arts, and architecture are well represented. In addition the Library houses complete sets of the *Archives of Maryland* and the *Maryland Historical Magazine*.

Collections include . . .

Privately published local histories and genealogies

Obituary and biographical files

Archive of the principal Prince George's County newspapers, some available in no other collection

Photographs, memorabilia, and artifacts illustrative of the County's history



Volunteer Opportunities

All of the Society's programs are staffed by volunteers. Members may act as docents for Marietta House Tours, participate in the mansion's furnishing and redecorating project, assist with the special events and activities sponsored by the Society, and operate the Gift Shop. Library facilities are also maintained by volunteers under the direction of the Society Librarian. The Society welcomes those who wish to become involved as volunteers.

Prince George's County Historical Society

Annual Membership Application

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone—(Home): _____

(Business): _____

Please indicate whether this is a new membership or renewal:

☐ New ☐ Renewal

Check below the category you select:

- ☐ Full-time Student.....\$10.00
☐ Member.....\$20.00
☐ Life Member.....\$200.00
☐ Sustaining.....\$50.00

☐ Additional Contribution: _____

☐ I am also interested in helping the society as a volunteer.
Please contact me regarding volunteer opportunities.

☐ For membership with the Maryland Historical
Society, include an additional \$15.00 for individual
membership or \$25.00 for husband and wife.

Our operating support comes from your dues and
contributions. All contributions are tax deductible.
We appreciate your support.

Make your check payable to PGCHS.
Mail check and form to:

Prince George's County Historical Society

Post Office Box 14
Riverdale, Maryland 20737
301/464-0590



Prince George's County Historical Society . . .

dedicated to perpetuating an appreciation of the
history and traditions of Prince George's County
by . . .

- collecting and preserving memorabilia
relative to Prince George's County
and the state of Maryland
- facilitating research into
the county's history
- disseminating historical
data through Society
publications and
programs
- promoting the protection and
preservation of historic sites and structures
in Prince George's County



Advantages of Membership

- Subscription to "News and Notes", published
monthly by the Society
- Regular meetings with educational and
informative programs
- Day trips to historic sites in Prince George's
County and neighboring areas
- Invitations to receptions and other special
events
- Discounts on selected gift shop items
- Use of the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of
County History
- Opportunity to participate in the Society's
volunteer activities

DO YOUR FRIENDS A FAVOR

Help introduce them to

Prince George's County Historical Society

We'd like to increase our membership!

If you know of a family member, friend or
neighbor who might be interested in Prince
George's County History, please pass along
this flyer to them. Or, think about giving
them a gift membership for some special
day. We'd be happy to send them a com-
plimentary issue of **NEWS & NOTES** in order
to convince them. Just let us know.

Souvenir Book/Lanham Centennial 1872-1972, Paul Lanham, et al. Soft cover, 112 pp. 1972. Factual history of Lanham area, interesting illustrations of town of Lanham, names early residents, influence of railroad in town development.

\$4.00 plus \$.20 MD Tax &
\$.55 post./hand.

Berwyn Heights: History of a Small Maryland Town, Donald Skarda. Soft cover, 54 pp., 1976. Well written story of a turn-of-the-century suburban town. Gives background history of the area.

\$3.00 plus \$.15 MD Tax &
\$.35 post./hand.

Gabriel Duvall, A Short Biography, Shirley Baltz. Soft cover, 5 pp, 1985. Brief synopsis of the life of Supreme Court Justice Gabriel Duvall, builder of Marietta. Proceeds benefit Marietta restoration.

\$1.00 plus \$.05 MD tax &
\$.35 post./hand.

Fire Call: A History of the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department, Francis Geary. Soft cover, 148 pp, 1977. Profusely illustrated and detailed history of the department, also the Hyattsville area. Good photos, includes names of many persons with longtime area association.

\$5.00 plus \$.25 MD tax &
\$1.00 post./hand.

A History of Beltsville, Soft cover, 96 pp, 1976. Draws on the writings of late historians Ethel Woodward and Susie Beall.

\$4.00 plus \$.20 MD tax &
\$.55 post./hand.

ORDER INFORMATION

To order any of the publications listed, complete the form provided below and mail to Prince George's County Historical Society, P.O. Box 14, Riverdale, MD 20738. Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. Books mailed out of state are not subject to Maryland Sales Tax. Checks should be made payable to Prince George's County Historical Society. Money Orders are acceptable. Sorry, we can not accept credit card orders. Publications may also be purchased directly at the Society Headquarters, Marietta Mansion, 5626 Bell Station Rd., Glenn Dale, MD: Saturday's 12-4 p.m. in the Library or Gift Shop, and Sunday's, 12-4 p.m., Gift Shop only. **THANK YOU** for your patronage.

ORDER FORM

Billing Address:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Shipping Address (if other than Billing Address):

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. _____

PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING

PRICE	MD TAX	S&H	How Many	Title	Price	Total
29.95	\$1.50	\$2.00				
6.95	--	.55				
5.00	.25	.50				
20.00	1.00	2.50				
25.00	1.25	1.00				
4.00	.20	.55				
3.00	.15	.35				
1.00	.05	.35				
5.00	.25	1.00				
4.00	.20	.55				

Merchandise Total

Maryland Residents add Sales Tax

Shipping & Handling

Total

Prince George's County
Historical Society
P. O. Box 14
Riverdale, Maryland

Hours of Operation

Library: Saturdays 12-4 p.m.

Gift Shop: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
and during Special Events

Marietta Tours: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
Group tours by appointment.

For more information
call 301-464-0590

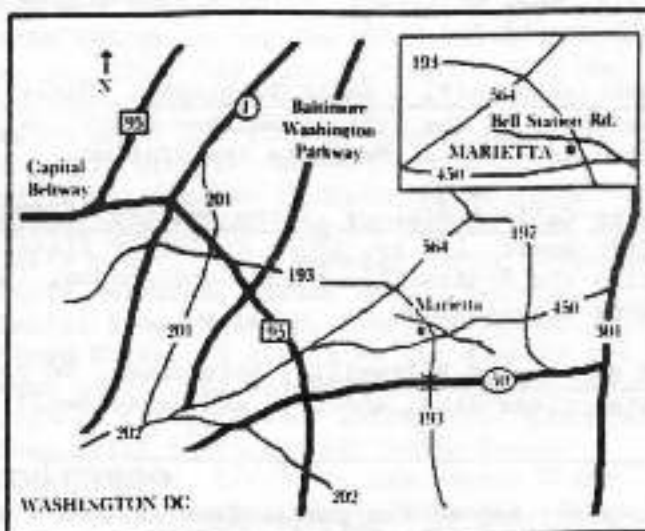


The Gift Shop

features a tasteful collection of handcrafted items for home and gift-giving, toys and games for children, small antiques, Historical Society publications, and souvenirs of historic Marietta.

Location

Marietta is located at 5626 Bell Station Road in Glenn Dale, Maryland, off Route 193 near Route 450.



A Facility of
The Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission

Prince George's County Historical Society

P.O. BOX 14
RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20737/0014

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED



"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County
Historical Society



February 1992

Founded 1952 - Our 40th Year

Vol. XX, No. 2

1992-93 Board

President:
Bud Dutton

Board Members;
Cheryl Adams
Edith Bagot
John B. Bourne
Sarah Bourne
Susanna Cristofane
Frederick DeMarr
W. C. "Bud" Dutton, Jr.
Jane Eagen
Ann Ferguson
John A. Giannetti
Paul T. Lanham
Joyce McDonald
John Mitchell
Warren W. Rhoads
David Richardson
Eugene B. Roberts

Newsletter Editor
David Richardson
P.O. Box 31698
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Next Newsletter
DEADLINE
[APRIL issue]
February 22

*"Preserving Our County's
Yesterdays Today
For A Better
Tomorrow"*



Volunteer Opportunities at Marietta

Susan Wolfe

There will be a meeting of the Marietta House Committee on Wednesday, February 26, 1992 at 7 p.m. at Marietta. Refreshments will be served.

The committee is organized into four sub-committees:

1. Gift Shop (purchasing/ selecting merchandise, consignments, merchandise displays, bookkeeping);
2. Special Events (choosing special events such as Mad Hatter's Tea Party, Quilt exhibit, Candlelight tours, etc. and getting coordinators for events);
3. Docents/ Volunteers (recruiting, volunteer training, docent programs educational and social, volunteer appreciation); and
4. House Facility (collections policy, furnishing plan, seasonal cleaning, interior restoration etc.).

Volunteers are needed for each of these sub-committees.

The **Gift Shop** is planning the relocation of the Shop when Marietta is closed for restoration. **Special Events** is preparing for the Mad Hatters Tea Party on Saturday, March 7 and planning for an Easter Egg Hunt in April and a Civil War Calvary Encampment in May for Preservation Month. **Docent/Volunteers** are planning some field trips and has discussed the feasibility of a newsletter. The **House Facility** is making plans for storage of Marietta furnishings during restoration as well as developing a formal furnishing plan and furnishings repairs and restoration. This group also is planning for interior restoration once the foundation/structural work is done.

The potential here at Marietta is great. We have many interesting and exciting opportunities. Look over the opportunities stated above, chose the one (or ones) that utilize your talents or pick your interest, and join us on February 26 at Marietta at 7 p.m to work for a successful coming year for Marietta. Feel free to invite a friend. Please call Susan Wolfe at 464-5291 or Joyce McDonald at 864-0420 if you can come. You can leave a message on the answering machine at either number. Let us know if you are interested in carpooling and we'll try to arrange it. If you cannot attend the meeting but are willing to help with the Mad Hatters Tea Party either donating sandwiches or sweets, or helping in the kitchen or serving on March 7 please call Susan or Joyce.

Another PG Landmark Bites the Dust

Fire Destroys 150-Year-Old Mill in Laurel

By Jim Naughton
Washington Post Staff Writer

A 150-year-old mill, believed to be the last one standing along the Patuxent River, was destroyed by fire early yesterday in Laurel.

Prince George's County firefighters responded to an alarm at 6:40 a.m. and found the interior of the Avondale Mill filled with flames, said Lt. Ron Siarnicki, a department spokesman.

About 75 firefighters from four counties fought the blaze for 45 minutes before bringing it under control, he said. By that time, the interior of the 2½-story flagstone building had been destroyed and the roof had fallen in.

There were no injuries, Siarnicki said. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

"We had been looking at restoring the building," said Laurel Mayor Joseph R. Robison, a volunteer firefighter who was at the blaze.

Those plans were abandoned yesterday afternoon when one of the mill's walls collapsed. City officials then called in a demolition crew to take down the remaining walls and clear the rubble from the site just west of Route 1.

The old building, used to make flour from grain, also was known as Crabbs' Mill after one of its 19th-century owners. It was built in 1840 and had been vacant for more than 10 years, said Jacquelyn Bateman, executive officer of the Laurel Historical District Commission.

In recent years, the City of Laurel had erected picnic pavilions in the park around the mill.

"The beginning of Laurel was with the mills, and this was the city's last remaining strong tie to its origination," Bateman said.

Health Museum Uses Computers For Lincoln Story

A doctor rushes into the presidential box at Ford's Theater moments after Abraham Lincoln is shot. The situation looks grave, so the doctor orders a brandy.

But who is it for? Lincoln? His wife, Mary? Or the doctor himself?

These are the choices for visitors at the National Museum of Health and Medicine, which uses history and computers to explain the assassination of the 16th president.

The museum has always possessed locks of Lincoln's hair, the lead bullet that ended his life, skull fragments removed from the wound and a metal probe used to locate the bullet.

It also has the bloodstained shirt cuffs of Army Assistant Surgeon Edward Curtis, who participated in the autopsy, and sections of spinal cord from assassin John Wilkes Booth.

But to understand the past, the museum has plugged into the future by installing computers alongside the treasures.

One computer is for medical professionals, who can watch and listen as a doctor describes how Lincoln would be treated today. On the other computer, visitors learn about the assassination by reading—and doing.

The computer asks questions and gives viewers three answers to consider. For example:

■ As a physician rushes to Lincoln's side, what does his white uniform tell about his background? (He has two years of medical school and has passed an exam to enter the Army.)

■ Do you summon an ambulance? (There were no ambulances available in 1865.)

As for the brandy, Lincoln gets the drink, "which he tolerates well."

"You fear the patient is in shock and according to 19th century understanding of physiology, shock should be treated with stimulants like alcohol," the computer screen says.



"The response from visitors has been enthusiastic," museum spokesman Dick Levinson said. "People really seem to get a kick out of it."

The exhibit was launched earlier this year after an inquiry from a geneticist put the museum in the spotlight. Darwin Prockop of Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia asked if he could test Lincoln's hair and bones to determine if the president had Marfan syndrome.

Without warning, the rare fatal disease attacks the eyes, heart and joints. Lincoln's tall, thin frame and gaunt face suggest he could have become a victim of Marfan if not for Booth's gun, some scientists say.

The genetic test is still being considered, but the museum decided to cash in on the publicity by using computers to put a contemporary spin on Lincoln's final hours.

"There was no effective therapy for the wounded president in 1865," the computer explains. "The clinical experience of the Civil War was that such wounds were uniformly fatal."

The museum, an affiliate of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, is on the campus of Walter Reed Army Medical Center here.



CALVERT OF MARYLAND

A STORY OF
LORD BALTIMORE'S COLONY

BY
JAMES OTIS



This story, a fact-based novel, is told in the first person by young (age 13) George Calvert, godson of the first Lord Baltimore, George Calvert. The story commences on the eve of the departure of young George with his father to the area of the New World called Mary Land. They were to travel in the ship, *Ark*, of 300 tons accompanied by the pinnace *Dove* of 50 tons.

The first Lord Baltimore had died before he could implement his grant by King Charles I to the land named in honor of Charles' Queen, Henrietta Maria. Politics precluded the oldest son, Cecilius, second Lord Baltimore, from physically heading the expedition to the land of his inheritance. Accordingly he named his brother, Leonard, as its head. Another brother, George, father of the narrator, was part of the 292-person expedition which finally set sail October 29, 1633, and landed at St. Clement's Island on March 25, 1634.

Young George concludes his tale in early 1647 after the Province had finally subdued the military efforts of William Claiborne. Claiborne had tried, operating from his trading post on Kent Island, to retain his original status as a licensed trader and landowner under the authority of the colony of Virginia.

Paul T. Lanham

NEW YORK • CINCINNATI • CHICAGO
AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY



The above Book Review is long overdue. Senator Mike Miller had hoped to review CALVERT OF MARYLAND for NEWS & NOTES, but was unable to. Instead, we asked past PGCHS President, Paul Lanham.

continued from page 5...

structure inside a wooden fort built by the first colonists.

"The objects relate to some kind of smelting operation. But a lot more analysis will be needed to determine what kind of furnace these scientists were using and what they were smelting," Hume said. "Metal trace elements scattered through our soil samples may tell us more."

He said that the researchers who probably set up the laboratory were easily identified from historical records. Two key people, metallurgist Joachim Gans and scientist Thomas Hariot, probably used the laboratory to help assess the mineralogical potential of the new territory.

William Kelso, resident archaeologist for the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, near Charlottesville, said, "This is the beginning of science on this continent, trying to extract natural resources to build a country's wealth."

Historic library falls on hard times

Baltimore's historic Enoch Pratt Free Library has gone from being a leader among the nation's libraries to a has-been, say library directors around the country.

Too many lean years have eroded its book-buying budget and its staff, down from a peak of 785 in the early 1970s to 382 now.

"The Pratt really has been short-changed for a long time," said John Blegen, assistant director of the Pratt until 1988, when he left to head the Glenview, Ill., system. "I find it outrageous to have a slogan about The City That Reads with all the things that have taken place. That seems like the height of hypocrisy to me."

The Pratt has an original decree from King Charles II of England to the Calvert family about the territory that became Maryland and preserves some of author Edgar Allan Poe's hair.

Important Memo:

Saturday, March 14.....2:00 P.M. There will be a joint meeting with Toaping Castle Chapter of DAR at Riversdale. The meeting will be followed by a tree planting ceremony in honor of Rosalie S. Calvert. Lecture will be by Deborah Birch of Notter, Finegold & Alexander, Inc., project architect, on the first phase of Riversdale restoration. The mansion is located at 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale, Maryland. (Joyce McDonald)

Sundays through February.... Marietta will be closed on Sundays through February. The house will re-open for tours in March, but can be opened for group tours by appointment. Call Susan Wolfe at 301/464-5291. The closing of Marietta for restoration will be this spring. As soon as the contractor is selected by MNCPPC and approved by the state, work can proceed. (Susan Wolfe)

Annual Mad Hatter's Tea Party.... will be on Saturday, March 7 at Marietta. There will be three seatings: at 11:00 A.M.; 1:00 P.M.; and 3:00 P.M. Call Susan Wolfe at 301/464-5291 for reservations. Attending the Tea Party is by reservation only and adults must be accompanied by a child! The cost is \$4.00 per person.

1992 PGCHS Meetings..... Most events and meetings will be on the second Saturday of the month.

February	No general membership meeting. Board will meet on <u>February 8</u> .
March	Membership meeting at Riversdale. See above.
April	St. George's Day - <u>April 26</u> . Members only. More information to follow. (John Mitchell)
May	Membership meeting - Saturday, <u>May 9</u> . *
June	Special event/Skarda Awards - Saturday, <u>June 13</u> *
July	No membership meeting
August	No Membership meeting
September	Special Event/Fundraiser (John Mitchell)
October	Membership meeting - Saturday, <u>October 10</u> * (Fred DeMarr)
November	Membership meeting - Saturday, <u>November 14</u> * (David Richardson)
December	Christmas Party

* dates could possibly change.

Saturday, March 28, 1992 ... Dusty Rhoades wishes membership to know that there will be a Bus Tour. Please reserve this date on your calendars. Full details will be in next month's NEWS & NOTES.

Unearthing America's First Lab

Roanoke Island Dig Turns Up 16th-Century Research Facility

By Robert Conke
Newspaper

Although statesman and technical tinkerer Benjamin Franklin usually gets credit as the nation's first real scientist, a new dig on a sandy island off North Carolina has found a research laboratory dating from the 1580s, some 200 years before Franklin ever went out to fly his wet kite.

"We've found the birthplace of American science," said Ivor Noel Hume, director of the dig at Roanoke Island's Fort Raleigh National Historical Site. The find is a buried laboratory once used for metallurgical research. Hume is a retired senior archaeologist at Colonial Williamsburg.

Although specialists seeking metals were part of early expeditions to the New World, Hume said that the laboratory represents "the first time they planned to stay for any length of time and actually set up a research center."

Hume, in a telephone interview, added that "it's the first archaeological evidence we have for a laboratory in America."

Remnants found at the site include fragments of glass, crucibles, pots for intments and broken distilling apparatus. Hume said that the thin shards of glass—perhaps used in apothecary work—are the oldest examples of English glass ever found in America. Other artifacts include a piece of metallic antimony—often used to make alloys—slag, clinkers from a forge and traces of molten materials.

The site on Roanoke Island is where a legendary Lost Colony was

The discovery "tells us that if we want to learn more about the ... Lost Colony, we have to look somewhere else, and that somewhere else probably isn't far away."

—Bonnie Keel, archaeologist

supposedly situated. Two groups of English, both sponsored by Sir Walter Raleigh, had settled there—the first in 1585, the second in 1587. The second group vanished. Roanoke Island today is a sandy stretch of land 12 miles long by three miles wide between the North Carolina shoreline and the Outer Banks, occupied by vacation condominiums and small fishing communities.

The first settlement, founded in 1585, Hume said, was established after a scouting party had visited the island for six weeks. That settlement was abandoned a year later, however, as relations with the Indians deteriorated. Although the Native Americans had first been described as "friendly, civilized and welcoming them as brothers," Hume said that the men in the colony "managed to fall out with the Indians in a hurry."

While relations with the Indians were going sour, Hume said, the colonists were also awaiting a resupply mission from England led by Admiral of the Fleet Sir Richard Grenville.

"Grenville hadn't shown up with the supplies by late fall," Hume said. When a fleet did arrive, it turned out to be Sir Francis Drake, fresh from forays against the Spanish to the south. "They were disappointed by it not being Grenville, so they decided to go home. The Indians were harassing them."

Grenville arrived later to find a colony empty except for three men who had been inadvertently left behind. Drake's fleet had pulled out quickly because a hurricane threatened, Hume said.

Raleigh sponsored a second group of settlers—this time including women—who also set up a colony on the island, and then simply disappeared. Among the missing was Virginia Dare, the first child born of English parents in America. She was the granddaughter of the colony's governor, John White, who returned from a three-year visit to England to find no sign of his 115 followers.

Hume said no evidence has yet been found that points to where the colonists might have lived. One word carved into a tree trunk—"Croatoan"—offers the only clue to the settlers' fate. It was the name of a nearby Indian village.

"Our work tells us that if we want to learn more about the 1585 group and the 1587 Lost Colony, we have to look somewhere else, and that somewhere else probably isn't far away," said Bonnie Keel, a National Park Service archaeologist. "It may be just a matter of 100 or more yards" from the lab site.

In the current digs, Hume and his colleagues reported, the area under study was apparently the original dirt floor of the laboratory, which still contains evidence of research activity. The site may have been covered by a small, crude shed-like

continued on page 3...

reprinted from Washington Post

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1991



SURRATT HOUSE MUSEUM

CLINTON, MARYLAND

(301) 868-1121

1992 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 8-9** **ANTIQUÉ VALENTINE EXHIBIT**
Exhibit of 19th-century cards and memorabilia.
- March 1 - May 31** **MURDER AT FORD'S THEATRE-**
A special display related to the assassination of President Lincoln.
- April 11** **JOHN WILKES BOOTH ESCAPE ROUTE TOUR--Reservations.**
- June 4- August 30** **THE RELICS OF WAR--Exhibit of Civil War Memorabilia.**
- September 12** **JOHN WILKES BOOTH ESCAPE ROUTE TOUR--Reservations.**
- September 19** **VICTORIAN CRAFT FAIR--**
(Rain date 9/20) Show and sale of handcrafted items.
- September 3 - November 29** **THE IMAGE OF WAR--Exhibit of Civil War photography.**
- December 12 - 14** **VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT--Seventeenth annual Christmas Tours.**

RELIVE THE 19th-CENTURY AT HISTORIC SURRATT HOUSE

A historic property of The Maryland-National
Capital Park & Planning Commission

A PAGE IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Built in 1852 as a middle-class plantation home, historic Surratt House also served as a tavern and hostelry, a post office, and polling place during the crucial decade before the Civil War. During the war, it became a safehouse on the Confederate underground system which flourished in Southern Maryland.

In the fall of 1864, the Surratt family became entangled in a plot by John Wilkes Booth to kidnap President Abraham Lincoln. This plot turned to assassination on April 14, 1865. Booth stopped at the tavern on his flight out of Washington to retrieve weapons and supplies which had been hidden there.

Today, the museum presents a variety of programs and events, recapturing the history of mid-19th century life and focusing on the fascinating web of the Lincoln conspiracy.

GENERAL ADMISSION

The museum is open annually from March 1 through mid-December. It is closed on July 4 and Easter Sunday each year. Guided tours are conducted by costumed docents on Thursdays and Fridays, 11 am to 3 pm and from 12 noon to 4 pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Group tours for ten or more participants are made by appointment (301-868-1121).

A small admission fee benefits the preservation of Surratt House. The tour begins at the Surratt Visitors' Center and Gift Shop.

SURRATT HOUSE MUSEUM

P.O. Box 427
9118 Brandywine Road
Clinton, MD 20735
(301) 868-1121



The Surratt Society

presents

The Original John Wilkes Booth Escape Route Tour

A Trip in Time from Ford's Theatre
to the Site of Garrett's Farm.

Narrated by James O. Hall and Michael
Kauffman, nationally known authorities
on the Lincoln assassination.

On the night of April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth, the dashing young actor, at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. While the dying executive was carried across the street to the Peterson House, his assassin was making his escape into Southern Maryland.

Over the next twelve days, Booth and his accomplice, David Edgar Herold, were tracked through the lower counties of Maryland and across the Potomac River into Virginia. They were finally trapped at Garrett's Farm near Bowling Green, Virginia where Herold was taken prisoner and Booth was shot and killed by federal troops.

In 1977, the Surratt Society, a volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation of historic Surratt House and Tavern in Clinton, Maryland, initiated a bus tour along the escape route of John Wilkes Booth and David Herold. Amazingly, many of the same roads and houses used by Booth are still in existence and are visited on this twelve-hour excursion which has attracted participants from across the U.S.

Alternating as narrators on these popular tours will be Mr. James O. Hall and Mr. Michael Kauffman, both recognized nationally as authorities on the Lincoln assassination, John Wilkes Booth, and on the flight of the assassin. Both men have conducted many years of in-depth research on these topics.

The Surratt Society sponsors this trip twice yearly, and all proceeds benefit the preservation of Surratt House and Tavern, site of Booth's first stop on his flight south. Surratt House is now owned and operated by Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission with guided tours by costumed docents of the Surratt Society.

Completion of the attached form will assure complete details on reserving a seat on one of these ventures into history.



YES, PLEASE SEND ME COMPLETE INFORMATION ON RESERVATIONS AND PRICES FOR THE
ORIGINAL JOHN WILKES BOOTH ESCAPE ROUTE TOUR

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number () _____

Number of Interested Persons _____

Preferred Tour: (check one)

April _____

September _____

MAIL TO: The Mary Surratt House and Tavern
9110 Brandywine Road
P.O. Box 427
Clinton, Maryland 20735

ppc-pr-hi 10/83

THE SURRETT SOCIETY



INVITES YOU TO JOIN

Founded in 1975, the Surratt Society is a volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of historic Surratt House and Tavern in Clinton, Maryland. In liaison with The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Society encourages ongoing research into the role that this historic site played in the drama surrounding the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and into the way of life in mid-19th century Southern Maryland. Three types of membership are available: Docent members are those persons, over 18 years of age, who accept the responsibilities of being a volunteer guide or hostess at the Surratt House as expressed in the by-laws of the Society. General members, of any age, are those who wish to support the Society by

means other than through the volunteer program. In addition, Life membership is available. All dues and donations made to the restoration program at the site are tax-deductible.

All members receive membership cards upon payment of dues and are entitled to vote and hold office in the Society. Other benefits include complimentary admission to the site upon presentation of card, a monthly newsletter with historical items and Society news, use of the research library, and reduced rates on tours sponsored by the Society. Monthly meetings feature speakers on a wide variety of subjects pertinent to our time period.

For further information, please call the Museum at (301) 868-1121.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

General membership _____ Dues \$5 per year. (If paying between March 1 & Sept. 1, please submit \$2.50.) Each additional member residing at same address _____ Dues \$2.50 per year (March 1-Sept. 1, yearly \$1.50.)

NAME(print) _____ Signature _____

Address _____ Phone No. _____
Street City State/Zip

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I wish to support the Surratt Society and the historic Surratt House and Tavern in Clinton, Maryland on a continuing basis and do hereby forward the sum of \$100 for Life Membership in the Society.

NAME(Print) _____ Signature _____

ADDRESS _____ Phone No. _____
Street City State/Zip

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "SURRETT SOCIETY"

DOCENT/HOSTEES MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I fully understand the responsibilities of the volunteer program of the Surratt Society and am in agreement with the guidelines expressed in the Society's by-laws. I agree to serve at least one day each month as a guide or hostess and to met the financial obligations of supplying my own authentic period costume as recommended by the group. (NOTE: Costumes do not apply to hostesses.) I will also supply my own transportation when serving as a volunteer. I further agree to learn the history pertinent to the Surratt House and Tavern.

Docent/Hostess membership (circle one) One-time membership fee of \$5. No further dues shall be levied as long as I remain active in the volunteer program.

NAME(PRINT) _____ SIGNATURE _____

ADDRESS _____ Phone No. _____

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "SURRETT SOCIETY"

MARYLAND HERITAGE ALLIANCE

The Maryland Heritage Alliance was formed in the summer of 1991 by a group of concerned people who work in various Historic Preservation organizations in several areas of the state. With the direct assistance of Preservation Maryland, the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions and the Maryland Historical Trust, representatives of several county organizations and others met on numerous occasions to develop a mission statement, organize a specific non-profit corporation, develop By Laws and name a Board of Directors to serve until our first annual meeting, in April 1992.

In line with our mission, which is to provide a means and an impetus for achieving consensus among the diverse interests of the Maryland preservation community on the many issues impacting our state's cultural resources, we are establishing a network of state, regional and local preservationists. That network will be the backbone of our efforts. It will serve as the collector of information and opinions from across the state, and provide a means by which we can educate people as to the goals of the preservation movement and provide assistance, technical and otherwise, to local groups to aide in the solution of local preservation problems.

On one hand, we are lobbyists. We shall consider actions by the State Government - Executive and Legislative - and shall, where necessary, provide a coherent voice in aide of our goals. We shall take action to educate individual legislators, raise concerns with legislative committees, and discuss issues with staff of the executive departments. We shall not, however, take a specific stand in any election campaign for or against a party or a candidate.

On the other hand, we are educators. We shall be responsive to the needs of local preservationists and others who require assistance in technical areas (such as how to organize properly under the laws) and in properly presenting information for use in local meetings and educating individuals.

We look forward to your participation in this endeavor - both financially by becoming members of the Alliance and directly by volunteering to work with us, to join the Network as an active partner for preservation of the cultural heritage of Maryland.

For further information, please contact The Maryland Heritage Alliance, c/o PM, 24 West Saratoga Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

6600 Kenilworth Avenue • Riverdale, Maryland 20737-0707

NOTTINGHAM AND SEABROOK SCHOOLHOUSES

The History Division, of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, is interested in finding out more about the history of Nottingham and Seabrook Schoolhouses. If you have any information and/or photographs that you would like to share, please contact Susan Helmann at 301-779-4074.

The History Division, of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, is interested in finding out more about the history of the Prince George's County Fair. If you have any fair memorabilia (such as blue ribbons, button, pamphlets), photographs or oral reminiscences and would like to share your knowledge, please contact Susan Helmann at 301-779-4074.

CALENDAR

February 2, 8, 16, 23	Sundays	Marietta Closed for month
February 8 10 AM	Saturday	Board Meeting - PGCHS - Marietta
February 11 12 noon - 1 PM	Tuesday	"Columbia Hospital for Women: 125 Years of Service". Historical Society of Washington, DC. Members/free; non-members/\$4. Call 202/785-2068 for more information.
February 12 12 Noon - 1 PM	Wednesday	Lecture: "The Dominicans Come Seeking" Paul VI Institute for the Arts, 924 G St., N.W., Washington, D.C. Free & open to the public. Call 202/347-1450 for further information.
February 12 7:30 PM	Wednesday	Lecture: "The World as Seen Through the Eyes of Queen Isabella". Prince George's Community College, Largo, MD. Call 301/322-0537 for more information.
February 15 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Saturday	Workshop: Preserving Family Photographs. Historical Society of Washington, D.C. Members/\$15; non-members/\$20. Call 202/785-2068 for further information.
February 19 12 Noon - 1 PM	Wednesday	Lecture: "Blooming of Sanctity: New World Saints". Paul VI Institute for the Arts. Free & open to the public. Call 202/347-1450 for further information.
February 19 1:00-2:00 PM	Wednesday	Tour: Our Presidents and Washington National Cathedral. Historical Society of Washington, D.C. Members/\$4; non-members/\$6.50. Call 202/785-2068 for more information.
February 22 8:00 AM - 4:15 PM	Friday	Fairfax Genealogical Society - Rosslyn, VA. "Cherchez La Femme: Finding the Females in Your Ancestry".
February 26 7:30 PM	Wednesday	Lecture: Traveling Germs: "The Cultural Impact of Epidemics." PG Community College. Call 301/322-0537 for info.
February 28	Friday	National Archives exhibition, "Reeling Through History," opens - 4th floor lobby of National Archives Bldg., Washington, DC.
February 28 & February 29	Friday & Saturday	19th Annual Conference on Washington, D.C. Historical Studies. MLK Library, G St. N.W. between 9th & 10th. Daytime sessions, free. Friday evening, \$4. (METRO: Gallery Place/Metro Center)
February 29 1:00-5:00 PM	Saturday	Prince George's Genealogical Society Library Open.

1992

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Welcome New Members to PGCHS



Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Gutheim
I. Gardiner Edelen
Lucille L. Howell
Lt. Col. & Mrs. William K. Konze *
Charlotte J. Vaught *

*Life Member

NEWS & NOTES welcomes any reader suggestions, comments or questions. Letters should be addressed to David Richardson, P.O. Box 31698, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

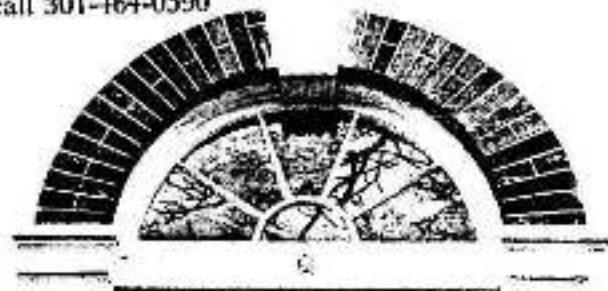
Hours of Operation

Library: Saturdays 12-4 p.m.

Gift Shop: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
and during Special Events

Marietta Tours: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
Group tours by appointment.

For more information
call 301-164-0590

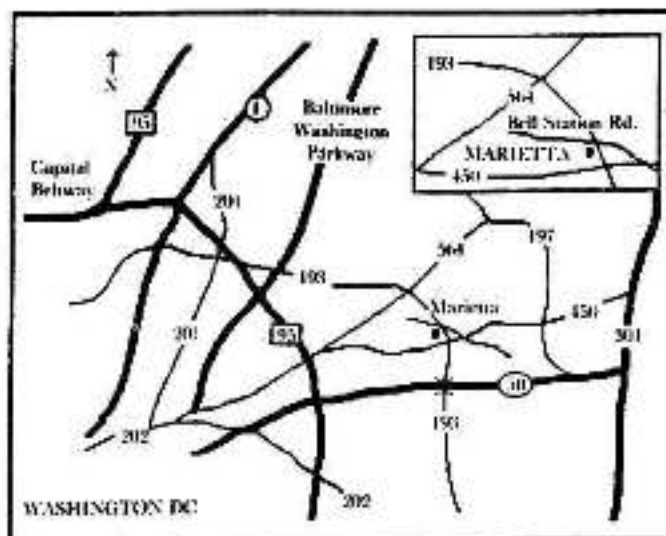


The Gift Shop

features a tasteful collection of handcrafted items
for home and gift-giving, toys and games for
children, small antiques, Historical Society
publications, and souvenirs of historic Marietta.

Location

Marietta is located at 5626 Bell Station Road in
Glenn Dale, Maryland, off Route 193 near Route
450.



A Facility of
The Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission

Prince George's County Historical Society

P.O. BOX 14
RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20737/0014

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20737
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REQUESTED**



"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County Historical Society



March 1992

Founded 1952 - Our 40th Year

Vol. XX, No. 3

1992-93 Board

President:
Bud Dutton

Board Members:
Cheryl Adams
Edith Bagot
John B. Bourne
Sarah Bourne
Susanna Cristofane
Frederick DeMarr
W. C. "Bud" Dutton, Jr.
Jane Eagen
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John A. Giannetti
Paul T. Lanham
Joyce McDonald
John Mitchell
Warren W. Rhoads
David Richardson
Eugene B. Roberts

Newsletter Editor
David Richardson
P.O. Box 31698
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Next Newsletter
Deadline:
March 21
[MAY issue]

*"Preserving Our County's
Yesterdays Today
For A Better
Tomorrow"*

1992 Hall of Fame Inductee

The 1992 inductee into the Prince George's County Hall of Fame will be Frederick Sasscer - editor, educator, and prominent citizen of Upper Marlboro.

The Prince George's County Hall of Fame was established in 1975 to recognize superior achievements of distinguished Prince Georgians of the past. Its mission is to educate the public about outstanding men and women who were closely associated with and made significant contributions to Prince George's County. In honoring these individuals, the Hall of Fame hopes that County residents will be inspired to emulate their achievements.

Frederick Sasscer was born 4 March 1856 in Upper Marlboro, son of Dr. Frederick Sasscer and Rosalie Ghiselin. He grew up at Kingston Park, his parents' home on the west edge of Upper Marlboro. He attended Marlborough Academy; in 1875 he received a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. John's, Annapolis, and in 1878 a Master of Arts. He served as principal of the Marlborough Academy, studied law, and was admitted to the Marlborough bar. He decided not, however, to practice law, and entered the editorial profession.

From the early 1880s, Frederick Sasscer served as Editor/Publisher of the Prince Georgian, published in Upper Marlboro, which in 1882 became the Prince George's Enquirer. The Enquirer merged in 1925 with the Marlborough Gazette, to become the Enquirer-Gazette. Sasscer continued as Editor of the Enquirer-Gazette until his death, 29 October 1929.

Mr. Sasscer was a highly educated and literate man, and his influence in Upper Marlboro and the County was great. From 1902 to 1914, he served as Superintendent of the Prince George's County Schools. He served also as secretary of the Democratic Editors Association of Maryland. He was a member of Centennial Lodge in Upper Marlboro, and was for 48 years a Vestryman at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upper Marlboro.

Frederick Sasscer will be inducted into the County Hall of Fame, with appropriate ceremony, at the St. George's Day celebration/dinner at the Marlboro Hunt Club, on Sunday afternoon, 26 April 1992. (For information about the St. George's Day dinner, call the Prince George's County Historical Society at 301-454-0590.)

An oil copy of the family portrait of Frederick Sasscer will be unveiled at the St. George's Day induction. It will thereafter be hung on display, with those of previous Hall of Fame inductees, in the County Courthouse.

Susan G. Pearl
Research Historian, M-NCPPC Vice-Chairman, P. G. Hall of Fame



Mad Hatter's Tea Party at Marietta

The second annual Mad Hatter's Tea Party is planned for the first Saturday of March (March 7) at Marietta. There will be three seatings: 11:00 A.M.; 1:00 P.M.; and 3:00 P.M.

Call Susan Wolfe at 301/464-5291 for reservations. Attending the Tea Party is by reservation only and adults must be accompanied by a child. The cost is \$4.00 per person.

Recommended attire: white gloves, frilled socks, flowered dresses, top hats, bow ties, etc.

The White Rabbit might even make an appearance, as well as other characters from *Alice in Wonderland*.



Tea Time at Marietta

THE LORD BALTIMORE TOUR TOUR TO ENGLAND

AUGUST 17 - 31, 1992



1992, the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus, is also the 360th anniversary of the death of Maryland's founder, George Calvert, 1st Lord Baltimore. Ten years earlier, Lord Baltimore began building **Kiplin Hall** in North Yorkshire to be the ancestral seat of the Calverts. A fine Jacobean manor house with Georgian and Victorian additions, Kiplin is now an historic house museum with fine furniture and portraits as well as the location of a new University of Maryland Study Center. Our tour helps to support these projects. Come join us for a special view of some of England's most interesting places and see how the lords Baltimore lived. The tour is led by Professor David Fogle of the U. of Maryland at College Park School of Architecture and Graduate Program in Historic Preservation. An author and lecturer, he directs the University's Kiplin Hall Study Center.

ITINERARY

Monday, August 17: Departure

Late evening from Wash/Dulles.

Tuesday, August 18: Chichester

Arrive London/Heathrow and transfer to The Dolphin & Anchor Hotel in the cathedral town of Chichester. At leisure until dinner.

Wednesday, August 19: Chichester

Excursion to Brighton to visit the exotic Royal Pavilion created for the Prince Regent, later George IV, with free time later to explore The Lanes, a



warren of winding streets packed with small shops and restaurants. Afternoon visits to Petworth House, the southern home of the powerful Percy family until the 17th C. when it was taken over and rebuilt by the Duke of Somerset; and Goodwood House, the Duke of Richmond's magnificent 18th C. family home. Dinner at hotel; optional evening at the theatre festival.

Thursday, August 20: Yeovil

Drive to Portsmouth, England's premier naval base. From here we can see the Isle of Wight from which the **Ark** and **Dove** set sail in 1633, bringing the first colonists to Maryland. In Portsmouth, we view artifacts recovered from **The Mary Rose**, a ship that sank 88 years prior to the **Ark** and **Dove's** departure. Then on to Broadlands, former home of Lord Mountbatten, and finally to Hook Manor in Dorset for a visit with Lord Talbot of Malahide. It was here that the 2nd Lord Baltimore planned the colonization of Maryland, and casts of the **Ark** and **Dove** may still be seen on the ceiling. Dinner and overnight (D/O) in Yeovil at the Manor Crest Hotel.

Friday, August 21: Yeovil

Visits to Montacute House, a magnificent Elizabethan mansion; Tintinhull House, home of England's foremost garden authority, Penelope Hobhouse, and Sherborne Castle, built by Sir Walter Raleigh, whose efforts to colonize Roanoke Island failed. D/O at hotel.

Saturday, August 22: Falmouth

Departure for Cornwall, a region the 1st Lord Baltimore once represented in Parliament, with stops enroute at the cathedral town of Exeter and Plymouth, departure port for the Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower. D/O in Falmouth, a popular year-round resort warmed by the Gulf Stream, at the Falmouth Hotel. D/O at hotel.

Travel Magic Inc.
910 16th Street, Suite 410
Washington, D.C. 20006



Sunday, August 23: Falmouth

A leisurely morning in our beach hotel, followed by a drive around the picturesque Cornish coast: Penzance, Land's End, and St. Ives, England's most famous art colony. D/O at hotel.

Monday, August 24: Bath

Morning visit to the part medieval, part 17th C. castle on St. Michael's Mount, which like its French counterpart, is reached by causeway at low tide. Then up the north coast past the 13th C ruins of Tintagel Castle, legendary birthplace of King Arthur, stopping at Bossiney, which the 1st Lord Baltimore represented in Parliament. Then on to Bath for three nights at the St. Francis Hotel.

Tuesday, August 25: Bath

City sightseeing in one of Britain's most beautiful cities—the Roman baths, No. 1 Royal Crescent, a furnished 18th C townhouse, and the American Museum—with free time for shopping. D/O at hotel.

Wednesday, August 26: Bath

Visits to historic houses in the vicinity of Bath: Longleat, a splendid Elizabethan house in the Italian Renaissance style still lived in by ancestors of the original owner, and Berkeley Castle, home for more than 800 years to the family that produced a Virginia governor and gave its name to several U.S. cities. Dinner to be announced.



Carol Calvert
founder and
hostess



Thursday, August 27: Windermere

North to the Lake District stopping enroute at Stoke-on-Trent, home of fine pottery since the 17th C. Then on to Lake Windermere for D/O at the Old England Hotel.

Friday, August 28: Northallerton

A leisurely morning in this romantic area associated with Wordsworth, Southey and Coleridge. A visit to Wordsworth's house and then across the Yorkshire dales (Herriot country) to Northallerton for three nights at the luxurious Kirkby Fleetham Hotel. Dinner at Kiplin Hall with the trustees.

Saturday, August 29: Northallerton

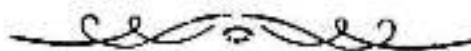
Tour Kiplin Hall. Lunch on your own in Richmond, a charming Georgian town, dominated by a Norman Castle. Later a visit to 14th C Raby Castle, Lord Barnard's elegant, historic home. Dinner at local pub.

Sunday, August 30: Northallerton

Across the moors to the seaside towns of Whitby, hometown of Capt. James Cook, and Scarborough, a popular family resort. Stops along the way include Duncombe Park, which Lord Feversham is restoring, and Rievaulx Terrace with beautiful views of the Abbey. Farewell dinner at hotel.

Monday, August 31: Return Home

Via Manchester and London. Estimated arrival time Wash/Dulles 4:10 pm



Note: An optional stay in London is available through Travel Magic Inc.



The picturesque south coast, the Lake District, and Yorkshire, featuring visits to the ancestral home of Lord Baltimore and associated historic places.



TOUR COST AND CONDITIONS

**COST: \$3215 +
\$250 Tax-Free Contribution**

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$305

The tour price includes: Round trip airfare Washington/Dulles to London plus connecting Manchester/London return flight; airport transfers and porterage (1 bag plus carryon); 13 nights hotel accommodations with all breakfasts and dinners (no luncheons); sightseeing and admissions as set forth in itinerary; touring in private motor coach, and a tax-deductible contribution of \$250.

Note: The price is based on airfares and the rate of currency exchange in effect in November, 1991. We reserve the right to make adjustments in the event of major fluctuations.

Responsibility: Those who sign up for the tour do so with the understanding that both Travel Magic, Inc. and the sponsoring organizations have no responsibility or liability in whole or in part for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, damage or injury to person or property or mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services, or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment beyond their control, or for additional expenses occasioned thereby. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features is anticipated; however, the right is retained to make any changes that might become necessary. Baggage is at the owner's risk throughout the trip, unless insured.

Payment schedule and cancellation policy:

A deposit of \$250 is required to make a reservation for the tour. The balance is due July 1, 1992. There will be a \$25 cancellation penalty up to that time. After this date, the penalty will be \$125 on the air portion of the trip with a possible 100% on the land portion including a \$100 administrative fee. The exact amount depends on whether the hotels can resell the cancelled rooms. Travel insurance is strongly recommended.

RESERVATION FORM

Cost: \$3215 + \$250 tax-free contribution to the University of Maryland Foundation
Single Supplement: \$305

For reservations: Please fill out the coupon below and mail with your deposit of \$250 per person made out to Travel Magic Inc., to same at 910 16th Street, Suite 410, Washington, D.C.

For information: Call Mary Munroe at Travel Magic (202) 293-0033

Final payment due: July 1, 1992

Cancellation fee: \$25 until July 1

() Check if you would be interested in a London stay either before or after the tour.

Name _____ Single Supplement: _____

Address: _____

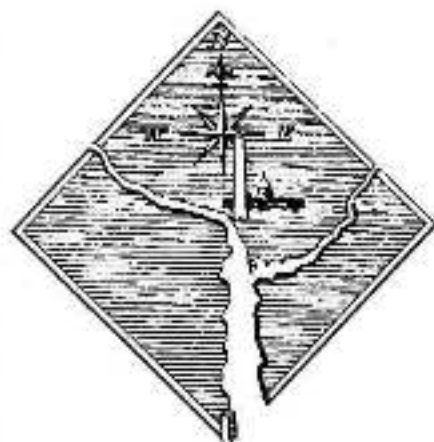
Telephone Number _____

Seating preference on airplane:

Smoking/Non-smoking

Window/Aisle

**19th
Annual
Conference
on
Washington, D.C.,
Historical
Studies**



FEBRUARY 28-29, 1992

SPONSORED BY
THE D.C. PUBLIC LIBRARY,
THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF WASHINGTON, D.C.,
AND
THE CENTER FOR
WASHINGTON AREA STUDIES
OF
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY, February 28

Martin Luther King Memorial Library

**12:30 P.M.
REGISTRATION**

**1:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE OPENING**

Cheryl Miller, Curator of Collections,
The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

**1:15-2:45 P.M.
THE WHITE HOUSE IN THE WASHINGTON
COMMUNITY**

This session explores the historic interrelations between
White House residents and the City of Washington.

Moderator:

Betty Monkman, Associate Curator, The White
House

Papers:

"James Hoban: His Civic Life in Washington,"
Nelson Rimensnyder, Historian, Committee on
the District of Columbia, U.S. House of
Representatives

**"Voices from the Back Stairs: An Oral
History of White House Workers,"** James
Popkin, Associate Editor, *U.S. News and World
Report*

**"The White House: Patron of the Washington
Business Community,"** William G. Allman,
Assistant Curator, The White House

**"First Ladies: An Active Life in the
Community,"** Carl Sferrazza Anthony, author,
*First Ladies: The Saga of Presidents' Wives and
Their Power*

**3:00-5:00 P.M., Session I
THE CIVIL WAR CHANGES THE
CITY'S FABRIC: 1860-1874**

The Civil War brought profound physical, social, and political
changes to this southern city. Panelists set the scene in
1860-61, discuss Congress's failure to make social revolution,
and examine a congressional investigation that led to the
death of Horne Rule in 1874.

Moderator:

Leroy Graham, Archivist, D.C. Public Library

Papers:

**"Washington on the Eve of the Civil
War,"** Edwin Cole Bearss, Chief Historian,
National Park Service and Consultant, Ken
Burns's "Civil War"

**"The Decision to Fund Segregated Public
Schools, 1862,"** Jane Freundel Levey,
Managing Editor, *Washington History*

**"The Great Safe Burglary: A Nineteenth-
Century Watergate,"** Philip W. Ogilvie,
Public Records Administrator of the District of
Columbia

**3:00-5:00 P.M., Session II
ORAL HISTORY: THE WHAT, HOW, AND WHY**

Participants will describe their particular oral history projects
as well as discuss broader issues of project design, the Oral
History Association standards, and the need for collecting oral
history.

Moderator:

Roxanna Deane, Chief, Washingtoniana
Division, D.C. Public Library

Panelists:

Zora Martin Felton, Chief, Office of Education,
Anacostia Neighborhood Museum

Spencie Love, Historian, 20th-Century U.S. History, Richmond, Va.

Jane W. North, Executive Director, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Brien Williams, President, Oral History Association of the Mid-Atlantic Region

Barbara Vandegrift, Librarian-Archivist, National Press Club

Marjorie Zapruder, Director, Oral History Project, Chevy Chase Historical Society

FRIDAY EVENING, February 28

Charles Sumner Schoolhouse
17th and M Streets, N.W.

7:30-9:30 P.M.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL LETITIA WOODS BROWN MEMORIAL LECTURE and PRESENTATION of the RENCHARD PRIZE FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION of THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

Speaker:

Spencie Love, Historian, 20th-Century U.S. History, Richmond, Va.

"'Noted Physician Fatally Injured': The Shifting Stories of Charles Drew and the Elusive Role of Myth in the Writing of American History."

Reception follows to honor the Letitia Woods Brown lecturer and the Renschard Prize recipient. A contribution of \$4 is requested.

SATURDAY, February 29

Martin Luther King Memorial Library

9:30 A.M.

REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

10:00 A.M.-12:00 NOON

WHITHER WASHINGTON HISTORY?

A surge of new interest in urban, social, and community history has inspired a great deal of new research in local history in Washington, D.C., and across the country since the 1970's. Panelists will review the work of the past two decades in Washington and suggest priorities for future study and collecting. Small group discussions will follow, with opportunities for participants to share news of research and collecting projects in progress.

Moderator:

Kathryn S. Smith, Editor, *Washington History* and President, The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

Panelists:

Thomas Battle, Director, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University

Pamela Cressey, City Archaeologist, City of Alexandria

Roxanna Deane, Chief, Washingtoniana Division, D.C. Public Library

Steven J. Diner, Professor of History and Director, Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study, George Mason University

Howard F. Gillette, Jr., Professor of American Civilization, George Washington University

Paul A. Groves, Associate Professor of Geography, University of Maryland

James O. Horton, Director, Afro-American Communities Project, Smithsonian Institution, and Professor of American History and Civilization, George Washington University

12:00-1:15 P.M.

LUNCH AND FILMS

You may bring your own lunch and view films depicting local history topics.

1:15-3:00 P.M., Session I

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY IN WASHINGTON AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY

Panelists will examine the growth of commercial Washington and the federal workforce in the late nineteenth century.

Moderator:

William Becker, Chairman, Department of History, George Washington University

Papers:

"Promoting Black Capitalism in Washington, D.C., in the Late Nineteenth Century,"

Richard L. Mattis, Freelance Writer, Gaithersburg, Md.

"The Role of Freedmen's Banks in Washington, D.C.," Barbara Richardson, Doctoral Candidate, Howard University

"The Federal Government as a Patron to the Crafts," Deborah J. Warner, Curator, History of Physical Sciences, Smithsonian Institution

1:15-3:00 P.M., Session II

HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Panelists will discuss the purposes for the foundations of their respective institutions, how these goals have been met, and the institutions' impact on the city's educational scene.

Moderator:

Jeannine S. Clark, Founding Chair, D.C. Bicentennial Commission

Panelists:

Esme E. Bhan, Research Associate, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University

(continued on next page)

Ermett Curran, S.J., Associate Professor of History, Georgetown University

Peter Proal Hill, Professor of History and International Affairs, George Washington University

Reverend Monsignor Frederick R. McManus, Professor of Canon Law, Catholic University of America

Edward C. Smith, Professor of Education, American University

Commentator:

Wilton Corkern, Director, Accokeek Foundation and Former Vice President, Consortium of Universities for the Washington Metropolitan Area

3:15-5:00 P.M., Session I

WASHINGTON'S MARKETS: NATIONAL MODEL, CITY SERVICE

Market halls have served the national capital and its neighborhoods since 1801. Panelists will explore the long-term architectural, urbanistic, and economic impact of the Centre and Eastern Markets on the city's development.

Moderator:

Richard Longstreth, Associate Professor of Architectural History and Director, Historic Preservation, George Washington University

Panelists:

Helen Tangires, Graduate Student, George Washington University

Alice Norris, Independent Researcher, Washington, D.C.

Nancy Schwartz, Architectural Historian, Garrett Park, Md.

3:15-5:00 P.M., Session II SOCIAL ACTIVISM IN THE 1960'S

An examination of some of the key figures who played a role in the central, social, and cultural changes of the turbulent and formative 1960's.

Moderator:

Jim Kalish, Publisher, *D.C. Issues Watch*

Speakers:

"Julius Hobson" Tina Hobson, Executive Director, Renew America

"Geno Baroni" Lawrence M. O'Rourke, National Political Correspondent, McClatchy Newspapers

"Frank Kameny" David K. Johnson, Historian, History Associates

"Carlos Rosario" José Sueiro, Publisher, *El Diario de la Nación*

Commentator:

Jerome Paige, Interim Provost, University of Baltimore

The Historical Society of Washington, D.C. (formerly the Columbia Historical Society), was founded in 1894 to preserve, collect, and teach the history of the nation's capital. The HSW's extensive research collections, programs, publications and exhibits document the national, regional, and local trends, movements, and personalities that have shaped Washington development since 1790. The HSW library is open to the public and houses more than 100,000 items including 12,000 books and 70,000 photographs. *Washington History*, HSW's semiannual magazine, is a free membership benefit. For information about membership, hours, and programs call (202) 785-2068.

The purpose of The Center for Washington Area Studies of The George Washington University is to carry on scholarly activities related to the Greater Washington area and to relate university resources to the needs and concerns of Washington area citizens. Its primary objectives include the following: To foster research and writing related to the history and culture of the Washington area; To stimulate research and publishing of studies of local public policy issues in the Washington area; To channel the skills and talents of university faculty and students toward local problem-solving in areas related to the public welfare.

The District of Columbia Public Library was established in 1896 with an early goal to foster good citizenship through stimulating civic interest. As part of that effort, a Washingtoniana Collection was begun in earnest in 1905. By 1928 the collection had grown large enough to have its own room, and it is now the largest division in the Martin Luther King Memorial Library. The lives and customs of Washingtonians through the years and the growth of the city in which they live are depicted in news clippings, maps, books, pictures, and oral histories.

Nineteenth Annual Conference on Washington, D.C., Historical Studies Planning Committee:

Roxanna Deane, Francine Henderson, and Cheryl Miller co-chairs; George Arnold, Esme E. Bhan, Cheryl A. Chouiniere, Jeannine S. Clark, Howard F. Gillette, Jr., Matthew Gilmore, Leroy Graham, Don A. Hawkins, Jane Freundel Levey, Marina Moskowitz, Jane W. North, Philip W. Oglivie, Kathryn S. Smith

This series of annual conferences focuses on local urban, not federal, history. Sessions are free and preregistration is not required.

TO GET THERE:

The Martin Luther King Memorial Library is located at 901 G Street, N.W., at the Gallery Place station on the Metro Red, Green, and Yellow Lines, and at the Metro Center Station on the Blue and Orange Lines. Charles Sumner Schoolhouse is at 17th and M Streets, N.W., near the Red Line's Farragut North Station (on-street and commercial parking available). For further information, please call the Washingtoniana Division, D.C. Public Library at (202) 727-1213.



Prince George's County Historical Society

Note From Our Treasurer

Jack Bourne

Members who have not paid their 1992 dues are requested to do so promptly so that the Society can avoid the effort and expense involved in the dunning process. Please telephone the Treasurer (301/977-1065) if you have any questions pertaining to membership dues. If you elect to pay your MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY dues through PGCHS, you pay the lowest rate (this is a special savings!): \$15/individual - \$25/joint membership.

The Treasurer is pleased to announce that the Society has received \$2500 from the State of Maryland toward the PGC Heritage Museum project.

1992



Welcome New Members to PGCHS

NEW MEMBERS:

James I. Walsh

LIFE MEMBERS:

Karen D. Miles

Mrs. R.R. Waller

(Helen Louise Duckett)



News and Notes

In order to get our NEWS & NOTES mailed to members well in advance of scheduled programs and events, the following are dates you should keep in mind for submitting articles of interest to our readers.

ISSUES 1992

April
May
June
July/August
September
October
November
December

DEADLINE for articles

February 22
March 21
April 21
May 23
July 24
August 22
September 22
October 23

To be mailed

March 2
April 1
May 1
June 1
August 3
September 1
October 1
November 3

MARCH 4-5, 1992
Washington, D.C.



SYMPOSIA PUBLICATIONS

The proceedings of the United States Capitol Historical Society's symposia series are published for the Society by the University Press of Virginia.

Currently Available

Diplomacy and Revolution: The Franco-American Alliance of 1778, edited by Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert, 1991.

Sovereign States in an Age of Uncertainty, edited by Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert, 1991.

Slavery and Freedom in the Age of the American Revolution, edited by Ira Berlin and Ronald Hoffman, 1983.

Arms and Independence: The Military Character of the American Revolution, edited by Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert, 1984.

An Unequal War: The Southern Backcountry during the American Revolution, edited by Ronald Hoffman, Thad W. Tate, and Peter J. Albert, 1985.

Peace and the Peacemakers: The Treaty of 1783, edited by Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert, 1986.

The Economy of Early America: The Revolutionary Period, 1763-1790, edited by Ronald Hoffman, John J. McCusker, Russell R. Menard, and Peter J. Albert, 1986.

Women in the Age of the American Revolution, edited by Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert, 1989.

"To Form a More Perfect Union": The Critical Ideas of the Constitution, edited by Herman Belz, Ronald Hoffman, and Peter J. Albert, 1992.

Forthcoming

Of Consuming Interests: The Style of Life in the Eighteenth Century, edited by Cary Carson, Ronald Hoffman, and Peter J. Albert.

Religion in a Revolutionary Age, edited by Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert.

"The Transforming Hand of Revolution": Reconsidering the American Revolution as a Social Movement, edited by Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert.

Launching the "Extended Republic": The Federalist Era, edited by Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert.

The Bill of Rights: Government Power, edited by Ronald Hoffman and Peter J. Albert.

THE UNITED STATES Capitol Historical Society is chartered in Washington, D.C., in accordance with the laws of the United States as a nonprofit, educational organization. The Society's purpose, as stated in its constitution, is:

To encourage in the most comprehensive and enlightened manner an understanding by the people of the founding, growth and significance of the Capitol of the United States of America as the tangible symbol of their representative form of government; to undertake research into the history of the Congress and the Capitol and to promote the discussion, publication and dissemination of the results of such studies; to foster and increase an informed patriotism... that the study of this living memorial to the founders of this nation and the continuing thread of principles as exemplified by their successes.

Founded in 1962, the U.S. Capitol Historical Society is unique among America's historical societies both in its operation and in its efforts to serve the amateur historian, the professional scholar, and the general public.

NATIVE AMERICANS AND THE EARLY REPUBLIC

In 1783 the Treaty of Paris established boundaries for the United States that appeared to leave its citizens substantial "vacant" land in which to expand their settlements. However, this diplomatic agreement obscured the fact that Native American communities which considered themselves independent of both the United States and the European powers already occupied the bulk of the young nation's territory. A complex series of encounters between Indians and non-Indians therefore marked the age of the Early Republic as these two diverse groups struggled for power, identity, and social coherence in a rapidly changing North American landscape.

In the past historians described the experience of Native Americans in the Early Republic largely in military terms, reducing both Indians and United States citizens to the two-dimensional roles of "savage warriors" or "heroic frontiersmen." In recent years expanding interest in the history of American Indians and a broader understanding of the interaction of the two cultural traditions has produced historical literature that examines the struggles of this era in a more comprehensive way. Topics such as the diplomacy of Indians and whites, the shifting political and religious identity of Native American communities, and everyday life among the many tribal groups have attracted the attention of researchers and inspired a new generation of scholarship.

The United States Capitol Historical Society's 1992 symposium will examine the political and diplomatic realities facing Native Americans in the post-Revolutionary period, the diverse strategies adopted by Indian communities in the changing social and economic environment of the early nineteenth century, and the impact of this history on the images natives and newcomers had of each other. The conference—the fifteenth in the series begun in 1978—will take place on March 4 and 5, 1992, in Washington, D.C. It will convene in the Senate Caucus Room, SR-325, in the Russell Senate Office Building. The meeting has been organized to afford the program participants and the audience the widest possible opportunities for creative exchange.

A CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY
UNITED STATES CAPITOL
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1992

MORNING

8:30-9:00 Registration: Senate Caucus Room, SR-325, Russell Senate Office Building, between Delaware Avenue and 1st Street, N.E., on Constitution Avenue. All sessions are in this room.

9:00-9:30 Welcome: Fred Schwengel, President, U.S. Capitol Historical Society.

Opening Remarks: Ronald Hoffman, University of Maryland at College Park, Program Chairman.

Introduction: Frederick E. Hoxie, The Newberry Library, Honorary Chairman.

9:30-12:00 **SESSION I: Political and Diplomatic Realities.**

The Indian Policy of an "Empire for Liberty."

Reginald Horsman, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

The Death of the Fathers and the Failures of Alliance.

Richard White, University of Washington.

Commentary by Wilcomb E. Washburn, The Smithsonian Institution.

AFTERNOON

2:30-4:45 **SESSION II: Resistance and Accommodation.**

"Our Friendship Is Strong and Pure": Black Hoof and the Loyal Shawnees.

R. David Edmunds, Indiana University.

The New Commonwealth and the Newly Dispossessed: Natives and Pennsylvanians in the Early Republic.

Daniel K. Richter, Dickinson College.

Cultural Contact and Crises in the Early Republic: Native American Religious Renewal, Resistance, and Accommodation.

Joel W. Martin, Center for the Study of American Religion, Princeton University.

Commentary by Mary E. Young, University of Rochester.

4:45-6:00 *Portraits of the Land and Its People in the Capitol—A Special Tour of the United States Capitol.* Group limited to fifty persons.

Reservations must be made at the **Tour Desk**, outside the Senate Caucus Room, SR-325, by 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 4. For additional information, see **Conference Procedures**.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1992

MORNING

8:30-9:15 Historical Lecture Tour of the Capitol, conducted by Fred Schwengel, U.S. Capitol Historical Society.

8:45-9:15 Registration.

9:15-12:00 **Session III: Social Structure and Domestic Life.**

Native Women's "New World": Perceptions and Realities.

Theda Perdue, University of Kentucky.

Four Years, House to Log House: At Home among the Seneca Indians, 1787-1828.

George Daniel, New York State Museum.

Indigenous Livelihood and Jeffersonian Agrarianism: Living behind the Metaphors and Masks.

Daniel H. Usner, Jr., Cornell University.

Commentary by DuAnn Archambault, The Smithsonian Institution.

in cooperation with
The Newberry Library
and

The United States Congress

AFTERNOON

1:45-4:15 **Session IV: Images and Counterimages.**

Imaging the Indians in the U.S. Capitol during the Early Republic.

Vivian Fryd, Vanderbilt University.

The Common Man's Indian: The Image of the Indian as a Promoter of National Identity in the Early Republic, 1783-1828.

Elise Marion Davis, University of Paris.

The Iconography of Empire: Images of the American Indian in the Early Republic, 1783-1835.

Robert W. Venables, Cornell University.

4:30-5:15 **CONCLUDING LECTURE:**

Native Americans and the Early Republic.

James H. Merrell, Vassar College.

5:20-7:00 Reception: Mike Mansfield Room, S-207, United States Capitol.

Conference Procedures

All sessions of the conference and the closing reception are open to the public free of charge. Registration will take place at the door. **THERE IS NO ADVANCE REGISTRATION.** Persons who wish to attend the closing reception **MUST REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE BY 2:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, MARCH 5, IN ORDER TO BE ADMITTED TO THE CAPITOL. NO REGISTRATIONS BY PHONE OR MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED.** All reception guests must include their social security numbers on the registration form.

Portraits of the Land and Its People in the Capitol

A Special Tour of the U.S. Capitol

conducted by

Mrs. Florian Thayer

Former Head, Art and Reference Division

Office of the Architect of the Capitol

Wednesday, March 4, 1992

2:15-6:00 p.m.

A specialist in the art and architecture of the Capitol, Mrs. Thayer will emphasize depictions of the North American landscape and its inhabitants in the new republic's most important building. The tour is limited to fifty people. Reservations will be accepted during the registration period, 8:30-10:00 a.m. on March 4, 1992, at the specially marked **TOUR DESK** outside the Senate Caucus Room, SR-325, in the Russell Senate Office Building, on a first-come, first-served basis. **NO RESERVATIONS EITHER BY PHONE OR BY MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Social security numbers will be required of all registrants.

Historical Lecture Tour of the U.S. Capitol

conducted by

Mr. Fred Schwengel

President, U.S. Capitol Historical Society

Thursday, March 5, 1992

8:30-9:15 a.m.

This tour, led by Mr. Schwengel, a former United States Congressman, offers a unique opportunity to learn the history of the Capitol building. The tour is open to the symposium audience, but those persons desiring to participate must register on-site access to the Capitol is restricted before 9:00 a.m. Anyone planning to go on this tour must make a reservation at the **TOUR DESK** outside the Senate Caucus Room, SR-325, by noon on March 4, 1992. **NO RESERVATIONS BY PHONE OR MAIL WILL BE ACCEPTED.** All registrants must provide social security numbers.

GENEALOGY

Spring 1992

CLASSES

Sponsored by:

The Genealogical Club of the Montgomery Co. Historical Society

INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGY (BASIC COURSE), EVENINGS:

8 Two-hour Classes

Tuesday Evenings: Mar. 24, 31, Apr. 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12

Time: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Place: The Society's Library Building

Fee: \$45 Members / \$50 Non-Members

Instructor, Joyce Candland (301-424-6398)

Please register by Friday, Mar. 20, 1992

INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGY (BASIC COURSE), MORNINGS:

8 Two-hour Classes

Wednesday Mornings: Mar. 25, Apr. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: The Society's Library Building

Fee: \$45 Members / \$50 Non-Members

Instructor, Joyce Candland (301-424-6398)

Please register by Friday, Mar. 20, 1992

INTERMEDIATE GENEALOGY, MORNINGS:

8 Two-hour Classes

Monday Mornings: Mar. 9, 16, 23, 30 Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: The Society's Library Building

Fee: \$45 Members / \$50 Non-Members

Instructor: Ann Brown, (301-253-2443)

Please register by Friday, Mar. 6, 1992

INTERMEDIATE GENEALOGY, EVENINGS:

8 Two-hour Classes

Monday Evenings: Mar. 9, 16, 23, 30 Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27

Time: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Place: The Society's Library Building

Fee: \$45 Members / \$50 Non-Members

Instructor: Ann Brown, (301-253-2443)

Please register by Friday, Mar. 6, 1992

ADVANCED GENEALOGY, MORNINGS:

"Problem Solving Thru' Saturation Research"

8 Two-hour Classes

Thursday Mornings: Mar. 12, 19, 26, Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: The Society's Library Building

Fee: \$45 Members / \$50 Non-Members + \$5 cost of materials

Instructor: Ann Brown (301-253-2443)

Please register by Monday, Mar. 9, 1992

ADVANCED GENEALOGY, EVENINGS:

8 Two-hour Classes

Thursday Evenings: Mar.12,19,26, Apr.2,9,16,23,30

Time: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Place: The Society's Library Building

Fee: \$45 Members / \$50 Non-Members + \$5 cost of materials

Instructor: Ann Brown (301-253-2443)

Please register by Monday, Mar. 9, 1992

INTRODUCTION TO THE L.D.S. (MORMON) FAMILY HISTORY CENTER:

5 Two-hour Classes

Monday Evenings: Apr.13,20,27, May 4,11

Time: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Place: L.D.S. Family History Center (near the Temple)

10000 Stoneybrook Drive, Kensington, Md.

Fee: \$50 Members / \$55 Non-Members

Instructor: Joyce Candland (301-424-6398)

Please register by Friday, Apr. 10, 1992

INTRODUCTION TO DAR

4 Two-hour Classes & 1 trip to DAR

Thursday Evenings: May 7,14,21,28

Wednesday, Day trip to DAR, May 27, 1992

Time: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Place: The Society's Library Building

Fee: \$50 Members / \$55 Non-Members

Instructor: Ann Wellhouse

Please register by Monday, May 4, 1992



REGISTRATION

Please pay by check made out and send to:

The Montgomery Co. Historical Society, Inc.

103 West Montgomery Avenue

Rockville, Maryland 20850

(301) 762-1492

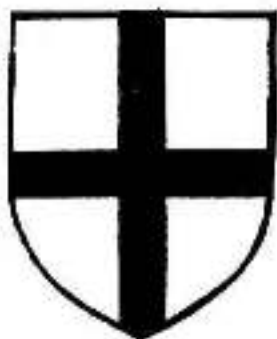
- () Intro.to Genealogy (Basic Course), Evenings (fee:\$45/\$50)
- () Intro.to Genealogy (Basic Course), Mornings (fee:\$45/\$50)
- () Intermediate Genealogy, Evenings (fee: \$45/\$50)
- () Intermediate Genealogy, Mornings (fee: \$45/\$50)
- () Advanced Genealogy, Evenings (fee: \$45/\$50 + \$5 materials)
- () Advanced Genealogy, Mornings (fee: \$45/\$50 + \$5 materials)
- () Intro.to L.D.S.(Mormon)Fam.Hist.Center (fee: \$50/\$55)
- () Introduction to DAR (fee: \$50/\$55 + \$5 DAR User fee)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

insert in NEWS & NOTES (PGCHS) - March, 1992



The Prince George's County Historical Society

SPRING TOUR

**BREAK OUT OF THE WINTER SEASON AND JOIN US
FOR A TOUR OF THREE BALTIMORE AREA SITES
ON SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1992.**

We will visit:

The Cloisters - On a 53 acre estate stands this former home of Sumner & Dudrea Parker, built in 1930 from plans of medieval French & English architecture and which now serves as a children's museum. Among many exhibits are Renaissance furniture and 17th/18th century paintings.

Hampton Hall - The palatial Georgian home of Revolutionary soldier and industrialist Charles Ridgely, built between 1783-1790. The interior is decorated with original furnishings of Captain Ridgely and his descendants, one of whom was Maryland Governor Charles Ridgely Carnan.

Luncheon * Hampton Tea Room * Make selection from reservation form below.

Mount Clare - Built in 1760 by Charles Carroll, Barrister member of the Continental Congress and author of the Maryland Declaration of Independence. On display are many original family items, including rare Chippendale & Hepplewhite pieces; Chinese porcelain; silverware.

**The price of \$30.00 per person includes all
entrance fees; transportation and luncheon.**

**Leave from "Marietta" Society Headquarters
5626 Bell Station Road - promptly at 8:45 A.M.**

DEADLINE - MARCH 21, 1992

Luncheon selection and name(s)

CRAB CAKE.....

STUFFED CHICKEN BREAST.....

**Please make checks payable to: Prince George's County Historical
Society**

Mail to: Warren Rhoads, 12501 Kemmerton Lane, Bowie, MD 20715

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

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

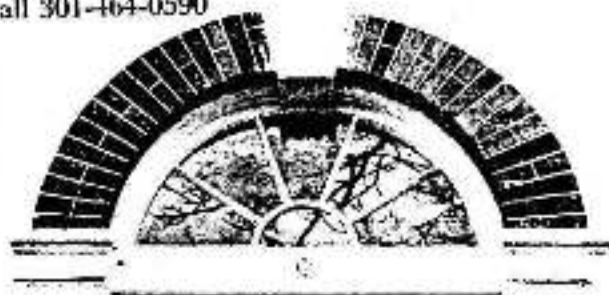
Hours of Operation

Library: Saturdays 12-4 p.m.

Gift Shop: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
and during Special Events

Marietta Tours: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
Group tours by appointment.

For more information
call 301-464-0590

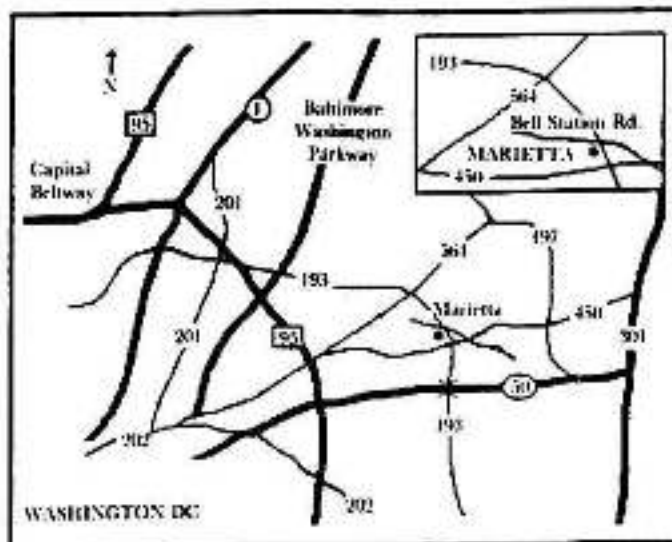


The Gift Shop

features a tasteful collection of handcrafted items
for home and gift-giving, toys and games for
children, small antiques, Historical Society
publications, and souvenirs of historic Marietta.

Location

Marietta is located at 5626 Bell Station Road in
Glenn Dale, Maryland, off Route 193 near Route
450.



A Facility of
The Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission

Prince George's County Historical Society

P.O. BOX 14
RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20737/0014



U.S. POSTAGE
Non-Profit Org.
PAID
Riverdale, Md.
20737
Permit No. 1948

DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED



"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County Historical Society



April 1992

Founded 1952 - Our 40th Year

Vol. XX, No. 4

1992-93 Board

President:
Bud Dutton

Board Members;
Cheryl Adams
Edith Bagot
John B. Bourne
Sarah Bourne
Susanna Cristofane
Frederick DeMarr
W. C. "Bud" Dutton
Jane Eagen
Ann Ferguson
John A. Giannetti
Paul T. Lanham
Joyce McDonald
John Mitchell
Warren W. Rhoads
David Richardson
Eugene B. Roberts

Newsletter Editor
David Richardson
P.O. Box 31698
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

**Next Newsletter
Deadline;
April 21**

\$27.50 per person

Please send reservations and number of people in your party to:
PGCHS, Attn: Sarah Bourne, 6808 Dartmouth Ave., College Park, MD 20740

*The Prince George's County Historical Society
and*

The Hall of Fame, Prince George's County, Inc.

*invite you to celebrate
the 296th anniversary of
the founding of our county
Sunday, April 26, 1992
at the Marlborough Hunt Club
Upper Marlboro, Maryland*



*In the tradition of old Prince George's County
the Society has planned a Southern Maryland
buffet, including crabcakes, fried chicken
and country ham*

*1:30 - 2:00 p.m., Open Bar St. George's Day Awards
3:00 p.m., Dinner Hall of Fame Presentation*

*R.S.V.P. by
April 18, 1992*

Prince George's County Proposes Historic District Study for Greenbelt

The City of Greenbelt has requested that the Prince George's County Planning Department produce a local historic district study for the Greenbelt National Register Historic District. The study would examine alternative boundaries, investigate possible historic preservation review guidelines, and identify potential conflicts with the pre-existing architectural guidelines of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. The work requested by the City will benefit from a study now being undertaken by County historic preservation staff for the City of Takoma Park, which has a task force working with planning department staff on preservation design review guidelines.

The City of Greenbelt has raised a number of questions that will be addressed in the study: the properties that should be included; what exterior changes should be exempt from the historic permit process; duties of the local review committee; and appropriate membership composition.

Since Greenbelt currently has an architectural review committee and design guidelines in place, the study will address the relationship of these existing regulations with any proposal for a locally designated historic district. The City is also interested in how local designation could recognize Greenbelt as a planned community and not just a collection of historic buildings. The study is expected to be completed by June of 1993.

D.C. Cathedral's Treasure Trove Donated Collection on Display

More than 500 years' worth of Christian church riches went on display for the first time in January at Washington Cathedral, including a display of priestly garments, prayer books, chalices and other memorabilia collected by the landmark Episcopal church during its 83 years in the Nation's Capitol.

The 80-plus donations, called "Cathedral Treasures" can be found located in the building's southwest corner and runs until June. It is open to the public during regular cathedral hours: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Washington Cathedral is located at Wisconsin and Massachusetts Aves., N.W., Washington, D.C.

News and Notes

In order to get our NEWS & NOTES mailed to members well in advance of scheduled programs and events, the following are dates you should keep in mind for submitting articles of interest to our readers.

ISSUES 1992	DEADLINE for articles	To be mailed
April	February 22	March 2
May	March 21	April 1
June	April 21	May 1
July/August	May 23	June 1
September	July 24	August 3
October	August 22	September 1
November	September 22	October 1
December	October 23	November 3

New Home for Diocesan Archives

It was both a happy and a sad goodbye to F. Garner Ranney, archivist and historiographer for the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, when he recently moved the archives to roomier quarters after a twenty-four-year sojourn on the mezzanine level of the MHS library. The archives will now be located in the new diocesan center at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, located at 4 East University Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21218, and Mr. Ranney will continue to supervise the records.

These archives include manuscripts, books, and various records documenting the worldwide history of the Episcopal Church in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as well as much national and local church history. Prior to Mr. Ranney's tenure, research in the archives was difficult and time-consuming; the papers were poorly arranged or virtually inaccessible, often tied in bundles labeled more than a hundred years ago. Although much remains to be done, general order has been established, and many thousands of papers have been cataloged. The catalog compiled by Mr. Ranney now contains approximately 157,000 cards that index the collection by name and subject. Mr. Ranney was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters by Nashotah House in Wisconsin for his work in organizing these archives.

We know that Garner Ranney will be as busy and successful in his new office as he was at the MHS library. He will continue to welcome visitors but advises that they make advance appointments by calling (410) 467-1399.



MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Museum and Library of Maryland History
91 West Monument Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



The Town of Bladensburg is celebrating its 250th Anniversary in 1992. The celebrations actually began on February 1, 1992, but many events continue through the year. The Mayor and Council of Bladensburg provide our PGCHS members with the following list of activities and hope that you will be able to join in celebration.

Saturday, May 9, 1992 Choir Festival
7:00 p.m. Publick Playhouse
Saturday, May 30, 1992 Memorial Day Ceremony
10:00 a.m. Evergreen Cemetery
Sunday, June 14, 1992 Flag Day
(Flags displayed throughout Town)
Saturday, July 4, 1992 July 4th Ceremony
11:00 a.m. Peace Cross
Saturday, August 15, 1992 Battle Re-Enactment
1:00 p.m. Port Site
Saturday, August 15, 1992 Balloon Festival
5:00 p.m. Balloon Park
Saturday, September 19, 1992 Parade
11:00 a.m. Annapolis Road
Saturday & Sunday, September 19 & 20, 1992
All Day - Bladensburg Days
Various sites throughout Town
Saturday, October 3, 1992 Gala Ball
7:00 p.m. Bladensburg Firehouse
Sunday, November 22, 1992 Thanksgiving Services
3:00 p.m. Publick Playhouse

Prince George's Heritage Sponsors Technical Workshops

Prince George's County historical organizations will sponsor two hands-on workshops this spring. Prince George's Heritage, Inc. will bring "Historic Window Repair" and "The Care and Maintenance of Historic Textiles and Fabrics" to the public. The window repair workshop will be held on Saturday, April 11 at historic "Milford" near the intersection of Routes 50 and 301. It is co-sponsored by the Prince George's Historical and Cultural Trust. For further information, contact Kevin Phillips at 301-627-3429.

The fabric workshop is co-sponsored by the Maryland-National Parks and Planning Commission and will take place on Saturday, May 9 at the M-NCPPC building in Riverdale, MD. Susanna Yatman is the contact person for this event. She can be reached at 301-927-1226.



FOGM
Friends of the Greenbelt Museum
Greenbelt, Maryland

The Friends of the Greenbelt Museum announce the production of a video entitled "GREENBELT: THE IDEAL COMMUNITY." Financed in part with State funds from the Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program and by a grant from the Gilbert and Jaylee Mead Family Foundation, the video highlights the unique history and development of the City of Greenbelt. It will be used as an introduction to, and promotion of, the Greenbelt Museum.

A new display, **THE HOME FRONT, WORLD WAR II**, has also opened at the Museum. This exhibition demonstrates the involvement of the civilian population in the war effort of the Second World War. The majority of the items are on loan from the extensive collections of Mr. Joe Nichols and Mr. Ed Steers. **THE HOME FRONT** exhibition closes on July 26, 1992.

The Greenbelt Museum preserves the cultural and historical heritage of the City of Greenbelt. It is located at 10-B Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland and is open every Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and by appointment by calling 301/474-1936.



Welcome New Members to PGCHS



Albert Buschak
Even & Mary Jenkins
James L. Skidmore

"In The Mood"

The big band sounds of World War II-era swing music will fill the Jacob and Annita France auditorium on Saturday and Sunday, April 4 and 5, when the Maryland Historical Society presents "In the Mood," a nostalgic stage revue of live music, dance, and period newsreels. More than thirty popular songs made famous by the Andrews Sisters, Frank Sinatra, Carmen Miranda, Glenn Miller's Band and many others will be presented by the female trio String of Pearls and male vocalist and dancer Brian Donnelly. A lively and colorful patriotic pageant, "In the Mood" includes vintage film clips of Broadway and Hollywood nightlife from the *Army-Navy Screen Magazine* and "The March of Time" newsreel.

Big band swing, according to announcer Westbrook van Vorhes in a "March of Time" newsreel, was "the war tempo of a mighty but light-hearted nation." Whether heard on record players, radios or jukeboxes, swing was a national music that defined wartime culture. It was even a weapon when titles of popular songs adorned the noses of Glenn L. Martin bombers.

James Morris, longtime director of the Smithsonian Institution's Division of Performing Arts and creator of Washington's Festival of American Folklife, wrote and directed this revue; Bud Forrest, handleader of the

Civil War Lecture Series

Tuesday, April 7, 1992 - 8 P.M.

Civil War Photography: A Journey in Time

William A. Frassanito photographic historian and author, will discuss the use of Civil War photographs as historical documents and share with the audience the detective work that led to his fascinating books on Antietam and Gettysburg.

Tuesday, April 14, 1992 - 8 P.M.

C.S.S. Alabama: Lost and Found

William S. Dudley, senior historian, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, will outline the broad contours of Union and Confederate naval strategy at the beginning of the Civil War and trace the history of the *C.S.S. Alabama*, commanded by Marylander Raphael Semmes until her sinking off the coast of France in 1864. The *Alabama's* remains were discovered in 1984.

Thursday, April 23, 1992 - 8 P.M.

Why They Fought: Ideology and Combat Motivation During the Civil War

James M. McPherson, professor of American History at Princeton University and author of the Pulitzer-Prize-winning, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era*, will discuss soldiers' varied perceptions of the war.

Individual lectures: \$4 members; \$5 non-members

Series price: \$10 members; \$12 non-members

Washington Swing Orchestra and former accompanist to the U.S. Air Force "Singing Sergeants" produced it. Tickets are \$12; performances are scheduled on Saturday at 8 P.M. and Sunday at 2:30 P.M. Seating is limited for this show and advance reservations are strongly encouraged. Enlist now at 685-3750!



MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Museum and Library of Maryland History
201 West Monument Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Christie's Appraisal Day

Saturday, May 9, 1992 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Here's your chance to discover what your treasures are really worth! Experts from Christie's, a leading international auction house, will be at the MHS to give a verbal appraisal of American furniture, American paintings, silver, rare books, photos and manuscripts at a nominal fee per appraisal. Mark the date and watch for further information!



What's Ahead

MARCH 25

MARYLAND DAY

St. Clement's Island-
Potomac River Museum

Colton's Point

Wed, 11am-2pm.

St. Clement's Island-Potomac River Museum: 301-769-2222. *

MARYLAND DAY

Calvert Memorial Court House

Baltimore

Wed, 11am-12N.

Information: 410-889-6060.

APRIL 3-5

OUR SHOW OF HANDS - A SPRINGTIME SAMPLER CRAFT SHOW

Davidsonville Ruritan Community Center (AAR) Davidsonville

Fri, 12N-6pm; Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, 10am-4pm.

Our Show of Hands - L. Fiduccia: 410-224-6542. *

APRIL 5-12

WASHINGTON CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

Constitution Ave. Washington, D.C.

Sun-Sun; formal ball \$, Fri 10 pm; parade (bleachers \$) Sat 11 am.

Festival Office: 202-737-2599. *

APRIL 5 - MAY 29

TACTILE ART SHOW

Montpelier Cultural Arts Center

Laurel

Daily, 10am-5pm; reception Apr. 10, Fri, 7pm.

Montpelier Cultural Arts Center: 301-953-1993, 410-792-0664. *

APRIL 11

JOHN WILKES BOOTH ESCAPE ROUTE TOUR

Surratt House Museum

Clinton

Sat, 7:30am-7:30pm.

Laurie Verge: 301-868-1121. \$

APRIL 11-12

REVOLUTIONARY WAR RE-ENACTMENT

Furnace Town Historic Site

Snow Hill

Sat-Sun, 11am-5pm.

Furnace Town Foundation: 410-632-2032. \$ *

April 1992

APRIL 24-25



JOHN HANSON PATRIOTS, ST MARY, STAR OF SEA FIFE & DRUM CORPS MUSTER

Village Green

Indian Head

Sat, 7am.

Mabel F. Painter: 301-743-5836, 301-753-6939.

MUSTER - VILLAGE GREEN INDIAN HEAD

Village Green

Indian Head

Mabel Painter: 301-743-5836, 301-753-6939.

APRIL 15 - JULY 1



MARYLAND'S MOST BEAUTIFUL PARENTS

Statewide

Floraine Applefeld, Md You Are Beautiful: 410-974-3085. *

APRIL 17

EASTER HAPPENING

Allen Pond Park

Bowie

Fri, 3:30-5pm.

M. NCPIC Bowie City Hall: 301-262-7510. *

APRIL 18



CONFERENCE ON THE NATIVE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN MD.

Legislative Services Building

Annapolis

Sat, 9am-4:30pm.

Maryland State Archives: 410-974-3914. \$ *

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



APRIL 25

CELTIC FESTIVAL OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum *St. Leonard*

Sat, 10am-6pm.

Two daylong Celtic music and dance stages;
bagpiping, Highland dancing, Highland athletics
and Scottish fiddling competitions. Celtic
merchandise and food, clans and societies, and more.
Celtic Society of Southern Maryland: 410-535-3274. \$ 6

APRIL 26

HISTORIC CHURCH TOUR • SPECIAL 250TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Various locations

Sun, 3pm.

Worcester County Tourism: 800-852-0315. \$

HISTORYFEST

Mount Clare Mansion

Information: 410-837-3262. \$

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR

County-wide

Sun, 10am-5pm.

Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage: 410-821-6933. \$

SPRING CHORAL CONCERT

Memorial Chapel, Univ. of Maryland

Sun, 7:30pm.

University of Maryland Chorus: 301-405-5571. \$ 6

MAY 2

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR

County-wide

Sat, 10am-5pm.

Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage: 410-821-6933. \$



Prince George's County Genealogical Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 819
Bowie, MD 20718-0819

National Genealogical Society Annual Conference - Jacksonville, FL April 29-May 2
[contact PGCCS for details]

Call for 1993 NGS Conference Lecture Proposals. The NGS invites lecture proposals for its 1993 Conference scheduled for 2-5 June in Baltimore, MD, with the theme, "A Chesapeake Homecoming." Contact Eric G. Grundset, 5200 Marvell Lane, Fairfax, VA 22032.

Baltimore County Historical Society, Inc.

9811 Van Buren Lane, Cockeysville, MD 21030

(410) 666-1876 (Library), 666-1878 (Museum)

Hours: Wed. (Library and Museum) 1-4 P.M., Sat. 10 A.M.-3 P.M.

Sunday, April 12, 1992, 2:30 P.M. Slide talk on "The Western Maryland Railroad" by Stewart Rhine.

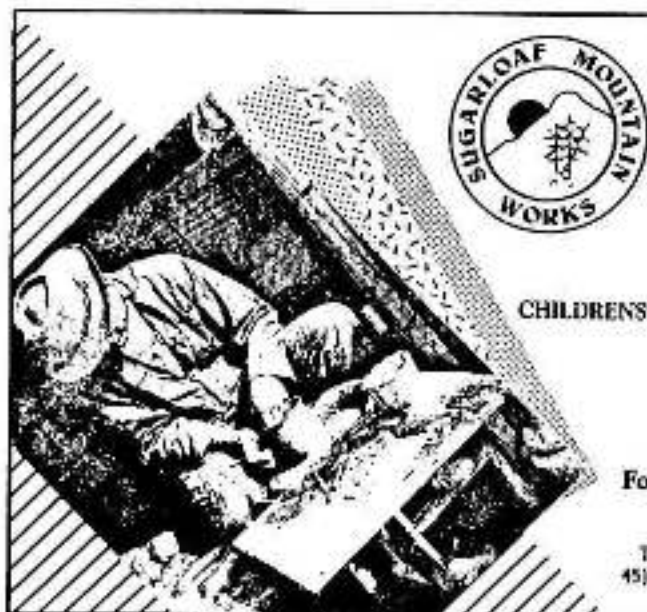
Sunday, May 17, 1992, 2:30 P.M. Slide talk on "Suburban Baltimore Houses" by Michael Grimes.

Programs are held at the Padonia Elementary School, 9834 Greenside Drive, Cockeysville. Open to the public. Admission free.

On exhibit in the rooms of the Society at 9811 Van Buren Lane: "Bel Air Road at the Seven Mile Tavern, Baltimore County," a recently installed mural, dating from the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

May 1992

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



Sugarloaf's 15th Annual Spring Crafts Festival

May 1, 2, 3, 1992

335 Juried Artists and Craftspeople

CHILDRENS' ENTERTAINMENT • DEMONSTRATIONS • GREAT FOOD

Daily Adult Admission \$5.00

Hours: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 10-6

Maryland State Fairgrounds

Timonium, Maryland

For Discount Admission Coupons, Call (301) 990-1400

DIRECTIONS: Take Baltimore Beltway I-695 to I-83 North (Beltway Exit 24). Take Padonia Rd. exit (follow Fairground's sign). Turn right onto York Rd. (MD 45). Fairground's entrance is on right side of York Rd. (approx. 4 miles from I-695).

Riversdale Phase II Restoration Set to Begin

By Chris Davis



Although the exterior work on Riversdale, the Calvert Mansion, is finished, a substantial amount of interior work is still to be completed. Some parts of the house are in ruin and meetings have been held to prequalify contractors and refine details of Phase II of the restoration project. Phase II work involves repair and replacement of flat plaster on walls and ceilings and repair and replacement of all floors. It will also include restoration of the brick floor in the basement. Once that is completed, the mansion will be open to the public for tours and receptions. Riversdale will not be completely restored until Phase III - restoration of the ornamental plaster and composition elements, wood graining, and application of historically accurate paint and wall paper - is finished.

Although in the past the state and county under their capital improvements budget have provided funding for the restoration of Riversdale, the recent economic downturn could well mean the end of this source of money. If you are interested in this project, you can help ensure the mansion's complete restoration by joining the Riversdale Historical Society (RHS). This all-volunteer society has been the support organization for the mansion since 1976. Currently RHS has members from across the country and from around the world, including the descendants of the Calvert family, but the society could use more support from residents of Riverdale and Prince George's County. For as little as \$10 annually, residents can be a part of the preservation of this town's history. To join, please fill out and mail in the membership application below.

This article reprinted from

The Riverdale Town Crier

Official Newsletter, Town of Riverdale, Maryland

March 1992, Volume 22, Issue 3

Riversdale Historical Society, Inc., 1992 Membership Application

Insert in PGCHS NEWS & NOTES, April '92

Name _____
Address _____
Telephone _____

Please enter my membership for 1992 as follows:

Individual \$10 _____
Family \$15 _____
Contributing \$25 _____
Supporting \$50 _____

Membership includes a subscription to *The Riverdale Crier*, a quarterly newsletter devoted to the Calvert family and to the past, present, and future of the mansion.

Make check payable and send to
Treasurer, The Riverdale Historical Society, Inc.
4511 Riverdale Road
Riverdale, Maryland 20757

**NATIONAL REUNION OF DESCENDANTS
OF MARYLAND CATHOLICS TO KENTUCKY
JULY 24 TO JULY 26, 1992**

Dear Maryland Descendent:

You are cordially invited to the 1992 NATIONAL REUNION OF DESCENDENTS OF MARYLAND CATHOLICS TO KENTUCKY. The reunion will be held Friday, July 24, 1992 through Sunday, July 26, 1992 in beautiful historic St. Mary's County, Maryland.

Join the descendants of Maryland's pioneers for a weekend of fun, fellowship and history. The reunion headquarters will be at the new Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department Hall (on MD Route 235, approximately 1/2 mile north of the intersection of MD Route 235 and MD Route 245). Registration begins Friday, July 24 at 10 A.M. There will be plenty of time throughout the weekend to exchange family history and research. Copy machines will be available at the Fire Department Hall. You will also have free time to enjoy St. Mary's County's wonderful historical attractions.

To welcome the descendants, the St. Mary's County community will be hosting a reception on Friday night. And, you won't want to miss the Saturday night banquet featuring some of St. Mary's County's local delicacies. Sunday concludes the reunion with a special field Mass at the Chapel Field in Historic St. Mary's City followed by a brunch at St. Mary's College.

For further information, please contact Doris Beaven Jones or Ruth Rebecca Wathen Proffitt at 301/475-5029 or 301/994-0859.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1992 NATIONAL COLONIAL FARM

- March 29 (Sunday)** COLONIAL WEAPONS DISPLAY...Come see the types of weapons the colonists used on the eve of the Revolution, and how they were used in everyday life.
- April 25 & 26 (Sat.&Sun.)** SPRING FARM FESTIVAL & MILITIA MUSTER...Celebrate Spring in the colonial way! Watch the militias prepare the troops for battle with drills and marches. Colonial chores and crafts on site will include butter churning, sheep shearing, spinning, basketry, children's games and much more.
- May 17 (Sunday)** CHILDREN'S DAY...Experience the child's life in the 18th century. The children will perform chores, play games and prepare their lunch over an open hearth. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., ages 8-12, \$2/child, members free.
- June (Each Sun.)** FIELD CROP MONTH...Spend Sunday afternoons helping our colonial interpreters in the fields harvesting rare, heirloom varieties of crops and planting corn and tobacco. Hoes and reaping hooks will be provided!
- September 26 (Saturday)** FALL FARM FESTIVAL...Come celebrate the approaching fall and winter months! Colonial chores and crafts will be demonstrated. Presentations will include cider pressing, candle dipping, corn husk doll making, blacksmithing and broom making to name a few. To the extent possible, the public may participate in the presentations.
- November 15 (Sunday)** FOODWAYS...The time to prepare for the cold winter months is upon us and food preservation is a must. Our colonial interpreters will be making beef jerky, curing ham, pickling and sausage stuffing.
- December 6 (Sunday)** WINTER CHORES...Winter was not a time to hibernate but rather a time to prepare for the future. Come see candle making, soap making, corn grinding and seed saving, to name a few. Visitor participation will be encouraged.

Prince George's County Historical Society...

dedicated to perpetuating an appreciation of the history and traditions of Prince George's County, DC...

- collecting and preserving memorabilia relative to Prince George's County and the state of Maryland
- facilitating research into the county's history
- disseminating historical data through Society publications and programs
- promoting the protection and preservation of historic sites and structures in Prince George's County



Advantages of Membership

- Subscription to "News and News", published monthly by the Society
- Regular meetings with educational and informative programs
- Day trips to historic sites in Prince George's County and neighboring areas
- Invitations to receptions and other special events
- Discounts on selected gift shop items
- Use of the Frederick S. DeMaré Library of County History
- Opportunity to participate in the Society's volunteer activities

PGCHS

Prince George's County Historical Society CALENDAR

April 4, 11, 18, 25 Saturdays	PGCHS Library/Marietta Open 12-4 p.m.
April 5, 12, 19 Sundays	PGCHS Tours/Marietta 12-4 p.m. <u>call ahead first</u> 301/464-0590
April 26 Easter Sunday	St. George's Day 1:30 p.m. Marlborough Hunt Club Membership & guests
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Saturdays	PGCHS Library/Marietta Open 12-4 p.m. [note: May 30 is Memorial Day. Call ahead first]
May 9 Saturday	Membership Meeting [details in next NEWS & NOTES]
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Sundays	PGCHS Tours/Marietta 12-4 p.m. <u>call ahead first</u> 301/464-0590
June 13 Saturday	Special Event/Skarda Awards [details in next NEWS & NOTES]
July-August	No membership meetings
September	Special Event [to be announced]

Preservation Brings History To Life

Maryland Preservation Month (May) and National Preservation Week (May 10-16) will be upon us soon. The theme, annually designated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is "Preservation Brings History to Life." The National Trust has recommended activities that local preservation organizations can produce to foster community spirit and involvement. Some ideas include an editorial campaign promoting preservation in local and regional newspapers, essay contests for school students, and storefront museums in downtown commercial districts. Exhibits portraying the history of the building, business, ownership, main street, or town could be installed in store windows for the month. This is a great way to bring preservation organizations, the general public, and businesses together to "bring history to life." Businesses can also use this as an interesting promotional or staff development tool.

On top of all the benefits to the community, it is low cost and needs only a bit of legwork. Let's "bring history to life" in May all over Maryland. The National Trust once again has mailed out packets to promote the organization of these types of activities. They will be distributed to local and regional organizations soon.

Let's work together to make Maryland shine in Preservation Month again this year. For further information, contact Sue King at the Maryland Historical Trust at 410-514-7600 or The National Trust for Historic Preservation at 202-673-4000.

Prince George's County Historical Society

Annual Membership Application

Date: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone (Home): _____
(Business): _____

Please indicate whether this is a new membership or renewal
☐ New ☐ Renewal

Check below the category you select

- ☐ Full-time Student.....\$10.00
☐ Member.....\$20.00
☐ Life Member.....\$200.00
☐ Sustaining.....\$50.00

☐ Additional Contribution: _____

☐ I am interested in helping the society as a volunteer.
Please contact me regarding volunteer opportunities.

☐ For membership with the Maryland Historical Society, include an additional \$15.00 for individual membership or \$25.00 for husband and wife.



Our operating support comes from your dues and contributions. All contributions are tax deductible.
We appreciate your support.

Make your check payable to PGCHS
Mail check and form to:

Prince George's County Historical Society
Post Office Box 14
Riverdale, Maryland 20737
301/464-0590



INQUIRIES?

- Change of address
- Dues payment
- Gifts
- Report missing issues
- Correspond about related matters

Write to:

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 14
RIVERDALE, MD 20737-0014

Please include address label from recent issue.

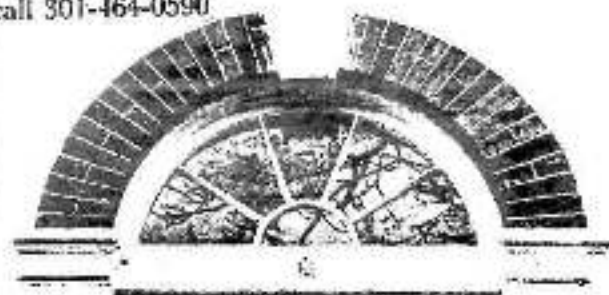
Hours of Operation

Library: Saturdays 12-4 p.m.

Gift Shop: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
and during Special Events

Marietta Tours: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
Group tours by appointment.

For more information
call 301-464-0590



The Gift Shop

features a tasteful collection of handcrafted items
for home and gift-giving, toys and games for
children, small antiques, Historical Society
publications, and souvenirs of historic Marietta.

Location

Marietta is located at 5626 Bell Station Road in
Glenn Dale, Maryland, off Route 193 near Route
450.



A Facility of
The Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission

Prince George's County Historical Society

P.O. BOX 14
RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20737/0014



U.S. POSTAGE
Non-Profit Org.
PAID
Riverdale, Md.
20737
Permit No. 1848

DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED



"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County
Historical Society



May 1992

Founded 1952 - Our 40th Year

Vol. XX, No.5

1992-93 Board

President:
Bud Dutton

Board Members:
Cheryl Adams
Edith Bagot
John B. Bourne
Sarah Bourne
Susanna Cristofane
Frederick DeMarr
W. C. "Bud" Dutton
Jane Eagan
Ann Ferguson
John A. Giannetti
Paul T. Lanham
Joyce McDonald
John Mitchell
Warren W. Rhoads
Eugene B. Roberts



Mark
your
calendar!

June 13
meeting
at
Marietta

Donald Skarda Awards Planned For June Meeting

Skarda Awards Chairperson, Cheryl Adams has received over 20 entries in this year's Donald Skarda Memorial History Award Contest. The competition this year challenged students to research an historic site in the county. Entries include such sites as the A.M.E. Zion Church, "Bostwick", Darnall's Chance, Surratt House, North Brentwood, College Park Airport, North Hampton Slave Cabin, Adelphi Mill, the Laurel Factory House and Oxon Hill Manor to name a few. From the looks of the quality of the entries the judges are going to have a difficult time selecting the winners. Be sure to attend the June 13 meeting of the Society so you can see the great work that the county's students have done on these projects and be on hand to congratulate these young people for efforts.

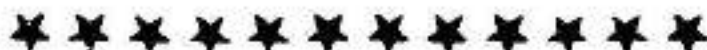
see page 2...

Mad Hatter's Tea Party (in March) A Success

The Mad Hatter's Tea Party was a tremendous success again this year. We had three sittings on Saturday and another on Sunday afternoon to accommodate the overflow requests for reservations. In all 123 children and adults sipped tea, munched on sandwiches and delectable sweets, and heard the Mad Hatter (Dusty Rhoads) read about Alice's adventurous tea party. Susan Wolfe conducted tours of the mansion for the adults while the children were read to. The Society appreciates all of the donations of food, linens, serving pieces, and/or time from Edith Bagot, Guy Barron, Sarah Bourne, Myrna Combs, Jane Eagan, Donna Herritt, Jean Jennings and her daughters, Emily and Elyse, Marie Meredith, Sarah Mosley, Joyce McDonald, Lois Nickel, Maxi Phillips, Julie and Dusty Rhoads, and Valerie Smith and her daughter Miriam. A special thanks goes to Roxann King and her Cadet Troop #1000 and Lynn Kenny and her Junior Girl Scout Troop #717 for all their hard work and wonderful help in serving tea and goodies. It was great having those young legs to run up and down the stairs to and from the kitchen all day! The Society's Marietta account benefitted over \$400 from this event. Of course this would not have been possible without the generosity of the Society's members and friends.

-Susan Wolfe-

The Flying Camp of the Maryland Militia Comes to Marietta



-Cheryl Adams-



The Society's June 13th meeting at Marietta will be a dual program consisting of a re-created American Revolution camp and presentations to the Donald D. Skarda Memorial History Award winners.

Bruce Murray, Society member and library media specialist in two of our county elementary schools, will re-create an 18th century Maryland Militia camp. In Maryland, local militia companies formed the backbone of volunteer and standing units that not only guarded the home front but also fed soldiers into state or Continental Army units. Mr. Murray will share facets of camp life from professional duties and chores to games and crafts that the men and their family followers did to pass away the time. He will use original Revolutionary War items and reproductions to enhance his presentation.

Participants and winners of the Skarda Memorial History Award, their families, and teachers are invited to join the Society for this meeting. This year's students were asked to research a historical site in Prince George's County. Their projects, consisting of models, scrapbooks, essays, and videos, will be on display before and after the program in the downstairs sunroom at Marietta.

The June meeting will be an appropriate time for members to bring their young neighbors and/or children/grandchildren to hear this excellent program that will educate and entertain the young as well as the young at heart.



From the Editor . . .

First of all, my sincere apologies to you for not getting this issue of **NEWS & NOTES** into your hands in time to announce important news & events of interest to the membership of the Prince George's County Historical Society. A special note of apology to those people who were so good to submit articles that I have not included in this issue. This was due to my delay in compiling this issue and getting it to the printer in time. Unfortunately, events in my life of late have prevented me from devoting the time necessary to be of better service to you. I'm sorry.

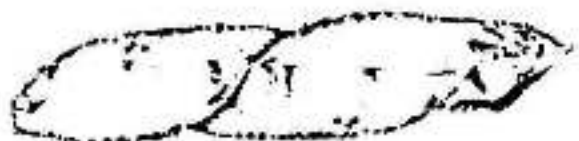
When I volunteered to become the compiler/editor of **NEWS & NOTES** last year, it was my hope to be able to serve the PCHS membership for some time. As a native of the area, having been raised in Prince George's County, I welcomed the opportunity to do my small part in assisting the Society and anticipated that my contribution would continue for quite awhile. I'm afraid that such is not to be.

For a variety of reasons, none of which I am at liberty to share with you, I will have to resign from the Board of Directors of PCHS and as editor of **NEWS & NOTES**, effective almost immediately. Perhaps I will be able to see that one (or two) more issues are printed and sent to you, but I will not be able to continue into the fall.

THANK YOU to all you members/readers who were thoughtful and supportive this past year. Your articles and letters were greatly appreciated. My sincere hope is that whoever assumes the responsibility of editing future issues of **NEWS & NOTES** will be able to improve on what I have tried to accomplish and will receive a great deal of assistance from you who care about history in general and Prince George's County history in particular. May each of you be blessed a hundredfold by God's goodness.

Best wishes.

(Rev. Brother) David Richardson, O.S.C.



-Joyce McDonald-

ANTIQUE FEATHER MATTRESS DONATED TO SOCIETY

An antique feather mattress tick has been donated to the Society by Dr. Weems McFadden, a member of the Society of Mareen Duvall Descendants. It will be used in a trundle bed (to be constructed) at Marietta. The tick had been passed through several generations of his family and is a welcome addition to the Marietta furnishings.



DUVALL DESCENDENT MAKES GIFTS TO SOCIETY

The Society is very grateful to Jerry Jacobsen, a direct descendant of Justice Duvall, for new information about the judge and his family. Mr. Jacobsen, on a visit from his home in Ohio, stopped at Marietta last fall. He mentioned that a relative in Baltimore had recently discovered Duvall family papers in an old trunk. The documents had been given to the Maryland Historical Society. On his return to Ohio, not only did Mr. Jacobsen send copies of those papers for the Society collection, but he also included Xeroxes of family photographs. Along with a letter of thanks for our hospitality was enclosed a life membership application to the Prince George's Historical Society!

The documents included miscellaneous papers of the judge's son Edmund Duvall's military accounts, and Gabriel Duvall's account book relating to his guardianship of his four grandchildren. They were orphaned when their father died in 1831 and their mother the following year. The accounts were kept from 1834 until the end of 1842 (The judge was then 90 years of age). As executor, Justice Duvall had disposed of his son's personal property at auction, with proceeds to be divided among the children.

Among the articles listed as unsold was a forte piano, which was valued at \$150. Duvall later noted that the piano had been purchased in 1836 by Mrs. Magruder for \$100, but not taken. The heirs were each credited \$25. (The forte piano in the parlor was purchased by the Historical Society in recreating the house inventory of 1834).

There are logs of the amounts spent on the children's clothes, education, and medical care which give a glimpse of 19th century life. Duvall purchased the children's clothing and yard

continued on next page...



goods from C.C. Hyatt. He was meticulous in recording every purchase; for instance, Marcus' account was docked ten cents for a dozen shirt buttons and \$.125 for one yard of cotton for drawers. (Marcus once complained in a letter to his grandfather about the ragged condition of his clothes and how poorly they fit). Marcus' tuition at Brookville Academy per quarter, paid in advance, was \$33.75. Edmund, at St. John's in Annapolis was \$42, also in advance. The girls' expenses were for clothes, but there are entries for the purchase of school books.

Especially interesting are the records of the slaves owned by the estate. In addition to their names, ages, and family relationships, their lives are chronicled. Gabriel hired them to work at Marietta, fed, clothed and paid their doctor bills. Their wages were credited to his son's estate. Their duties were listed: several of them worked in the fields; Serena "remained in the kitchen to take care of her young children;" Rachel "attended Gabriella (Gabriel's youngest granddaughter) constantly. not hired." An entry of June, 1837 notes "Seneca having run away, he was taken up, committed to Jail & sold for \$450. The Reward \$100, and Jail fees, etc. amount to \$106.73--leaving \$343.27 the net balance to be accounted for to the children."

Judge Duvall also managed real estate and investments inherited by the children. He records these transactions, as well as the taxes paid on their estate. His attention to detail and his mental acuity are obvious in reading these accounts. Despite his age he attended conscientiously to his duties as guardian, distributing income shares to each child according to their parents' wills, and deducting expenses incurred. These accounts further expand our knowledge of Gabriel Duvall and his personality and serve to reinforce the good opinion of the man held by all who volunteer at Marietta. Many thanks to Mr. Jacobsen.

NEWS ABOUT FORMER ORAL HISTORY CONSULTANT

Susan Ewing, consultant to the Society's Oral History Program which produced the video "Growing Up in Prince George's County," moved last year to California. She is now working at Aircraft Technical Publishers converting aviation maintenance and government regulatory documents for publication on a CD ROM, a topic far afield from oral history but related to her former job in aviation records with the National Air and Space Museum.

A recent letter announced her upcoming wedding in August, 1993. Susan sends her regards to all her Prince George's County Historical Society friends and admonishes us to "keep the tapes rolling!"

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS PLANNED

The Decatur House is presenting lunchtime concerts on Monday, June 22, featuring the Navy Band Sea Chanters and Friday, September 4, featuring the Navy Band Topside Combo. The programs begin at noon at the Decatur Carriage House at 1610 H Street, N.W.. The admission is free and the courtyard area will be open for those wishing to bring a bag lunch. For information call Sarah Shaffer at 202/842-0920.



Decatur House (1818-1819) Washington, D.C.

CALENDAR *of Events*

June

Each Sunday

Field Crop Month. National Colonial Farm,
Oxon Hill, MD

Wednesday, June 3
7 p.m.

Prince George's County Genealogical Society
Greenbelt Public Library
11 Crescent Rd., Greenbelt, MD.
"History of Railroading in America."
The meeting is open to the public. Visitors
are welcome. More info: call, 301-262-1019.

Oxon Hill Farm is a unit of the National Park Service, and is open every day, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free, as are all activities. A 24 hour taped message with directions to the farm as well as program information is available on 301-839-1177. Group reservations can be made on 301-839-1176, weekdays 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. TDD service on 301-839-1783.

Saturday & Sunday

June 6 & 7 9-4 p.m. WHERE'S THE WINDMILL? An Archaeological Dig
The Montgomery Co. Historical Society
Beall-Dawson House, 103 West Montgomery Ave.
Rockville, MD. Free, but limited space.
To register, call 301-762-1492.

JUNE 6

BOWIEFEST

Allen Pond Park
Sat, 11am-6pm.
City of Bowie: 301-262-6200. \$

Bowie

ARDMORE DAY FESTIVAL

Ardmore Neighborhood Park
Sat, 10am-5pm.
Marie Brown: 301-773-2889. \$

Ardmore

JUNE 5 - AUGUST 21

MONTPELIER INVITATIONAL SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

Montpelier Cultural Arts Center
Daily, 10am-5pm; reception June 6, 7pm.
Montpelier Cultural Arts Center: 301-953-1993, 410-792-0664. \$

Laurel

JUNE 6-7

AMERICAN INDIAN FESTIVAL AND POW WOW

16816 Country Lane
Sat-Sun, 12N.
Presentation of Native American Indian culture
including songs, dances, crafts, food and refreshments.
Maryland Indian Heritage Society: 301-372-1932. \$ &

Brandywine

JUNE 7

ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Hollaway Tyler Printing Corp.
Sun, 12N-5pm.
Carolee Duckman, M-NCPPC: 301-249-9220. \$

Glenn Dale

Thursday, June 11

BASEBALL AND THE HOMEFRONT

Lecture and
Booksigning, Walter Johnson High School,
6400 Rock Spring Drive, Bethesda, MD
(Montgomery Co. Historical Society)
\$4 admission. \$2 for MCHS members

JUNE 11-14



SPIRIT OF AMERICA

Capital Centre

Landover

Thur-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 2pm & 8pm; Sun, 1:30pm & 6:30pm.
U.S. Army Military District of Washington: 202-475-0685.

JUNE 20

NORTH BRENTWOOD DAY

Town Park, Allison & Banner Sts.
Sat, 8am-6pm.
James Jones or Lawrence Moody: 301-864-0756. \$

North Brentwood

JUNE 26-28

MID-ATLANTIC SPEED HORSE BONANZA

Prince George's Equestrian Center
Paul Lundberg: 301-952-4740. \$ &

Upper Marlboro

JUNE 27

BRENTWOOD DAY

Bartlett Park - 4300 39th Place
Sat, 9am-6pm.
Chris Robinson: 301-445-4500. \$

Brentwood

MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM AND LIBRARY OF MARYLAND HISTORY
 201 West Monument Street
 Baltimore, MD 21201
 (410) 685-3750



J U L Y

SPRING AND SUMMER EXHIBITS

Through August 2, 1992

"Maryland Line in the Revolution"

This exhibit focuses on important Revolutionary period portraits and documents relating to the role of Marylanders in America's war for independence and the establishment of the Society of the Cincinnati.

June 20, 1992 - August 15, 1992

"The Portraits and History Paintings of Alonzo Chappel"
 Organized by the Brandywine River Museum, this traveling exhibition celebrates Chappel's contribution to American history painting and to illustration. More than fifty-five works including dramatic paintings, engravings and illustrations are displayed.

J U N E

TUESDAY 2 and THURSDAY 4 6-9 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: "Shipwrecks and Underwater Archaeology - 19th-Century Hulks in the Port of Baltimore," Dr. Fred Hopkins. Tickets \$20; members \$18.

TUESDAY 9 and THURSDAY 11 6-8 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: "The Great Baltimore Fire - A Different Perspective," Harold A. Williams. Tickets \$20; members \$18.

TUESDAY 16 and THURSDAY 18 6-8 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: "Traditional Chesapeake Bay Sailing Craft - An Evening Aboard the Minnie V. and the Lady Maryland." Tickets \$20; members \$18.

MONDAY 22 through FRIDAY 26 9:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.
MONDAY 29 through FRI., JULY 3 9:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.
CALLING ALL CAMPERS! Summer Camp I-II. Each day campers explore Maryland's past and do special activities and crafts, ages 5-8. Pre-registration and \$75 fee required for each weekly session which varies in theme.

TUESDAY 23 and THURSDAY 25 6-8 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: "First Blood in Baltimore - Opening Days of the Civil War," Courtney B. Wilson. Tickets \$20; members \$18.

TUESDAY 30 and THURS. JULY 2 6-9 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: "Fort Mchenry - Celebrating 200 Years of an American Fort," Scott Sheads. Tickets \$20; members \$18.

SATURDAY 4 7-10 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: July 4th Celebration Tour aboard the Minnie V. and the buyboat Half Shell. Includes light refreshments and view of the fireworks. Tickets are \$40.

MONDAY 6 through FRIDAY 10 9:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.
CALLING ALL CAMPERS! Summer Camp III. Each day campers explore Maryland's past and do special activities and crafts; ages 9-12. Pre-registration and \$75 fee required which includes admission to The Puppet Co. performance of "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" on July 10.

TUESDAY 7 and THURSDAY 9 6-9 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: "Old Fells Point - Sea Captains and Shipyards," with a Fells Point walking tour, David Gleason. Tickets \$20; members \$18.

FRIDAY 10 11 A.M.
 The Puppet Co. presents "Three Billy Goats Gruff" for children pre-school to grade 4. Tickets are \$4 or \$14 for the entire series. Pre-registration advised.

TUESDAY 14 and THURSDAY 16 6-9 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: "The Saga of the Liberty Ships - Baltimore's Role in World War II Shipbuilding," with a visit to the Liberty Ship John W. Brown, Capt. Brian Hope. Tickets \$20; members \$18.

FRIDAY 17 11 A.M.
 The Puppet Co. presents "Hansel and Gretel" for children pre-school to grade 4. Tickets are \$4 or \$14 for the entire series. Pre-registration advised.

TUESDAY 21 and THURSDAY 23 6-8 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: "Sea Songs and Shanties, 19th-Century Sailor's Songs - An Evening of Musical Entertainment," Will Priest. Tickets \$20; members \$18.

FRIDAY 24 11 A.M.
 The Puppet Co. presents "Pinocchio" for children kindergarten to grade 8. Tickets are \$4 or \$14 for the entire series. Pre-registration advised.

TUESDAY 28 and THURSDAY 30 6-9 P.M.
Minnie V. Lecture Cruise: "Lighthouses of the Chesapeake" with stopover at Seven-Foot Knoll Lighthouse, Bernadette Gesser. Tickets \$20; members \$18.

FRIDAY 31 11 A.M.
 The Puppet Co. presents "Cinderella" for children kindergarten to grade 8. Tickets are \$4 or \$14 for the entire series. Pre-registration advised.

CALENDAR of Events

Prince George's County Historical Society

1991 CASH RECEIPTS AND <DISBURSEMENTS>:

Dues and other contributions	\$ 7,294
Interest	2,209
Prince George's County grant	7,500
Virta book sales (net) and commissions	8,408
Other (Fund Raiser, House Tours, St. George's Day, Bus Tour, Skarda Fund (net))	<u>1,886</u>
	<u>27,297</u>
<u>News & Notes</u> , postage, computer service	<3,098>
Telephone, insurance	<3,604>
Projects:	
Oral History	< 891>
Marietta acquisitions	<7,880>
Library computerization	<3,510>
Reprinting Calvert of Maryland (net)	<3,721>
Prince George's County Teachers	<1,418>
Hall of Fame, History Lecture Series, Heritage Museum, etc.	<u>< 355></u>
	<u><24,477></u>
Increase in Cash	\$ <u><u>2,820</u></u>

Unexpended Funds as of December 31, 1991:

Prince George's County grants (2,634 designated to Oral History and \$2,200 designated to Conservation materials)	4,834
Virta Book Proceeds (\$2,350 designated to Heritage Museum)	5,330
Life Member contributions	6,400
Donald D. Skarda Memorial Fund	2,323
All other	<u>13,478</u>
	<u>\$32,365</u>

From Our Treasurer

Jack Bourne

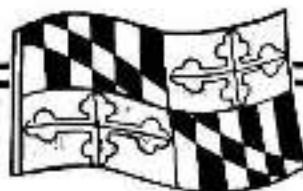
MEMBERSHIP....

Because those listed below have not paid 1992 dues, the Society's By-Laws require their being dropped from membership. Please contact any of them you know to determine if they want to continue membership. The Board of Directors could reinstate them.

Miss Irene C. Addicks
Lisa M. Austin
Carol A. Beenick
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Bersbach
Mr. & Mrs. John P. Bowler, Jr.
Frank Calhoun
Mr. & Mrs. Buford Cox
Mary Cuk
Charles H. Day
Mr. & Mrs. George B. DeGennaro
Henry DeWitte
Daniel W. Deming
Mr. & Mrs. T.F. Dutko
Blanche T. Ebeling-Koning
Mr. Stanley R. Edwards
Dr. & Mrs. Wolcott L. Etienne
Ruth A. Fekete
David P. Fogle
Mary L. Fraser
Sharon Gamble
Judith A. Glotfelty
Chris Hall
Daniel T. Hall
Elizabeth L. Hamilton
Susan K. Helmann
Mr. & Mrs. Warren J. Hoffman
Ms. Evelyn B. Hoyert
Miss Anne Mildred Hoyle
Dr. & Mrs. Lloyd W. Hughes
David Humphreys
Mrs. Clara Jacobs

D. L. Jenkins
Ernest Ray Juel
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard King
Ms. Marina King
Michael P. Koss
Mrs. Joseph Longridge
Eugene D. Manning
Edna McCathran
Sarah Moseley
Andrew Nitz
Mr. John J. Petro
Colleen Prosser
Orlando Ridout IV
Mr. David F. Rinn
Mr. Hugh B. Robey
Steven B. Rogers
Mrs. Somner C. Rowe
Sami Sharkey
Charles A. Shaughnessy
Mr. & Mrs. Holton R. Small
Mr. & Mrs. J. Joseph Smith, Jr.
Christopher M. Steel
Ms. Julie Ronning Talbot
Alice F. Thomsen
Michael Tilch
Mrs. K. Virta
Elizabeth Watson
Peter S. Wyrrough
John & Ruth S. Zeender

1992



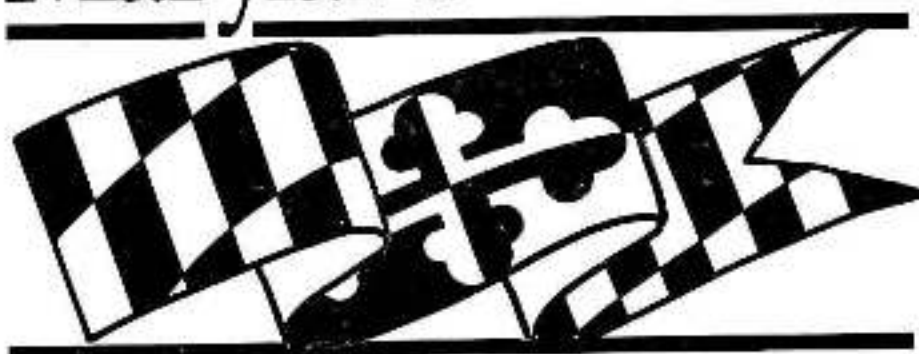
New Members

Margaret A. Davis
Donald W. Griffin
Carol M. Landrum
Rita Sue Miller





Maryland



Prince George's County Historical Society . . .

dedicated to perpetuating an appreciation of the
history and traditions of Prince George's County
by . . .

- collecting and preserving memorabilia relative to Prince George's County and the state of Maryland
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- Use of the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History
- Opportunity to participate in the Society's volunteer activities

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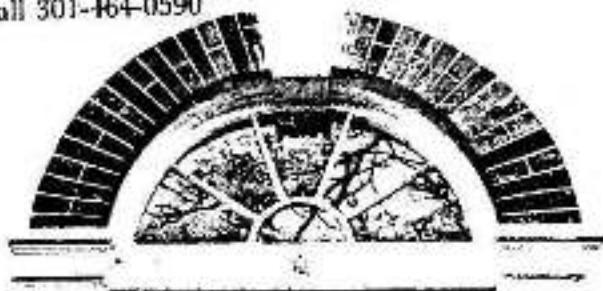
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Library: Saturdays 12-4 p.m.

Gift Shop: Sundays (March-December)
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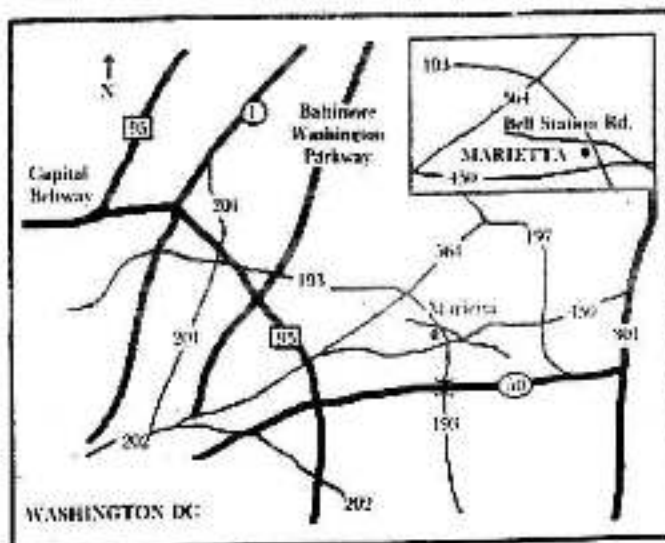


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The Hall of Fame



Prince Georgian Honored

Frederick Sasscer
1856-1929

Inducted into the
Hall of Fame
1992



Speech given by Susan Pearl
April 26, 1992

FREDERICK SASSCER (1856-1929)

I am pleased to introduce to you the 1992 inductee into the Prince George's County Hall of Fame, Frederick Sasscer, editor, educator, attorney and prominent citizen of Upper Marlboro.

Frederick Sasscer was born 4 March 1856 in Upper Marlborough. His parents, Dr. Frederick Sasscer and Rosalie Ghiselin, were members of two of the prominent families of the Marlborough area. His father grew up at Pleasant Hills on the road between Upper Marlboro and Croom, his mother at the Ghiselin farm on part of the large Brookefield tract between Croom and Nottingham. Dr. Frederick Sasscer and Rosalie Ghiselin were married at Trinity Church in April 1855, and immediately thereafter took up residence in a house on Main Street in the center of Upper Marlboro, where Dr. Sasscer also practiced medicine.

It was at this house, no longer standing, that young Frederick, their first child, was born the next year. (Dr. Sasscer and his wife had six more children in the next 15 years.) In 1859, Dr. Sasscer purchased from the Craufurd family Kingston, the fine steep-gabled house which stood on a wooded rise at the west edge of town; he contracted with some local builders to renovate the house in the then-popular Gothic Revival cottage style. The work included the adornment of the eaves and dormers with prominent and decorative jigsaw vergeboards, as well as interior finishing of the period. At the time of these renovations (in the summer of 1859), the Marlborough newspaper noted "the repairs in progress for Dr. Frederick Sasscer upon the old frame house lately purchased by him from Dr. David Craufurd . . . being finished in the cottage style. This is a substantial building . . . located at the 'west end' of our village and its elevated position adds much to the general effect." It still does, and its fine period trim makes it a noticeable landmark in the town.

So at the age of three and a half years, young Frederick moved with his family into the old Craufurd house, known as Kingston. It was on this hill that he played as a child, and in this house that he read and studied and prepared himself for a life of scholarship. On the next rise of ground, just a short distance to the east, stood the Marlborough Academy, first established in 1835 in the dwelling of the late Dr. William Beanes; it was here, at the age of seven years, while the War Between the States still raged, that young Frederick Sasscer began his education. By that time, the original Academy building had been destroyed by fire and rebuilt; in 1863 the schoolhouse consisted of two rooms, one of which was the classroom which accommodated 30 desks arranged around the walls, and the other the apartment of the Dublin-educated professor. In this room, young Frederick learned the basics of grammar and mathematics, as well as Latin and Greek.

In later life, Frederick Sasscer, Jr., wrote about his school days, and painted a wonderful verbal picture of Upper Marlborough in the mid-nineteenth century. He wrote about how he could see from his classroom window the girls'



school at the foot of Academy Hill (at approximately the location of the Barrister Building today), and watch the annual May festival and coronation of the May Queen. From the same window he could watch the horses (as many as 50 or 60 of them) which were stabled in the yard where Marlboro's new post office has recently been erected; these stables accommodated the carriage horses of the many travellers who lodged at the town's most prestigious hotel, the Marlborough House, now nearly 40 years gone. He wrote of how he, as a young boy, would often run to one or another of the four little stores in the town, to buy slick candy or gingercakes cut in the shape of horses, or to the Rothstein bakery next to the Catholic Church for hot bread and other goodies, and at Christmastime for a variety of toys. In these same later writings, Frederick Sasscer described many of the other institutions which made up the town in which he grew up: the eccentric postmaster, and the tailor who sat cross-legged on his table plying his needle, and the large skylighted stone house which merchant Grafton Hall erected after the Civil War, and which specialized in yard goods as well as groceries and hardware, but never seemed to succeed (you know it in more recent years as Gibbons Hall). And he described the summer dancing classes held in the Grand Jury room of the old Court House, at which he and the other youth of the town were instructed by a French master in the gallantries and graces of European dance.

After his instruction at the Marlborough Academy, the young Frederick Sasscer went on to St. John's College in Annapolis, where in 1875 he received a Bachelor of Arts degree, and in 1878 a Master of Arts. He returned to Upper Marlborough and served five years as principal of the Marlborough Academy, teaching English, the classics and Mathematics. He took up the study of law in accordance with his father's wishes; he was admitted to the Marlborough bar and practiced law for over twenty years. His card, "Frederick Sasscer, Jr., Attorney at Law, Upper Marlborough", and "Will practice in the Courts of Prince George's and in the Court of Appeals" appeared regularly in the Marlborough newspaper until the turn of this century. But it was to education, writing and publishing (and in particular, this very publication, The Prince George's Enquirer), that Sasscer's principal efforts were devoted. The Prince George's Enquirer was published in Upper Marlborough, as a successor to the earlier (1861-1882) Prince Georgian; when it began production in 1892, the editors were Frederick Sasscer, Jr., and his friend and law colleague, Joseph Kent Roberts, Jr., who lived at Trelawn, on the south side of Elm Street, across from and on lower ground than the Marlborough Academy. Sasscer and Roberts continued as editors of The Prince George's Enquirer until Roberts' death in 1898. Frederick Sasscer continued as sole Editor (and eventually owner) of the newspaper until his death in 1929. He later wrote, "I tried to combine the practice of my chosen profession [the law] with the publication of a newspaper, and the result was that the latter proved more fascinating to me. The varied work of a country editor thus became the absorbing task of the best years of my life."

In June 1884, Frederick Sasscer married Lucy Clagett, daughter of Robert and Emily Dorsett Clagett of Oakland. Robert Clagett, one of the sons of Thomas Clagett VI of Weston, had made his home at Oakland, north of Upper Marlborough, and raised his family there. In 1886, Clagett purchased the handsome frame house in Upper Marlboro which had been the home of attorneys Daniel Digges and William A. Jarboe, and which stood immediately to the west of the home of Sasscer's colleague, Joseph K. Roberts. It was Clagett's intention to give this property to his daughter Lucy and her new husband. In



the following year, he deeded it to Lucy Clagett Sasscer, and the Sasscers made it their home. It was in this house that Frederick and Lucy Sasscer raised their children:

Lucy (1885-1938), who married H. Rodgers Gare,
Robert who died in infancy,
Frederick Harold (1887-1954),
Lansdale Ghiselin Sasscer (1893-1964),
and Dr. James G. Sasscer (1900-1950),

many of whose children and grandchildren are with us today.

And it was in this house that Frederick Sasscer lived for the rest of his life.

During these years (actually beginning in 1881), Frederick Sasscer was active in another venture which he would continue for the remaining 48 years of his life; as a Vestryman of Trinity Church in Upper Marlboro.

During his years as Editor of The Prince George's Enquirer, Sasscer and the newspaper itself received many compliments and accolades. In December 1888, for example, The Baltimore Sun wrote "The Prince George's Enquirer of Upper Marlboro', Maryland, edited by Frederick Sasscer, Jr., has entered upon its seventh volume with gratifying indications of prosperity. The Enquirer is a carefully edited and attractive family paper, conservative in tone, and a vigorous exponent of democratic principles." The Maryland Gazette, of Annapolis, wrote at the same time that the Enquirer was "a useful and valuable journal, and we wish Brother Sasscer the success he so richly deserves for giving to the public such an estimable journal."

Editor Sasscer served also as secretary of the Democratic Editors Association of Maryland. He was also active in the Masons, as a member of Centennial Lodge in Upper Marlboro.

The Editor's father, Dr. Frederick Sasscer, died in 1888, and from that time on, Frederick Sasscer, Jr., no longer needing to distinguish between his name and his father's, listed himself simply as Frederick Sasscer.

In 1902, Frederick Sasscer, while continuing as Owner-Editor of The Prince George's Enquirer, plunged into his other consuming interest, that of education. In that year he was appointed Superintendent of Prince George's County Schools. He entered vigorously into the work, insisting upon thoroughness in instruction, particularly in elementary studies. Upon his initiative a joint institute for the counties of Southern Maryland was formed. The first conference of superintendents and teachers from Prince George's, Anne Arundel, Charles, St. Mary's and Calvert Counties was held in 1905 at the Maryland Agricultural College, and subsequently in Annapolis. During his twelve-year tenure, the number of teachers increased by about twenty per cent; a new eight-room school was built in Hyattsville, as well as a number of smaller schoolhouses in other sections of the county; the County's second high school was established at Surrattsville in 1906; several small underpopulated schools were consolidated in 1907; the venerable Marlborough Academy was incorporated into the public school system in 1908; the first central heating system was installed in a school (Riverdale) in 1908; an agricultural high school was established at Baden in 1910; in the following year health precautions and examinations were instituted; also in 1911 an arrangement was



made with the State to take over management of the black public school in Bowie, whereby student teachers at the Maryland Normal and Industrial School (now Bowie State University) would have a model training center (primary grades were taught in the county school building, while grades 4 through 7 were instructed on the campus of the Normal School; also a substantial schoolhouse was authorized and constructed in 1912 in the growing black community of Fairmount Heights and in the same year transportation of pupils became an established county service. Sasscer's twelve-year term as superintendent reflected all of these accomplishments, and was characterized by his forceful pursuit of higher educational standards for his teachers.

At some point early in this century, Frederick Sasscer arranged to have his portrait painted by one of the most prolific portrait painters of that period in the Washington area. Robert Hinckley was born in Boston in 1853, and educated at the École des Beaux Arts in Paris. He spent 17 years (until 1884) painting in Paris; he and John Singer Sargent were room-mates and fellow students of French portraitist Carolus Doran. After 1884 he returned to the United States and opened a studio in Washington D. C.; as many as 350 Hinckley portraits of eminent Americans are said to hang in the U.S. Capitol, at West Point and at the Naval Academy in Annapolis. I have not been able to establish exactly when he painted Frederick Sasscer, but we can assume from the likeness itself that it was at approximately the period of the First World War. In any case, Hinckley's grandson, who still resides in the District of Columbia, remembers that Hinckley considered his portrait of Sasscer to be one of his best. It is this portrait, which now hangs in the home of one of Sasscer's grandsons, which we have had copied for this induction.

During all these years, Sasscer continued as Editor of The Prince George's Enquirer, with his friend and associate, Samuel Wyvill as publisher and part owner. Samuel A. Wyvill had joined the newspaper as an apprentice in 1903; he became part owner in 1909. In January 1925, Sasscer and Wyvill bought the Marlborough Gazette from Mary and Charles Ignatius Wilson (three generations of the Wilson family had published the Gazette in Upper Marlborough beginning in 1836). Sasscer and Wyvill merged the two publications as the Enquirer-Gazette and Sasscer continued as Editor of the new newspaper until his death in 1929.

In the same year, 1925, Frederick Sasscer published a small volume of essays - he had always hoped to write a book, and this was apparently the closest he came to it. He was a highly literate man, trained in the classical languages and fond of turning a phrase - all very apparent in his editorial output. His passion for composition and literary expression (just to cite you a rather amusing example) showed clearly in an 1887 item in his newspaper. In this short column, he took the trouble to analyze President Cleveland's four-sentence message to Congress marking the centennial of the Constitution; Sasscer pointed out that first sentence contained 78 words, the second 16, the third 29, and the fourth no less than 171 words - then commended the President for composing a sentence of that length which was entirely grammatical and entirely clear.

But back to Sasscer's own writing - his 1925 monograph was called "Occasional Addresses". Throughout his career, he had been called upon to make public addresses, and in 1925 he collected a number of them and published them, in an attempt "to preserve in concrete form a few of my essays and

addresses delivered on sundry occasions during my checkered career" which might be of interest to his children and grandchildren. Included among them were "The Patriotism of Today" delivered at his Alma Mater, St. John's in Annapolis in 1878, and "The Blessings of Country Life" delivered for the 1915 commencement at the new Baden Agricultural High School (established during his tenure as superintendent).

Frederick Sasscer died on 29 October 1929 (not a good day), after a short illness with pneumonia. Funeral services were held in Trinity Church where he had served as a Vestryman for 48 years, and he was buried in the family burial lot at Trinity. In his will, Sasscer provided his children with real estate and investments, the Vestry of Trinity with an endowment, and finally instructed his executors (two of his sons) "to sell to my trusted friend, Samuel A. Wyvill, and to my son, Lansdale Ghiselin Sasscer, as tenants in common, my printing office and lot and the Enquirer-Gazette newspaper with all equipment upon payment by them of \$5000 as agreed, this reduced price being in consideration of the fact that a large part of the value of the newspaper plant is due to the patronage of my son and the skill and industry of my partner, Samuel A. Wyvill." Samuel Wyvill, and then his son, continued to publish the Enquirer-Gazette for another 60 years.

Frederick Sasscer was a scholar and educator, a progressive thinker, a kind and generous man; his influence in Upper Marlboro and the County was great. The obituary which appeared in the Enquirer-Gazette on November 1st expressed the "profoundest sorrow"; Samuel Wyvill wrote a "personal tribute" which concluded with the following: "Love begets love, and consequently those who associated with him and had dealings with him learned not only to esteem and admire him but to love him as well, for his every word and every action portrayed the love and good will within his heart for his fellowman."

So I am pleased to present to you today Attorney, Editor, Educator, and esteemed citizen of Upper Marlboro and Prince George's County, Frederick Sasscer.

Susan G. Pearl
26 April 1992



This speech was printed as a gift to the membership of the PGCHS
by Br. David Richardson, O.S.C. and inserted in NEWS & NOTES, summer 1992.

The Hall of Fame

The Prince George's Hall of Fame was established in 1975 to recognize superior achievement, extraordinary creativity and natural talent of distinguished Prince Georgians of the past.

Although created by the Prince George's Chamber of Commerce, with approval of the Prince George's County Council, the Hall of Fame is an autonomous organization. Its mission is to educate the public about outstanding men and women of achievement, who were born in, or had lived in Prince George's County. By honoring these outstanding individuals, the Hall of Fame hopes that County residents will be encouraged to emulate their achievement.

The Hall of Fame honors these individuals by commissioning portraits of them that are then displayed in public buildings in the County. This brochure reproduces those portraits and gives a brief history of each person so honored.

Any citizen of the County may submit nominations for the Hall of Fame. For more information about nominations and the Hall of Fame, write to P.O. Box 129, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772.

The Hall of Fame is a nonprofit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.



"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County Historical Society



Summer, 1992

Founded 1952 - Our 40th Year

Vol. XX, No. 6

1992-93 Board

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July 18
Board
Meeting

New Editor
Needed. See
Page 15

Historical Society Examines Concept of Heritage Center

The May meeting of the Prince George's County Historical Society held at Marietta focused on the concept of a potential heritage center. A panel of Fred DeMarr, representing the Historical Society; Karen Miles, President of the Prince George's County Genealogical Society; and John Walton, Manager of the MNCPPC History Division, led the discussion.

Fred DeMarr talked about the needs of the County as it will move into its 4th century. A heritage center would fill a gap not covered by state, federal, and local libraries and organizations. It would provide a repository for materials donated by local residents. It would assure that information on Prince George's County would be available locally to residents. Fred DeMarr stressed the need for public support and an energetic public relations program to reach the goal of a heritage center.

Karen Miles supported the concept of a heritage center that would be a joint venture for organizations with a common interest and explained how the Genealogical Society would blend into the proposal.

The Prince George's County Genealogical Society was founded in 1969 by eight members and has grown to 532 members with a full research facility, the Rainwater-Miles Research Museum, currently housed at the Belair Stables Museum. The Research Museum provides access to 1376 individual books and 440 periodicals from 48 states and foreign countries. The collection continues to grow and is partially housed in members' garages and basements. There is an urgent need for space to not only house but publish the collections and also to provide better access to patrons.

Karen Miles enthusiastically endorsed the goal of a heritage center and spoke of the importance of definite guidelines for such a joint venture.

John Walton brought to light the History Division's involvement in the concept of a heritage center for Prince George's County. The History Division, which oversees six major historical facilities and four county-wide properties, fulfilled a request of the Historical Society to develop a "Phase One" plan for such a facility.

John Walton expressed the need for a facility that would give an overview of the County's cultural heritage and would provide a place to display a collection of objects related to the County's heritage. The tri-centennial would offer a focal point, a rallying cry with the end result being a lasting and living memorial of Prince George County's 300th anniversary.

The "Phase One" document deals with such major questions as location, funding, feasibility, type of structure, organizations, collections, short and long term goals, and how the center would serve the public.

continued on page 2...

continued from page 1...

After the presentation, comments were received from invited guests and the audience. Eugene Roberts Jr., a member of the Historical Society's Steering Committee, talked about the necessity of incorporation so that those interested would exist on paper. Steps should be considered because a heritage center would tie into economic development, tourism, and education for youth on their heritage.

Pat Williams, Deputy Director of the American Association of Museums, suggested that one individual, either volunteer or paid on a full-time basis, was essential to lead the effort to transform the idea of a heritage center into reality. There is abundant information available to get the project off the ground. A consortium of foundations could be approached for help.

The general consensus of the discussion was that the concept of a heritage center is a valid one. The time for discussion is past and action should begin now if a heritage center is to be a tri-centennial memorial.

by Joyce McDonald



Skarda Awards Ceremony A Success

The Society's June meeting was a wonderful combination of children, parents, Society members, and a perfect spring day. Over 50 guests, including the participants in the 1992 Donald D. Skarda Memorial History Award, along with their parents and teachers, attended the Society's meeting at Marietta. County Council Chairman, Richard Castaldi, presented proclamations to the first and second place winners. Alice Skarda presented the Skarda certificates and checks to the winners and participants.

Jarod Blaney and Kim Remsberg from Bond Hill Elementary School won first and second place respectively in the elementary division. Corinne Sweeney and Michelle Murray from Kettering Middle School won first place in the middle school division. Adam Sweeney from St. Ambrose School and Deon Koon and Jonathan Murray from Roger B. Taney Middle School tied for second place.

Society member Bruce Murray, dressed as a Revolutionary War sargeant, was available before and after the awards ceremony to present information about life in a flying camp. He set up his tent under a shady pecan tree and was continually surrounded by guests eagerly listening to him explain about life in a Revolutionary War camp and watching him demonstrate the many items he brought with him.

Many people worked together to make June 13th a memorable one. Thanks to the expertise of Jane Eagen, Vera Rollo, and Jim Wolfe, the projects were judged with care. Dusty Rhodes and Susan Wolfe performed numerous behind-the-scene tasks which made the physical arrangements perfect. Joyce McDonald tied up many loose ends, including a last minute trip to the printers so that the guests could receive an attractive program. Gloria Brown coordinated wonderful refreshments that included a sheet cake honoring the Skarda winners. Positive comments from parents, teachers, students and Society members about the afternoon ceremony and Bruce Murray's Revolutionary War camp confirmed that the meeting was a resounding success.

by Cheryl Adams



Prince George's County Book Wins State Prize

The Maryland Historical Society has chosen Mistress of Riversdale; The Plantation Letters of Rosalie Stier Calvert, 1795-1821 as the best book of Maryland history published in the past two years. An award of \$1000 was presented to the book's author-editor, Margaret Law Callcott, at the Society's annual meeting in Baltimore on June 16.

Located in the Town of Riverdale, "Riversdale," also known as the Calvert Mansion, was the elegant home of Rosalie and George Calvert and one of Prince George County's premier historical sites. It is the setting for this sparkling tale of life in early 19th-century. Translated from the original French, the book provides a trip back in time and an especially poignant account of a woman's life in the early years of our republic.

Mistress of Riversdale is available in both hardcover (\$34.95) and paperback (\$14.95) editions from local bookstores and from the Riversdale Historical Society.

The book's author, Margaret Callcott, resides in University Park, Maryland, with her husband, George H. Callcott, professor of history at the University of Maryland. Between the two of them, the husband-wife team have published six books on Maryland history.

Please contact the Riversdale Historical Society, Inc., 4811 Riverdale Rd., Riverdale, MD 20737 to order your copy. (Submitted by Ann M. Ferguson, Mayor of Riverdale and board member of PGCHS).



Series of Fires Hit Historic District

The third in a series of suspicious fires that have hit Ellicott City's historic district since February did minor damage to a vacant building in March, Howard County fire officials said.

The blaze, reported at 12:57 a.m., caused an estimated \$5,000 damage to a wood frame structure in the 8400 block of Main Street before firefighters brought it under control, according to Battalion Chief Don Howell, of the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services.

A third-alarm fire caused an estimated \$500,000 damage to a nearby warehouse, and a two-alarm blaze on February 19 swept through two buildings containing stores and apartments, causing \$250,000 in damage.

The origin of all three fires has been classified as suspicious by the Maryland fire marshal's office, and an investigation into the blazes is continuing.

A number of historic buildings throughout our area have also been damaged or destroyed. Understandably, we here in Prince George's County must do more to help preserve our heritage.

Please contact the PGCHS and ask what you can do to help.



JOHN V. ALVITI
... sees city as living museum

Looking To Make History

By Linda Wheeler
Washington Post Staff Writer

The neighborhoods of the District will become a living museum if John V. Alviti, the new director of the Historical Society of Washington, has his way.

"The city becomes the museum," Alviti said. "I am a big believer in that. All over the country, museums are looking at how urban communities grow and change as a result of the different people who live there."

For the last decade, Alviti, 43, has pioneered such studies, with particular attention to contributions from young people as director of Atwater Kent, the city museum of Philadelphia.

His appointment as director of Washington's only museum of local history will be announced tomorrow, according to a society spokeswoman.

Alviti will replace Jane W. North, who is retiring after a seven-year term, on Aug. 1. The headquarters of the nonprofit museum and society are in the historic Christian Heinrich mansion at 20th Street and New Hampshire Avenue NW, near Dupont Circle.

Alviti said he sees his role as building on preliminary work done by the society. Last year the society assisted local churches in documenting their own history, preserving their records and making use of their collection.

Alviti hopes to take that approach a step further and bring the city's young people into historical projects.

"What we want to do is to get people to use their history more, create a usable urban past," he said. "There is a traditional notion that a community wants to preserve buildings. That is fine, but what about the need to communicate with young people in a community? How do you get them to have respect for their community? One way is to use an oral history project."

Alviti said his Philadelphia museum worked with a predominantly black community called Point Breeze to create an oral history. People young and old were interviewed, and from that a script was developed and a play will be produced.

For the 10 years Alviti was there, that museum sponsored a summer camp for fourth- and fifth-graders called, "Phil-A-Kid." Each week of the three-week program is devoted to a different period of city history: late 18th century, late 19th century and the years between 1920 and 1950.

In a program called "Philadelphia Show and Tell," Alviti brought together elderly residents with fifth- and sixth-graders. The idea was to make the senior citizens their "historical mentors," and both mentors and students are asked to bring in objects from their personal experience and tell each other stories about them.

Alviti said all those programs have worked and he may introduce them here. But he wants to try something new in Washington, something so new he hasn't mentioned it to the society board yet.

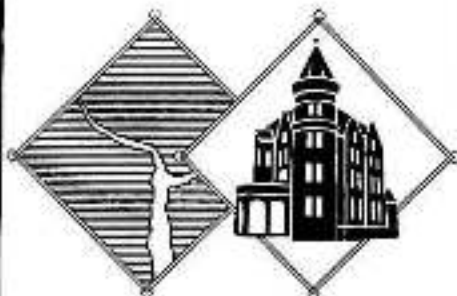
"Where is the next generation of board members for this society or for the school board?" he said. "We need young people on the society board, on all boards in the city."

"We have to intervene in these young peoples' lives," he said. "We can't have just one kid on a board. They have to be everywhere, and then they can interact. The school

board kid can ask our kid, 'Why don't we have more educational programs?' and he can ask the school board kid, 'Where are the buses to take students to special programs?'"

"That would be a mentoring and a cohort experience," he said. "That is how you have a real transformation of power."

The Historical Society of Washington, D.C.



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300th Anniversary for St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Baden

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Baden, Maryland, celebrated its 300th anniversary on Sunday, June 14. This was a rare occasion in this country. St. Paul's was established in 1692 at Charlestown, on Mt. Calvert Road, now a ghost town. In 1695 it was moved to its present location and the church building was used as the Prince George's County Court House. This was before the county seat was moved to Upper Marlboro. In 1742, St. Thomas Church was established as a "Chapel of Ease" in St. Paul's Parish. The two churches used the same minister. Later, St. Mary's Episcopal Church was established in Aquasco, and it remains a part of St. Paul's Parish. Other parishes taken from the territory first assigned to St. Paul's are St. Barnabas of Leeland, St. Philip's of Baden, and Trinity of Upper Marlboro. Parishioners from these churches came to help celebrate the anniversary.

The program was under the general direction of the rector, the Reverend John F. Eberman. The sermon was delivered by the Rt. Rev. Ronald H. Haines, D.D., Bishop of Washington. Micheal Santora, the organist, played the antique pipe organ, one of only three in the country.

Historical exhibits were displayed in the parish hall after the ceremony.

(Excerpts from an article by Wynona Skinner in The Enquirer Gazette, June 18, 1992)



Replica of Columbus' ships 'discover' Baltimore



Baltimore - Thousands of people crowded the Baltimore waterfront this month for Operation Sail '92.

The four-month event began May 9 and continued through June 8, when authentic replicas of Christopher Columbus' ships, the Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria paraded up the Chesapeake Bay.

Through mid-September, historic, naval and tall ships will gather in Baltimore's port to commemorate the Columbus quincentenary. Throughout this past spring and into the summer, ships from Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Uruguay will visit Baltimore. A number of ships from other countries have already docked in Baltimore's Inner Harbor and public tours are often given.

The replicas of Columbus' ships, which were built and owned by the Spanish government, were crafted with 15th-century methods. The builders used hand-forged nails and hemp caulking on the keels and decks. The sails were made of linen, unlike the original sails made of hemp canvas.

The ships' visit to Baltimore was the 10th stop on their U.S. tour. They gathered at the Francis Scott Key Bridge where they were welcomed by a flotilla of fireboats and pleasure boats.

Restoration needs balance

From Popular Mechanics

Every old house tells a story, and each owner adds a chapter to the tale.

This story, however, will be mute without careful restoration, and that's where old house experts, or specialists, can be valuable.

They can help you sort through a maze of competing demands that make restoration such a tough job.

In restoring an old house, owners balance the need to have a structurally and mechanically sound house against the need to keep the house true to its historical period.

This balancing act is made more difficult because no one has unlimited time and money to spend on a renovation. Furthermore, an old house is no different than a new house in that anything you do to it can affect its resale value.

Old house professionals, for example, architectural historians, and preservation contractors who duplicate and repair old materials and methods, are devoted to preserving the features that make an old house aesthetically and historically valuable. Most likely then, you will find their advice different from those who simply want to remodel your house.

Old house specialists bring unique skills to a renovation, as they strive not just for beauty but for historical authenticity. Plumbers or electricians are no less valuable. Their work ensures that an old house's mechanical systems safely meet the demands posed by modern conditions.

By hiring an old house expert, you can avoid a variety of problems that a knowledgeable person cannot foresee.

Old house specialists can also give you a better understanding and appreciation of how and why your house is the way it is, and the features you should be careful with in your restoration project.

To find help from old house specialists, contact your State Historic Preservation Office or local preservation group. You can also turn to the Association for Preservation Technology International, P.O. Box 8178, Fredericksburg, Va., 22404.

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Goucher College
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The 1992 National Reunion of Descendents of Maryland Catholics to Kentucky will be held Friday, July 24, 1992 through Sunday, July 26, 1992 in beautiful historic St. Mary's County, Maryland.

Join the descendents of Maryland's pioneers for a weekend of fun, fellowship and history. The reunion headquarters will be at the new Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department Hall (on MD Route 235, approximately 1/2 mile north of the intersection of MD Route 235 and MD Route 245). Registration begins Friday, July 24 at 10 a.m. There will be plenty of time throughout the weekend to exchange family history and research. Copy machines will be available at the Fire Department Hall. You will also have free time to enjoy St. Mary's wonderful historical attractions, including a boat trip to St. Clement's Island.

There are charges for various events. For further information about registration, lodgings, etc., please contact: 1992 Catholic Reunion, c/o Becky Proffitt, P.O. Box 113, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Telephone: 301/475-5029 or 301/994-0859.

Scientists to exhume coffins thought to be state founders

ST. MARY'S CITY (AP) — Scientists entered a 17th-century crypt as a dress rehearsal for the later excavation of three lead coffins believed to hold the remains of Maryland's founding family.

Experts entered the massive brick burial vault of Sir Lionel Copley, Maryland's first royal governor, and his wife, Anne, in the Trinity Episcopal churchyard on April 30.

At a news conference this week, scientists said entry into the Copley vault, done with permission of church officials, gave them data on the construction of lead coffins in the 17th century.

The information was needed as scientists prepare to exhume and open in October three other lead coffins found here in 1990.

Those coffins are thought to belong to members of the Calvert family.

Together, the five coffins are the only 17th-century lead coffins known in North America.

Archaeologists believe one of the supposed Calvert coffins might contain the remains of Philip Calvert, Maryland's first chancellor and half brother of Cecil Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore. Philip Calvert died in 1682.

In addition to confirming the identity of the human remains, scientists hope to study samples of air and pollen sealed inside the coffins since the burials.

Historic St. Mary's City is the state's outdoor museum of history, archaeology and natural history, located at the site of Maryland's first Colonial capital. Founded in 1634, St. Mary's City gradually was abandoned after the capital was moved to Annapolis in 1694.

The six-week project is estimated to cost \$400,000, of which \$300,000 has been promised in donated services and equipment.

"But we're still going to have to raise about \$100,000," said Henry Miller, director of research at Historic St. Mary's City. "You need the money before you start . . . or we don't do it."

In August 1990, radar detected the coffins below what had been the floor of the Great Brick Chapel, the first Catholic church in English America. The church was built in 1667 and demolished on orders from the Protestant Parliament in 1705. The site now is an

open field.

The coffins were uncovered partially in December of 1990, then reburied to await a more careful study.

The Copleys died in 1694. Forensic experts from the Smithsonian Institution noted that their skulls had been sawed open and their brains removed before the embalming, a procedure unheard of in Colonial America before now, Miller said.

The underground brick vault had been entered at least three times before. In 1799 a local medical student and a number of companions broke inside. The students found Mrs. Copley's body, hair and clothing well-preserved after a century. Only bones were found of her husband.

Church officials and others entered the crypt again in 1823 and 1922.

Miller said the team that entered the vault last month found Mrs. Copley's lead coffin to be "incredibly well-made," which "may explain why she was so well-preserved."

Clutter chokes Library of Congress

By PETE YOST

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Like a parent aghast at the clutter of junior's toys, Congress ordered the world's largest library to clean its room 2½ years ago.

Now, the Library of Congress is only 36 million items behind: More than a third of the 100 million maps, manuscripts, motion pictures, photographs, pieces of music, sound recordings and books still aren't filed — or at least not in a way that the ordinary American could find them.

There are Civil War battlefield sketches and photos from Look magazine. There are papers of the NAACP from pivotal civil rights legal battles of the '50s and '60s. And there are underground French newspapers from World War II.

All of it awaits detailed inspection and creation of a record so the public can find it.

Most of the material is stored on Capitol Hill or in a huge warehouse in Landover, Md., a 30-minute drive

from downtown Washington.

Library backlogs are "a common condition in the age of the information explosion," said Michael Shelley of the library staff. "We've focused a great deal of attention on this."

Four million items pour into the library every year, an avalanche so huge that 165 extra employees have been hired to roll back the tide.

The library refers to the problem as "arrearsages." And Congress declared in 1989 that reducing them must be the library's highest priority.

Shelley's job is to cut the mountain of backlogged material to 8 million items by the turn of the century.

It's painstaking work.

Library employee Loras Schissel unscrambled hundreds of pages of handwritten musical scores by composer John Philip Sousa.

"It's like trying to solve an incredibly difficult crossword puzzle," said Schissel.

The sheets of music from five Sousa operas had been scattered on the

floor in a burglary at a Sousa family home in the 1970s. The thief dumped the musical works out of a steamer trunk, and then stole the empty trunk.

Translators and researchers have pored over Sigmund Freud's notes and letters from the early days of psychoanalysis, organizing the material to make it more easily understood to people visiting the library. The task wasn't made any easier by Freud's less-than-totally-legible penmanship.

And one collection of 1,600 Civil War drawings includes combat sketches from the battles of Gettysburg, Chancellorsville and Antietam.

Most of the sketches — which appeared in magazines of the Civil War era — have been stored at the library since 1919, available only to a few researchers. Curators have linked the sketches to specific battles and events and are preparing to have them publicly available for the July anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg.

By MARY McHALE

Andrews AFB Bears Name Of General Killed 49 Years Ago

Lt. Gen. Frank M. Andrews was killed in Iceland 49 years ago, May 3, 1943, in an aircraft accident along with thirteen other men when their B-24 lost its radio beam and crashed into a hillside. He is buried at Arlington Cemetery.

General Andrews was one of the first to see the future role of air power and the possibilities of long-range bombing. In 1935 he organized the General Headquarters Air Force. By the time of his death at age 59, he had amassed 6,000 hours on Army planes. He loved to fly and had told friends he didn't want to be "one of those generals who die in bed."

On March 31, 1945, Camp Springs Army Air Field — which had been established in 1941 — was renamed and dedicated to the general. His widow, Jeanette Andrews, came from Miami for the ceremonies and christened the B-29 Superfortress "The General Andrews" moments before it left for combat against Japanese forces.

Next year Andrews AFB will celebrate its 50th anniversary. But its history goes way back. During Colonial times an Indian reservation was located there near Camp Springs Lake. Belle Chance, residence of AFSC commanders, dates to 1712. In 1814 British troops en route to burn Washington stopped at Belle Chance and Americans tried to ambush them there.

Chapel 2, built in 1854, was used as a Union command post. There's a cemetery where the gravestones bear the names of old Southern Maryland families: Duckett, Beall, Duvall. Mary Surratt, of Lincoln Assassination fame, was born in her father's house on what is now the south end of the base.

THE ENQUIRER-GAZETTE, Thursday, April 30, 1992

INQUIRIES?

- Change of address
- Dues payment
- Gifts
- Report missing issues
- Correspond about related matters

Write to:

Prince George's County
Historical Society
P.O. Box 14
Riverdale, MD 20737-0014

Civil War relics on display at Surratt House

An exhibit of Civil War relics and memorabilia is on display at historic Surratt House and Tavern, 9110 Brandywine Road, Clinton, through Sept. 13.

Included in the exhibit will be original uniforms, accouterments, arti-

facts, drums and medals. Items are from several private collections.

Admission is \$1 for adults, 75 cents for senior citizens and 50 cents for children.

For information, call 868-1121; TDD 699-2404.

Colonial home to rise again

House will offer peek at 18th-century area life

By K. DREW DeBOALT

Journal staff writer

Next month, almost 200 years after the Laurel Branch House first was built, its beams and rafters once again will be nailed into place.

Remains of the old colonial farmhouse, rescued from a site near Waldorf being cleared for a subdivision, will form most of the basic structure for its resurrection at the National Colonial Farm in Accokeek. An array of volunteers using colonial tools will reconstruct the Laurel Branch House in much the same way it was built shortly after the American Revolution.

For the past six months, visiting school groups have worked alongside costumed colonials, sawing boards from trees and helping prepare for the July 19 raising. The crew even burned oyster shells to create the lime mortar that will hold together the house's chimney and two fireplaces, said Wilton Corkern, executive vice president of the foundation.

Unlike many historical houses that have been preserved or rebuilt, the Laurel Branch House will offer a unique glimpse of middle-class living during colonial times, Corkern said.

An expert on vernacular architecture in Southern Maryland helped the foundation come up with plans believed to mirror the homes of everyday late 18th-century people. Many of those homes were built as temporary farms while the dwellers tried to make their fortunes, Corkern said.

"Generally, it's only the cream of the crop that gets preserved," he said. "We hope that we will really touch a chord with people who can't relate to Mount Vernon [which sits directly across the Potomac River from the National Colonial Farm]. The truth is, most people didn't live in Alexandria or Annapolis. They lived in farms scattered throughout the countryside."

The raising

The July 19 raising is open to the public. For more information, call the National Colonial Farm at 283-2113.

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Phone call to Schaefer helps move historic mansion

By Todd Spangler
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

ST. MARY'S CITY, Md. — Gov. William Donald Schaefer may have helped move a 19th-century mansion with a \$200,000 phone call.

The mansion, now in Historic St. Mary's City, is being eyed by nearby St. Mary's College as a potential home for college president Ted Lewis. But moving the house is expected to cost about \$175,000 and renovations and archaeological site studies could cost another \$500,000.

The plan appeared to take a step forward yesterday when Historic St. Mary's City Commission Chairman Ben Bradlee said that he asked Mr. Schaefer for extra money last week for the move and, "after a long pause," the governor agreed.

The promise of extra money comes as state cuts to the historic commission's budget this year forced it to lay off five full-time workers. Schaefer administration officials yesterday could not say where the additional funding would come from.

Mr. Bradlee, former executive editor of The Washington Post, said the \$200,000 would be made available so the historic commission could move the Brome-Howard House, a 19th-century Greek revival

mansion.

If the commission picks up the cost of moving the house, the college would be left to deal with other expenses — such as restoring the house and making it livable for Mr. Lewis.

Former state Sen. J. Frank Raley, who represents the college on the commission board, estimated those other costs at about \$500,000.

The legislature approved a capital budget for next year that included \$850,000 for Historic St. Mary's City. But the money promised by Mr. Schaefer would apparently be in addition to that.

Rodney Little, the state director of historical programs, said the additional funding has nothing to do with the commission's operating budget, which was cut by about \$160,000 for the next year. Five workers were forced out of their jobs because of the reductions that were ordered by the state.

"There is money available for capital improvements, but operating money is very, very tight," said Mr. Little.

The historic commission wants the college to take over the Brome-Howard House because its members are convinced that the 19th-century home confuses the public when it comes to see what is sup-

posed to be a 17th-century city.

The house, the plantation manor for John Brome, also sits atop a rich archaeological plot that might include the remains of a fort and the home built for Maryland's founding family, the Calverts.

Trying to explain to visitors what a Civil War-era house is doing there is difficult, said Mr. Bradlee.

"It's going to free that site for archaeological discovery and development," he added.

Commission members are convinced for the most part that making the house a private residence for the St. Mary's College president is a good idea.

"The beauty of giving it to the college is ... that the college can spend the money to preserve it," said Shep McKenney, a commission member.

St. Mary's College was given a great deal more authority over its budget by the legislature this year. The school has launched a program to double its tuition for Maryland residents over the next five years, but college officials say the tuition increase is not related to the plans for the mansion.

Mr. Lewis has been renting a home near campus for several years while his campus home has been used as office space by the college.

★ TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1992

Welcome back, Maryland!

MARYLAND MAGAZINE, which ceased publication earlier this year due to financial problems, will continue to be published. The magazine will bring to its readers the same quality stories and images of our great state that it has for the past 23 years. The state arranged for privatization of MARYLAND MAGAZINE, allowing subscribers to continue receiving, without interruption, their issues of this classy magazine.

Privatization will save taxpayers money during a serious fiscal crisis. Hartung and Weber, the new owners, are local publishers with 10 years of success publishing various trade, specialty and lifestyle publications throughout Maryland.

During the years that the magazine was published by the state Department of Economic and Employment Development, a rich tradition of promoting our state was established and winning national awards while doing so.

If you are interested in subscribing to this fine magazine, the subscription is rather inexpensive: \$12.50 for one year (\$10 for senior citizens) and \$22.50 for two years (\$18.00 for senior citizens). The magazine is a quarterly. For more information, contact: MARYLAND MAGAZINE, P.O. Box 447, Bladensburg, MD 20710-0447.

Tales From The Crypt At Darnall's Chance

By Richard Bickers
The Enquirer-Gazette Staff

Prince George's County residents have a rare opportunity to get their hands on some history at Darnall's Chance in Upper Marlboro.

The 300-year-old house is well known for its historical significance as the one-time home of famous Marylanders Daniel and John Carroll. It is also the oldest structure in Upper Marlboro and one of the oldest in the county.

The discovery and excavation of a burial crypt behind the main house added to the value of the historical data to be found at Darnall's Chance.

The roof of the vault caved in sometime during the history of the house. For more than 150 years, residents used the open hole as a garbage pit.

The artifacts found within the crypt, some dating back to the 1600's, give us a rare opportunity to glimpse aspects of the everyday lives of early Marylanders.

The remains of a man, two women, a 13-year old-boy, a 6-year-old girl, three babies and a newborn were discovered under the debris in the vault. The man's remains were in a coffin encased in brick.

These remains were removed and are being examined at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.

Volunteers from around the area come to the house to clean and help identify artifacts taken from the grounds.

Flat nails, belt buckles, animal bones, oyster shells, marbles, household utensils, and pieces of pottery and glass are among the types of items found at the site.

These artifacts, after being cleaned, are cataloged by Bar-

bara Sikora, a historian who oversees the project and works with volunteers.

She uses books by experts in the field to determine the origin, purpose, and date of individual pieces. They are then wrapped and placed in numbered boxes.

Although most of the artifacts from the vault itself have been cleaned and identified, its rich harvest of artifacts has prompted archaeologists and historians to dig at other sites around the homestead grounds.

Volunteers are welcome and needed to complete the archaeological endeavor.

They may take part in either the dig sites, where dirt is sifted through screens to separate artifacts, or the less strenuous cleaning.

"My father had an interest in archaeology," says Marian Pfeiffer, a volunteer. "His interest got me into archaeology and prompted my pursuing something like this."

Volunteers come on their own time and stay as long as they wish. Once all the digs are completed and the artifacts are identified and cataloged, Sikora will return to the boxes and attempt to reassemble some of the artifacts.

"We hope to eventually match up a lot of the pieces we have to a point where they can be put on display," says Sikora. "You can never completely reconstruct a bowl or plate but you can match up enough pieces to have most of the shape. These reconstructions will give visitors an idea what the type of household wares they used and what their (colonial Marylanders) lives were like."

The reconstruction of the house was done using methods the original builders would have implemented. Replicas of the hand-blown glass and nails found in the ground are evident in the restoration.



February 27: At President Washington's request Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson wrote Pierre L'Enfant terminating his services because of repeated clashes with the three Commissioners appointed to oversee the building of the new Capitol.

March: Ellicott completed drawings of L'Enfant's plan for engravings in Boston and Philadelphia.

April 14: Pennsylvania Avenue began with the Commissioner's directive for "a breadth of two perches (33 feet) ...from the president's palace to the Capitol."

July 17: The Commissioners awarded James Hoban the prize for the best plan for President's House and hired him to supervise its construction. They rejected all thirteen entries for the Capitol.

September 1: A contract was let for a canal joining James Creek and Tiber Creek, later to become the Washington Canal.

October 13: The Commissioners, members of the Masonic lodge, and citizens of the District laid the cornerstone of the President's House.

200 Years Ago
In
Washington, D.C.

1792

THE ENQUIRER-GAZETTE,
Thursday, April 30, 1992

Calendar of Events

JULY 1992						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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AUGUST 1992						
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29	30	31				



JULY 26 - AUGUST 1

Statwide
Six-day noncompetitive cycling vacation for friends and families. Capture the spirit of Maryland. Registration includes baggage transportation, camp site, support vehicles, evening entertainment.
First National Bank: 800-842-BANK.



AUGUST 29 - OCTOBER 18

MARYLAND RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL

95-Acre Site *Crownsville*
Weekends only, Sat-Sun, 10:30am-7pm.
A sixteenth-century English country fair celebrating the fun, bawdiness and art of the Renaissance. Food, crafts, night stages and authentic combat jousting.
Jules Smith: 410-266-7304. \$ A

AUGUST (TO BE ANNOUNCED)

JUG BAY RAFT REGATTA

Patuxent River Park *Upper Marlboro*
Sat, 12N-3pm.
M-NCPCC: 301-627-6074. A



MARYLAND'S MOST BEAUTIFUL PARENTS AWARDS CEREMONY

Statewide
Florine Applefeld, Md You Are Beautiful: 410-974-3085. A

SENIOR APPRECIATION DAY AT THE MARYLAND STATE FAIR

Maryland State Fairgrounds *Timonium*
10am-10pm.
Toni Price, Maryland Office on Aging: 410-225-1273. A

AUGUST 2

BURNING OF THE PORT TOBACCO COURTHOUSE - 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Port Tobacco
Sun, 12N-4pm.
Sharlene Owens: 301-934-4313. \$



AUGUST 1-31

PARTY ON THE BAY

Statewide
PARTY ON THE BAY salutes Maryland's greatest natural resource — the Chesapeake Bay — by letting people experience the Bay and its bounty firsthand at over 30 statewide events. PARTY ON THE BAY features crab feasts, fishing tournaments, boat races, canoe jousts and more for people to enjoy the beauty and bounty of the bay.
Governor's Office: 410-974-5300.

AUGUST 22-31

MARYLAND STATE FAIR

Maryland State Fairgrounds *Timonium*
Sat-Mon, 10am-10pm.
Max Mosner: 410-252-0200. \$ A

SEPTEMBER 7-13

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FAIR - 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Prince George's Equestrian Center *Upper Marlboro*
Mon, Sat-Sun, 11am-10pm; Tue-Fri, 4-10pm.
Richard Scott, General Manager: 301-952-1401. \$ A

SEPTEMBER 10-13

MARYLAND STEAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY SHOW

Arcadia Carnival Grounds *Arcadia*
Thur, 10am-9pm; Fri-Sat, 10am-10pm; Sun, 10am-6pm.
Mildred M. Brubaker: 410-833-2175. A

SEPTEMBER 12

1814 BATTLE OF NORTH POINT RE-ENACTMENT AND LIVING HISTORY

Ft. Howard Park *Ft. Howard*
Sat, 10am-6pm.
Defender's Day celebration, commemorating Maryland State Holiday, features re-enactment of battle, living history, period trades, crafts and food.
Eastern Baltimore Area Chamber of Commerce: 410-292-9100. \$ A

BELAIR STABLE MUSEUM ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR

Belair Stables *Bowie*
(Raindate: Sept 19) Sat, 10am-4pm.
Cheryl Lowe: 301-262-0738. \$ A

JOHN WILKES BOOTH ESCAPE ROUTE TOUR

Surraff House Museum *Clinton*
Sat, 7:30am-7:30pm.
Laurie Verge: 301-868-1121. S

SEPTEMBER 12-13

AIRFAIR '92

College Park Airport *College Park*
Sat-Sun, 10am-5pm.
Polly Hill: 301-864-5844. A

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER 17-20

CHARLES COUNTY FAIR

Charles County Fairgrounds

Thur. 5-10pm; Fri-Sat. 9am-9pm; Sun. 10am-6pm.
Mattie Gontee: 301-932-3151. \$

La Plata

SEPTEMBER 19

ESTUARIES DAY

Patuxent River Park

Sat. 9am-3pm.
M-NCPPC: 301-627-6074. &

Upper Marlboro

VICTORIAN CRAFT FAIR

Surratt House Museum

Sat. 10am-5pm.
Laurie Verge: 301-868-1121. \$ &

Clinton

SEPTEMBER 19-20

AMERICAN INDIAN SUPPORT SOCIETY POW WOW

Cedarville Rd. & Country Lane

Sat-Sun. 12N-6pm.
Maryland Indian Heritage Society: 301-372-1932. \$ &

Brandywine

SEPTEMBER 20

COLONIAL DAY

Montpelier Mansion

Sun. 12N-5pm.
Don Graham or Ann Wagner: 301-953-1376. &

Laurel

OXON HILL JOUSTING TOURNAMENT

Tucker Road Community Center

Sun. 12N-5pm.
M-NCPPC: 301-292-9006. &

Oxon Hill

SEPTEMBER 24-27

ST. MARY'S COUNTY FAIR

Rt. 5 South of Leonardtown

Thur. 4-9pm; Fri-Sat. 9am-9pm; Sun. 9am-5pm.
Mary Pfeiff: 301-475-2707. \$ &

Leonardtown

SEPTEMBER 26

KETTERING FOUNDER'S DAY

Kilby Center

Sat. 10am-6pm.
Mrs. Tina Gajewski: 301-249-7345. &

Kettering

RIVERDALE DAY

Riverdale Park

Sat. 10am-6pm.
Kathy Conso: 301-445-4500, TDD 445-4507. &

Riverdale

SEPTEMBER 26-27

FARM HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Prince George's Equestrian Center

Sat-Sun. 11am-6pm.
M-NCPPC: 301-627-2270. \$ &

Upper Marlboro

SEPTEMBER 1991						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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OCTOBER 1991						
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Maryland's History Tied To Development Of The Nation

As one of the original colonies, Maryland's history is tied to the settlement and development of the nation.

Colonists, farmers and pioneers all left their marks on the lifestyles of the state.

Their descendants have not forgotten the work of their ancestors. In fact, they work hard to keep alive the traditions. Throughout the year, Maryland sees many folkway demonstrations and festivals that help people appreciate the lives of their forefathers — and the conveniences of modern-day life!

Domestic arts are the focus at many shows. Quilt and needlework shows feature demonstrations by individuals or quilting bee groups. Others simply display collections of lovingly designed and sewn pieces of art.

Housework in the past often included gardening for more than ornamental purposes. Herbs were important for medicinal and domestic uses. Sinking Spring Herb Farm in Elkton maintains a program of herbal activity during the year. In May, the farm demonstrates planting herbs, while in September, the garden is harvested and visitors are taught how to dry herbs and use them for decoration.

Rural and traditional industries serve as the focus at other shows. The Western Maryland Loggers and Forestry Field Day explains modern logging practices, but also demonstrates older

logging methods and lets the loggers test their skills with lumberjack contests.

Much of Maryland is still agricultural, so many festivals deal with farms and food. The Sheep and Wool Festival in Howard County in May has judging of prize livestock, wool shearing demonstrations, and a "sheep to sweater" demonstration. The Maryland Beef Festival at the Carroll County Farm Museum in June lets city dwellers meet "hamburger on the hoof" and learn what's involved in raising beef cattle for market.

Other food festivals center around harvest times. Week-ends in late summer see honey festivals, apple butter, hoils, corn roasts, and cider pressing demonstrations at sites from the Baltimore suburbs to Western Maryland.

Then there is the music. In the days before car pools, VCRs and bowling leagues, entertainment was simpler. The fiddle, banjo and dulcimer playing bluegrass and traditional songs were the forerunners of MTV. Organized fiddle conventions and contests are held from June through August, while many of the other folkway festivals feature bluegrass and traditional music as one of the attractions.

For your free Maryland Travel Kit, call 1-800-247-1489 or write to the Maryland Office of Tourism, 217 E. Redwood Street, Baltimore, MD, 21202.

Calendar of Events



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY Genealogical SOCIETY



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

July - August
No Membership Meetings
September
Special Event (T.B.A.)
October
Membership Meeting
(2nd Saturday of Month)
November
Membership Meeting
and Elections
December
Christmas Party &
Holiday Open House



July 25, 1992 (Saturday) 1:00-5:00 p.m. PGC GS Library open at Belair Stable Museum, 2835 Belair Drive, Bowie, Maryland. (Call James Reep at 301-927-7241 for further information). The Society's Library and Research Room is normally open from 10:00 a.m. to dusk on Wednesdays except holidays. Call ahead first.

August 29, 1992 (Saturday) 1:00-5:00 p.m. PGC GS Library open.

October 10, 1992 (Saturday) Genealogy for the 90's Seminar - LDS Family History Center, Kensington, MD. Sponsored jointly by the Family History Center, PGC GS and the Genealogy Club of the Montgomery County Historical Society. Mark this date on your calendar now. Details can be obtained by contacting the PGCHS, P.O. Box 819, Bowie, MD 20718-0819.



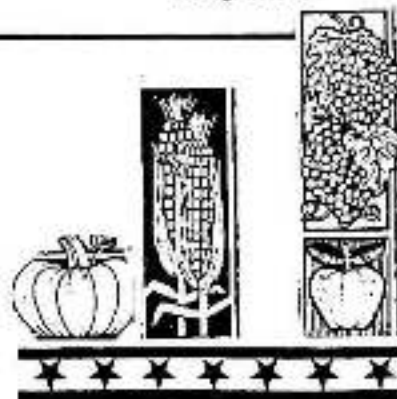
The Town of Bladensburg continues to celebrate its 20th Anniversary in 1992. The Mayor and Council wishes to inform our readers of the following events for the remainder of this year:

BATTLE RE-ENACTMENT - Saturday, August 15, 1992 11:00 a.m. Peace Cross
BALLOON FESTIVAL - Saturday, August 15, 1992 5:00 p.m. Balloon Park
PARADE - Saturday, September 19, 1992 11:00 a.m. Annapolis Road
BLADENSBURG DAYS - Saturday & Sunday, September 19 & 20, 1992
All Day - Various Sites throughout Town
GALA BALL - Saturday, October 3, 1992 7:00 p.m. Bladensburg Firehouse
THANKSGIVING SERVICES Sunday, November 22, 1992 3:00 p.m. Publick Playhouse

NATIONAL COLONIAL FARM, OXON HILL, MARYLAND

September 26, 1992 (Saturday) FALL FARM FESTIVAL
November 15, 1992 (Sunday) FOODWAYS
December 6, 1992 (Sunday) WINTER CHORES
December 13, 1992 (Sunday) HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Write or call for more information: National Colonial Farm,
Bryan Point Rd., Accokeek, MD.



Information, please...

The Prince George's County Historical Society is always open to receiving donations of books and other materials pertaining to history in general, Maryland history in particular, and especially welcomes any information and materials about Prince George's County history. If you have books, photographs, pictures, clippings, artifacts, furniture, etc., that you even vaguely believe may have some importance to our county's history, please contact the Society. For too often such materials are discarded or given to other organizations. We would greatly appreciate it if you please think of us when you're trying to decide what to do with those items of historical significance. We're doing our best to preserve our county's heritage.

Likewise, the Prince George's County Genealogical Society welcomes any books and information that would be of assistance to others doing genealogical research. If you have any books or materials you wish to donate to the Genealogical Society, please contact them at: P.O. Box 819, Bowie, MD 20718-0819. or telephone Ivan Rainwater, Archivist, at 301/262-2854.

Information, please. St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church at 20th and Rhode Island Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C., is celebrating 270 years as the oldest continuous Catholic congregation in Washington, D.C. Its history began in 1721 when the Queen Family of Prince George's County began worship services in their chapel. Anyone with information on the Queen Family or other families that worshipped at Queen's Chapel or St. Francis de Sales, please contact: Christopher J. Pohlhaus, 4803 LaSalle Road, Avondale, West Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Information, please: St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, 619 10th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. will be observing and celebrating in 1994 its 200th anniversary as the oldest Catholic parish in the Federal City. The Irish immigrants who built the White House were the same ones who established St. Patrick's in 1774. From this parish came much history, much of which will be included in two books to be compiled and printed in time for the parish's bi-centennial: one, a more scholarly type book and the other, a pictorial and brief history. Both books are currently underway, but if you have any information that would prove helpful to the parish, please contact: Morris McGregor, St. Patrick's In The City, 619 10th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

Information, please: Br. David Richardson, O.S.C. has been attempting to compile as much information as he can pertaining to the Town of Capitol Heights, Maryland. If any of our readers have any material they wish to share, please contact him at P.O. Box 31698, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

Also, WANTED: If anyone has an extra copy of Maryland's 350th Anniversary (1634-1984) poster (depicting the State Capitol and Maryland flag), I would certainly be interested in acquiring it. Please contact: Br. David Richardson at the above address. Thank you.

The Architectural-Preservation standing committee of Trinity Episcopal Parish in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, plans to establish a permanent archives of Trinity Church History. If anyone has any old records, papers, deeds, maps, pictures, or photos concerning Trinity Church, the preservation committee would like to have them or make copies of them. For more information, please call Anne Sasscer, 301/627-2584, or Sandy Nesbitt, 301/627-5870.

Important Memo:

Missing anything lately? We are...



Your membership is important to the Prince George's County Historical Society!
Please stay in touch with us and the history of
Prince George's County.

We're looking for you!



IMPORTANT - WANTED - NEEDED -

Person(s) willing to volunteer as compiler(s) - editor(s) of Prince George's County Historical Society's newsletter, NEWS & NOTES. Br. David Richardson will be unable to continue compiling and editing NEWS & NOTES after this issue. Interested person(s) should contact PGCHS, Box 14, Riverdale, MD 20737 as soon as possible. Or, contact: Bud Dutton, President of PGCHS, at 301/627-6722 or 301/627-2241. This position should be filled by August 1, 1992.

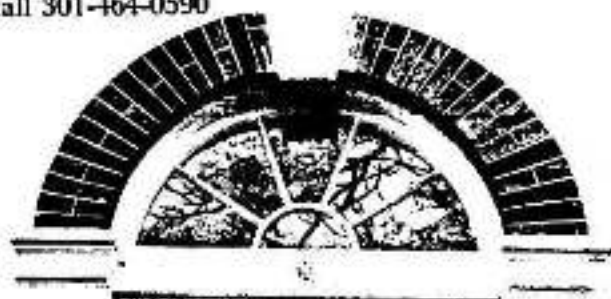
Hours of Operation

Library: Saturdays 12-4 p.m.

Gift Shop: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
and during Special Events

Marietta Tours: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
Group tours by appointment.

For more information
call 301-464-0590

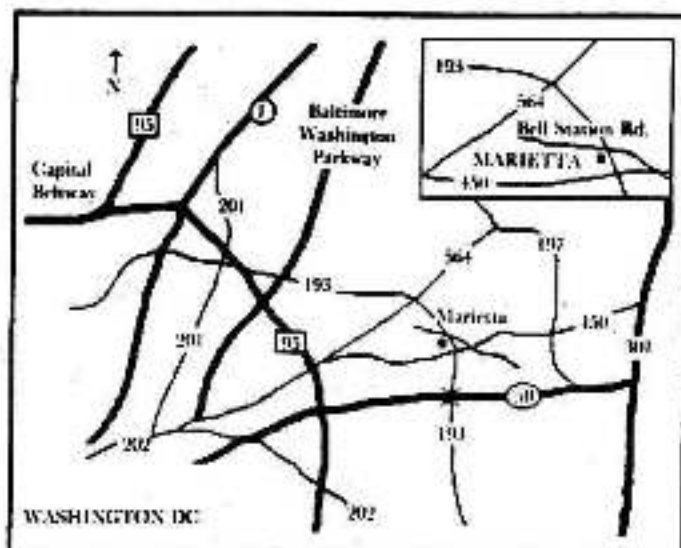


The Gift Shop

features a tasteful collection of handcrafted items
for home and gift-giving, toys and games for
children, small antiques, Historical Society
publications, and souvenirs of historic Marietta.

Location

Marietta is located at 5626 Bell Station Road in
Glenn Dale, Maryland, off Route 193 near Route
450.



A Facility of
The Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission

Prince George's County Historical Society

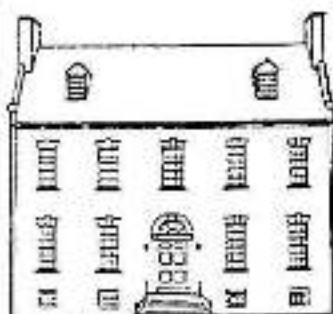
P.O. BOX 14
RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20737/0014



U.S. POSTAGE
Non-Profit Org.
PAID
Riverdale, Md.
20737
Permit No. 1948

DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED



"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County Historical Society



AUGUST, 1992

Founded 1952 - Our 40th Year

Vol. XX, No. 7

1992-93 Board

President:

Joyce McDonald

Board Members:

Cheryl Adams
Edith Bagot
John B. Bourne
Sarah Bourne
Susanna Cristofane
Frederick S. DeMarr
W. C. "Bud" Dutton
Jane Eagen
Ann Ferguson
John A. Giannetti
Paul T. Lanham
Joyce McDonald
John Mitchell
Warren W. Rhoads
Eugene B. Roberts
Lester H. Sweeting

Sept 19 - Fund Raiser

Oct 10 - PGCHS

Membership

Meeting

Oct 24 - Fall Tour

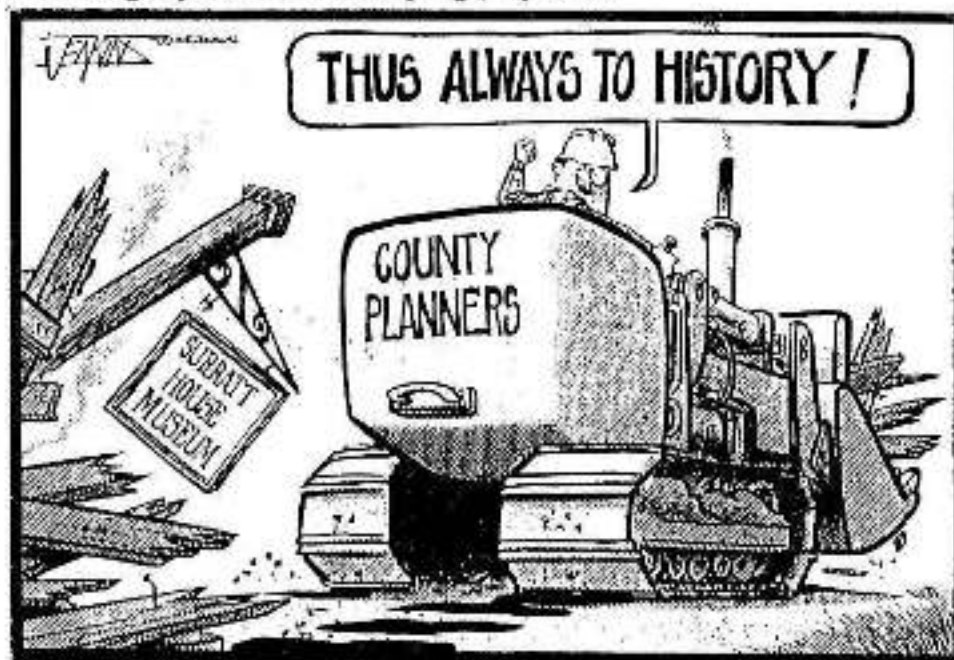
Historical Society Changing of the Guard (See Page 7)

CARROLL COUNTY TOUR HIGHLIGHTS FALL FOLIAGE

The 1992 Fall Tour will depart the Society Headquarters at Marietta, 5626 Bell Station Road promptly at 8:45AM, October 24, 1992. Historic sites to be visited include **Kimney House**, headquarters of our hosts - The Carroll County Historical Society, who will provide coffee and pastries and an orientation. We will then visit the 1807 **Shelton House**, one of the oldest in Westminster; **Ascension Church**, a beautiful 1844 Gothic greystone edifice designed by noted Baltimore Architect, Robert Carey Jr.; luncheon at one of the last of the five original Westminster Taverns, **Cockeys Tavern**; and, finally, a tour of **Hard Lodging**, an 1880 Federal style house which is still surrounded by 200 acres included in the original grant. See the order form later in the News and Notes, and get your reservations in by October 16.

MARY SURRATT HOUSE IN DANGER!

The Society has been advised that the County Planning Department, as part of the Master Plan process for the Clinton area, apparently believes that preservation only involves the salvage of structures. The current Subregion V Master Plan draft calls for Woodyard Road, which currently passes to the north of the Surratt Tavern house and is a busy street, to become a divided highway, with the westbound traffic on the current road way and the eastbound traffic passing immediately south of the site, between the Surratt Tavern and its visitor's center! In response to suggestions of some in the Surratt Society that this is not a proper way to treat this County-owned, Nationally-recognized structure, planners are suggesting that the building be relocated to another part of the County. This cartoon, from the Prince George's Journal of a few days ago, says it all.



What can the members of the Prince George's County Historical Society do? Join with all of the other historic and preservation organizations in the County and make sure your elected representatives in Upper Marlboro and Annapolis understand the importance that this structure is to our Nation's history - not because of what it is, but equally, and to many, more importantly, because of where it is. To desecrate this structure by making it a rest stop in the median of a super highway is not only callous, it is criminal! Contact the Surratt Society at 301-868-1121.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FAIR IS 150 YEARS YOUNG

The County Fair, meeting at the Equestrian Center on Route 4 in Upper Marlboro from September 7, Labor Day, through the following Saturday, September 12, offers an opportunity for all Society members to recall the County's agricultural history and sample and see the 'fruits' of the farmer's labors in 1992. The first County Fair took place in 1842, and, in celebration of this special anniversary there are several unique aspects to the festivities. The many County-wide historical groups, including the MNCPPC History Division, The Historic Preservation Commission, Prince George's Heritage, the Prince George's County Historical and Cultural Trust, and the Society (to name a few) are joining together to staff a tent of our own. Come see the displays, the 'living history' performers, and talk to the staff as they greet you and explain their roles. The Society will be offering T-Shirts for sale as well as our usual items. If anyone would like to help staff the Tent, please let us know, as volunteers are always welcome. Call the Society during business hours or sign up at the Library at Marietta.

MARIETTA CLOSED FOR RESTORATION

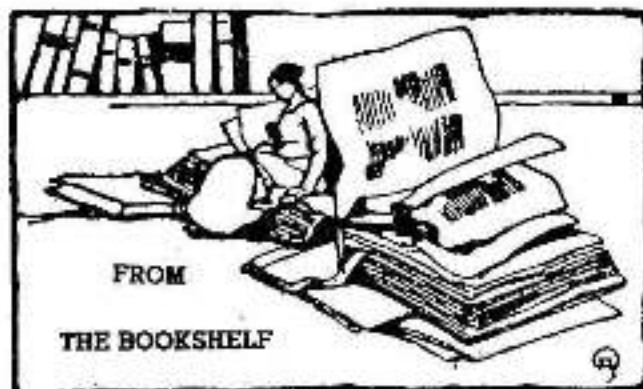
Some of you may find that you cannot get into the public rooms at Marietta after the end of August. That is because the Society has finally been able to let contracts to restore and repair those areas. While the Mansion will be closed to visitors until the fall of 1993, you are still welcome at the Library during its normal hours, and you will be pleased to note that the Gift Shop will operate at Judge DuVal's law office for the duration. Many thanks to all who have made this temporary move possible, especially those of you who agreed to "store" items in your homes pending the completion of this project.

BLADENSBURG CELEBRATES ITS 250TH ANNIVERSARY ALL YEAR LONG

The Town of Bladensburg, as many of you know, came into being officially in 1742, with the granting of a Charter by the Colonial Legislature. Famed as a deep water port on the Northern Branch of the Potomac, little now remains

of the Colonial town. But, that is no reason to forego a celebration. The Mayor and Town Council have been working very hard to ensure that Celebration Bladensburg has something for everyone. On August 15, they hosted the Battle of Bladensburg reenactment, at the site of the 1814 battle which took place the day prior to the sacking of Washington by the British. On a happier note, in terms of the Town's history, it celebrates the first unmanned hot air balloon ascension that took place in 1784. In addition to a balloon festival, the Town dedicated its lovely Balloon Park, located just north of Peace Cross.

September 19, 1992 promises to be an even more interesting day in Bladensburg, with a Parade, the opening of a Diorama Exhibit, a Concert by the Prince George's Philharmonic (featuring, appropriately, the 1812 Overture by Tchaikovsky, in which 18 cannon will be used and fireworks will be a spectacular addition) and an Art Show. This will be followed by a Gala Ball at the Firehouse on October 3, and a Thanksgiving Service on November 22. Please call the Bladensburg Town Hall at 927-7048 for further details.



This Librarian/researcher, amateur historian has just discovered what many Society members have known about for years: **The Frederick S. DeMarr "Memorial" Library** which has operated since 1976. Fred is very much alive and pursuing the definition of memorial in "serving to help people remember some person or event" (Webster's New World Dictionary of American English, 3rd ed., 1988). Every Saturday, at Marietta, from 12:00 to 4:00 pm, Fred helps people remember many other people and events. This researcher was collecting information about, and materials contributed by a fellow Hyattsvillian of Fred's, **Francis X. "Franny" Geary**. My first impression was of the "Histories of Maryland" and the complete set of the "Archives of Maryland." The extensive section on the histories of the State are supplemented by collections relating to Prince George's County and then, further

defined by an entire section divided into Towns and Cities. The range of subject matter included in the county file is also indicative of the variety of materials collected on local jurisdictions and on a variety of subjects related to each; e.g. agriculture, codes (local public laws), directories of organizations, economic, educational, religious and environmental matters, in addition to the materials on local histories, government and planning. The City of Hyattsville section provides an outline of the materials which have been collected on other county cities and towns.

Codes are represented by "The Code of the City of Hyattsville, Maryland" - The Charter and the General Ordinances, 1967, and "Code of General Police, Health, Safety and Town Government Ordinances of the Town of Hyattsville", 1935 edition. Data National Community Directories for Hyattsville-Riverdale (1986-1991 editions) fill the Directory category. An economic study entitled "City of Hyattsville-Redevelopment Plan" is dated September 1971. A "History of Hyattsville High School" (1968) is augmented by yearbooks called "Courant" and "Courannual" beginning from as early as 1918. Brochures commemorating the dedication of Prince George's County Memorial Library, Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, Maryland (1964) and the class reunion of 1958 from Northwestern Senior High School are also "educational." The religious life of the city is represented by publications from the 1st United Methodist Church and from Hyattsville Presbyterian Church's magazine called "The Reminder" (1898-1904). Additional historical materials include souvenir programs celebrating the 21st Anniversary of the Mt. Hermon Lodge (1903) and the opening of Rhode Island Avenue (December 7, 1929). These pamphlets are supplemented by more substantial histories including T. Raymond Burch's "Historic Hitching Post Hill - Ash Hill: General Beale and its other Owners" (1965) and "Fire Call - A History of the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department" (1977) by yes, you guessed it, Francis X. Geary. Another source full of Hyattsvilliana is called "Hyattsville - Our Hometown - 1886-1986; 100 years of the Life, Growth and Service in Prince George's County, Maryland."

And last but not least and surely as fascinating as the documents enumerated above is the following poem by Walter Brooke Hunter from "A Medley of Fiction and Other Rhymes" (1893) entitled "Hyattsville in the Past":

This little town has doctors four,
And dudes who number half a score;
Mechanics, Masons - men of mind -
And maidens, lovely and refined.
It has a weekly paper, bright,

And youths who make a noise at night;
Reporters who relate the news,
And humorists who cure the blues;
A Bowery where steele yarns are spun,
And curious things are said and done.
It also has its cranks and bards,
And men expert in playing cards;
Commissioners who disagree,
And lamps whose light's we seldom see.
Hurrah! no town beneath the sky
With noted Hyattsville can vie.

Come to the Library and peruse the documents related to your town or city, your county, or your state. Mr. DeMarr will be there to welcome and guide you.

Sharon Howe Sweeting

PRINCE GEORGE'S GENESIS

On April 23rd of this year, Prince George's County proudly celebrated its two hundred and ninety-sixth birthday, as it draws ever closer to its tricentennial in 1996. The County has much to be proud of, a rich past and a diverse and dynamic present. When it was created on April 23, 1696, through the act of the Maryland legislature passed the previous year, Prince George's County was the newest of eleven Maryland counties, the oldest being the mother county, St. Mary's. Today, Prince George's County is the most populated of Maryland's twenty-three counties and the eighth largest in terms of surface area, containing 496 square miles. And, just as Maryland is often described as America in miniature, Prince George's County might well be called Maryland in miniature.

Long before the County was created, long before the first European settlers set foot on Maryland's shores, there were people in Prince George's County--people with an unrecorded past many times longer than the two hundred and ninety-seven year milestone that will be celebrated on April 23, 1993. The first people to inhabit what is today Prince George's County were Indians. No one is certain exactly when they arrived here, but it was at least 5,000 years ago and perhaps long before that.

Two tribal groups of Indians inhabited the area when Captain John Smith explored the Potomac River in 1608. One group, the Piscataways, were a sedentary and peace-loving people whose villages dotted the region; the other group, the Susquehannocks, were nomadic and

warlike and frequently attacked their red brothers, the Piscataways. The Piscataway Indians remained in the environs of Prince George's County until around 1700. It was to their principal village of Moyoane, located here in the County at the mouth of Piscataway Creek, that Governor Leonard Calvert came to establish peaceful relations with them in 1634, just prior to founding St. Mary's City.

Following the founding of the Maryland colony at St. Mary's City in 1634, no more than fifteen or sixteen years passed before the first farmsteads and plantations were established in the area of present-day Prince George's County. This trend continued until by 1695 there were between 1600 and 1700 colonists living here, and it was in that year that the Maryland General Assembly passed a law entitled: "An Act for the Division and Regulating Several Countys within this Province and Constituting a County by the name of Prince George's within the same Province." This new law stipulated that the new county of Prince George's would be created on St. George's Day, April 23, 1696.

Despite the fact that the new county was established on the feast of St. George, it did not derive its name from this medieval saint but rather from Prince George of Denmark, the husband of Princess Anne (Queen of England from 1702-1714). Prince George's County was carved out of land that previously had been part of Charles and Calvert counties. Its first county seat was at Charles Town located on the Patuxent River at the mouth of the Charles and Western Branches. The local governing body of the County consisted of a county court comprised of eight justices and its law enforcement arm was a sheriff. The first courthouse was completed at Charles Town (also known as Mount Calvert) in 1698 and consisted of a modest frame building measuring 35 feet by 25 feet. It served this purpose for only 23 years; in 1721 the county seat was moved to its present location at Upper Marlboro.

When Prince George's County was founded nearly three hundred years ago, it was truly the frontier county of the Maryland colony and by far the largest county. Its original boundaries enclosed all of present-day Montgomery, Frederick, Washington, Allegany, and Garrett Counties of Maryland, as well as portions of Carroll County, Maryland and Washington, D.C. In that year two laws were passed by the Maryland General Assembly which reduced Prince George's County to its present size, except for the portion that was later ceded by Maryland to the federal government for the District of Columbia. One law returned a small section of the southern end of the County to Charles County, the other act established Frederick County and in

so doing took away all of what had been the western frontier region of Prince George's County.

The final alteration to the County's boundaries occurred in 1791, when the District of Columbia was created to enclose our nation's capital, the City of Washington. At that time Maryland ceded portions of Prince George's and Montgomery Counties to the federal government. Interestingly enough, the United States Congress ordered that, until it moved its legislative proceedings to the new nation's capital, the land ceded by Maryland continue to be governed by Maryland law. Thus, from 1791 to 1800 Prince George's County continued to exert legal authority within that portion of the District of Columbia that had previously been included within its boundaries.

The above article, by John Wallon, Jr., originally appeared in the Spring 1982 edition of Prince George's Magazine. In future editions of "News and Notes" we will bring you further reprints of articles on the history of the County.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Well - First let me introduce myself. I am Lester H. Sweeting of Hyattsville. I have been a member of the Society for several years, but have been active in other organizations of which I am also a member - including Prince George's Heritage, Hyattsville Preservation Association, Inc., the Maryland Heritage Alliance, Inc., Preservation Action, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. When the call went out for an editor of News and Notes, however, I felt that I should become more active in the Society and that this was a good way to do so. After all, Sharon (my best half) and I have co-edited a quarterly for the Hyattsville Preservation Association for some time. I have a computer and some knowledge on how to utilize it, and I enjoy it. So here I am. I look forward to working with the Board and getting to know some of you, the readers, better. Please drop a line to me, care of the Society, if you have any questions, comments, or other words to share. In addition, any manuscripts for publication will be cheerfully reviewed and, possibly, even published.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

- 2 nd Prince George's Geneological Society Meeting - 7:00 PM, Greenbelt Public Library, 11 Crescent Drive - S. Eugene Clements will speak on Maryland Colonial Land Records. Visitors are welcome.
- 5 th Maryland Renaissance Festival, Crownsville, WEEKENDS ONLY THROUGH OCTOBER 19, 10:30 AM - 7:00 PM, Sat & Sun, Contact Jules Smith at 410-266-7304
- 7 th Prince George's County Fair, Prince George's Equestrian Center, Upper Marlboro, Through September 13, Mon, Sat & Sun 11 AM - 10 PM, Tue - Fri, 4 - 10 PM.
- 10 th Maryland Steam Historical Society Show, through Sept 13, Arcadia Carnival Grounds, Contact Mildred M. Brubaker at 410-833-2175
- 12 th 1814 Battle of North Point Re-Enactment and Living History, 10 AM - 6 PM, Ft. Howard Park, Contact 410-292-9100
- Belair Stable Museum Arts and Crafts Show, Belair Stables, Bowie, 10 AM - 4 PM (Rain Date Sept. 19) Contact Cheryl Lowe at 301-262-0738
- John Wilkes Booth Escape Route Tour, Surratt House Museum, Clinton, 7:30 AM - 7:30 PM, Contact Laurie Vergé at 301-868-1121
- AirFair '92, College Park Airport, College Park, through September 13, 10 AM - 5 PM, Contact Polly Hill at 301-864-5844
- 16th Preservation 2000 Town Meeting, Sponsored by Maryland Historical Trust, School of Architecture, University of Maryland, College Park, 2 - 6 PM. Public hearing on the next decade of Preservation Planning in Maryland, one of a series.
- 19th **Prince of A County Reception, PGCHS, at WESTON, 2 - 5 PM, Contact the Society at 301-464-0590**
- Celebration Bladensburg, Many Events, Contact Town of Bladensburg at 301-927-7048, see related story.
- Victorian Craft Fair, Surratt House Museum, Clinton, 10 AM 5 PM, Contact Laurie Vergé at 301-868-1121

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

- 20 th Colonial Day, Montpelier Mansion, Laurel, 12 - 5 PM, Contact Don Graham or Ann Wagner at 301-953-1376
- 26 th Oxon Hill Jousting Tournament, Tucker Road Community Center, Oxon Hill, 12 - 5 PM, Contact M-NCPPC at 301-292-9006
- Kettling Founder's Day, Kilby Center, 10 AM - 6 PM, Contact Mrs. Tina Badaczewski at 301-249-7345
- Riverdale Day, Riverdale Park, 10 AM - 6 PM, Contact Kathy Consoli at 301-445-4500.
- Farm Heritage Festival, Prince George's Equestrian Center, Upper Marlboro, through September 27, 11 AM - 6 PM, Contact M-NCPPC at 301-627-2270
- Fall Farm Festival, National Colonial Farm, Oxon Hill

October

- 3 rd Prince George's County Genealogical Society Meeting
- 10 th Genealogy for the 90's Seminar, LDS Family History Center, Kensington, Contact PGCGS, P.O. Box 819, Bowie, MD 20718-0819
- Membership Meeting, PGCHS, Marietta, Topic TBA
- 24 th Annual Fall Tour, PGCHS, 8:45 AM, Contact Dusty Rhoads at 301-464-0590

News from the Society - Those of you who actually look at the entirety of News and Notes will see that some changes have been made in the Board of Directors. At the July 18, 1992 Board Meeting, **Bud Dutton** tendered his resignation, and it was very regrettably accepted. Fred DeMarr prepared a tribute to Bud for his tenure as our esteemed President. I have known Bud for only a couple of years, and, speaking as one who did not work closely with him in the Society, but agreed to take the editorial responsibility because I knew Bud would be there, I am gratified that he will remain on the Board as Past-President. He will remain active in the Society.

With Bud's resignation, the Presidency has been assumed by **Joyce McDonald**. Again, speaking rather selfishly, if I cannot have Bud to guide me as President, I am sure glad I have Joyce. I will prevail upon her to offer an occasional column giving her views and concerns as we regularize **News and Notes** and look forward to working with her over the next year. I want to publicly thank the Board for their acceptance of my offer to be Editor. I also want to extend an offer to each of you - This is your newsletter - if there are things about it you like, let us know. More importantly, if you have suggestions for improvement, please come forward.

The Society was gratified to mark several important items of news this month. 1. On August 10, County Executive **Parris N. Glendonning** presented President McDonald with a check in the amount of \$6,000 from the Discretionary Grant Fund. 2. The **Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co., Inc.**, presented a separate grant of \$300 to the Society. 3. **Madge Yewell** donated the family papers used by **Effie Gwynne Bowie** in preparing her book, *Across the Years in Prince George's County*. These papers include items relating to the Hall, Bowie and Lowe families, among others, and represent a significant addition to our archival resources. 4. The Society was successful in acquiring two candlesticks once owned by Judge Duval, which will be displayed in Marietta. These were acquired from descendants of the Judge now living in California and represent another significant addition to the Society's holdings.

A small correction from the Summer edition of **News and Notes**. The article attributed to Joyce McDonald discussing the Heritage Center, was actually authored by **Irene Robb**. We regret the error.

Lester H. Sweeting, Editor

DuVal

THE TORCH IS PASSED

At the July meeting of the Board of Directors, W. C. "Bud" Dutton, Jr. submitted his resignation as President of the Prince George's County Historical Society after having served in that capacity for almost four years. Prior to assuming the President's chair, Bud did yeoman service as a long-time member of the Board and as Vice President/Program Chairman.

In accepting Bud's resignation, the Board expressed deep appreciation for the outstanding leadership provided by him during his tenure. Such projects and programs as the publication of *Calvert of Maryland* and the second edition of *Hopkins Atlas*, obtaining county and state grants for Society outreach programs, the public lecture series, the **Skarda Awards** for school children and the school teacher orientation program were cited as hallmarks of Bud's administration.

We are sure that all members join in saying "Many Thanks" to Bud and to Fran, his lovely wife. Fortunately, Bud will continue to lend his expertise as an ex-officio member of the Board.

Out new President, **Joyce McDonald**, has a long record of service in the historical and preservation community of Prince George's County, having served as Chair of the Historical and Cultural Trust and as manager of the Riversdale historic site. She has provided leadership to the Society as Vice-President/Program Chair, and as a member of the Board. In the early days at Marietta, Joyce recruited many new members who helped to redecorate the Mansion, served as docents and established the Gift Shop. In addition to helping on just about every Society program, Joyce's most memorable effort was the Oral History Project which produced a one-hour program for cable television.

The Society can expect continued high levels of performance during Joyce's administration. As a matter of interest, Joyce is the 13th person to head the Society during its 40 years, and is the first to be addressed as "Madam President!"

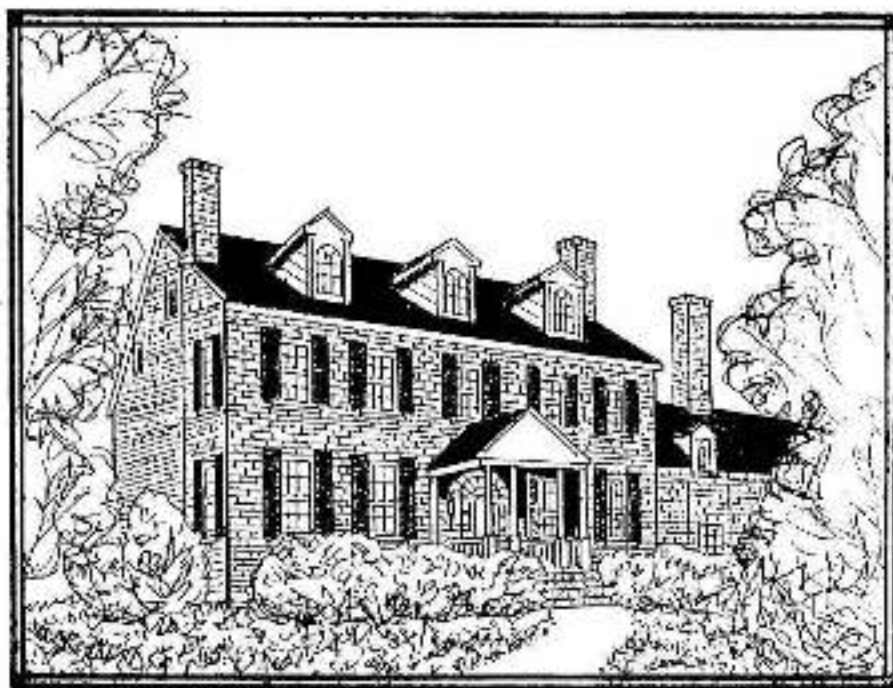
Frederick S. DeMarr

NEW MEMBERS

HERITAGE BOOKS, INC

WILLIAM J. FERMAN

WESTON IN UPPER MARLBORO



WESTON, SITE OF THE SOCIETY'S PRINCE OF A COUNTY RECEPTION ON SEPTEMBER 19, 1992, IS A HANDSOME BRICK PLANTATION HOUSE OF CONSIDERABLE HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE. IT CONSISTS OF A TWO-AND-ONE-HALF STORY MAIN BLOCK AND A ONE-AND-ONE-HALF STORY KITCHEN WING. THE MAIN BLOCK, ORIGINALLY ONLY ONE ROOM DEEP, IS DISTINGUISHED BY FINE DETAIL IN BOTH THE FEDERAL AND GREEK REVIVAL STYLES; THE REAR SPACES WERE CONSTRUCTED A GENERATION AFTER THE FRONT. THE KITCHEN WING PROBABLY INCORPORATES AN EARLY FREESTANDING STRUCTURE, LATER JOINED TO THE MAIN BLOCK BY THE CONNECTING HYPHEN. THE HOUSE STANDS ON A KNOLL AMONG PLANTINGS OF HOLLY AND BOXWOOD AT THE END OF A LONG TREE-LINED LANE; NEAR THE LANE ON A LOW HILL IS THE FAMILY BURIAL GROUND.

WESTON WAS BUILT EARLY IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY FOR THOMAS CLAGETT VI, ONE OF THE MOST PROMINENT LANDOWNERS IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY MARLBORO, AND HAS CLOSE ASSOCIATIONS WITH MANY OTHER CLAGETT FAMILY PROPERTIES IN THE AREA. THE FARMLAND AROUND UPPER MARLBORO IS DOTTED WITH THESE FRAME DWELLINGS WHICH THOMAS CLAGETT ACQUIRED OR HAD BUILT FOR THE MEMBERS OF HIS LARGE FAMILY; WESTON IS THE EARLIEST, THE MOST SUBSTANTIAL, AND THE ONLY BRICK PLANTATION HOUSE AMONG THEM. THE WESTON PROPERTY HAS BEEN THE HOME FOR NINE GENERATIONS OF THE CLAGETT FAMILY.

SUSAN PEARL, HISTORIAN, MNCPPC, HPC

FALL TOUR

1992

**SPEND A PLEASANT DAY WITH THE SOCIETY AND
ENJOY THE AUTUMN SCENERY IN CARROLL COUNTY**

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

Itinerary for the day:

8:45 AM - Depart from Marietta, 5626 Bell Station Road
BE PROMPT PLEASE!

Coffee & Pastries and Orientation at **KIMMEY HOUSE**
(Headquarters of Carroll County Historical Society)

Tour- **SHELLMAN HOUSE** (1807)

Visit- **ASCENSION CHURCH** (1844)

Luncheon- **COCKEY'S TAVERN**

See below for Food Selection

Tour- **HARD LODGING** (1800)

Price of \$32.50 includes all entrance fees, transportation
and luncheon

.Guests are Welcome

DEADLINE OCTOBER 16, 1992

Luncheon Selection and Name(s)

**Baked Ham/Tomato/Cheese
Melt**

Chicken Pineapple

Bouerre

Please make Checks payable to:

Prince George's County Historical Society

Mail completed reservation form to:

Warren Rhoads, 12501 Kemmerton Lane, Bowie, MD
20715

Prince George's County Historical Society

Annual Membership Application

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone - Home: _____

Business: _____

Please Indicate Whether This is a New Membership or a
Renewal:

____ New ____ Renewal

Check Below The Category You Select:

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full-Time Student | \$ 10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member | 20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | 200.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining | 50.00 |

☐ Additional Contribution \$ _____

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

I would also like to join the Maryland Historical Society.
I am enclosing \$25.00 for an individual membership or
\$35.00 for husband and wife.

Our operating support comes from your dues and
contributions. All contributions are tax deductible.

We appreciate your support.

Make your check payable to PGCHS

Mail check and form to:

Prince George's County Historical Society

Post Office Box 14

Riverdale, MD 20738-0014

301/464-0590

Hours of Operation

Library: Saturdays 12-4 p.m.

Gift Shop: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
and during Special Events

Marietta Tours: Sundays (March-December)
12-4 p.m.;
Group tours by appointment.

For more information
call 301-464-0590

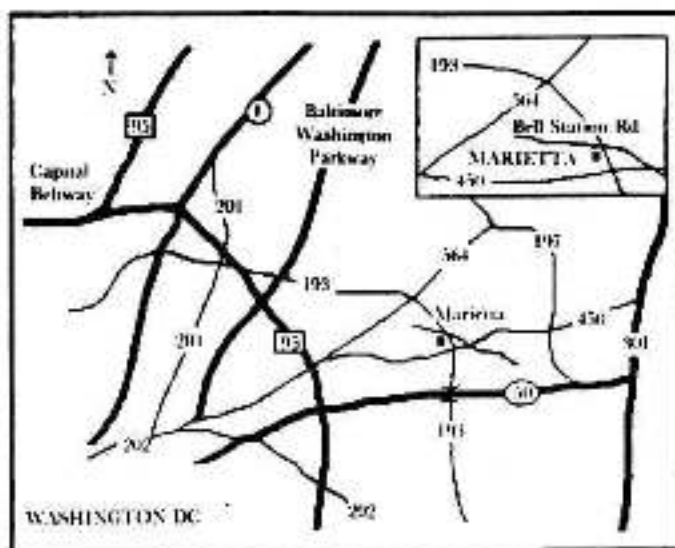


The Gift Shop

features a tasteful collection of handcrafted items
for home and gift-giving, toys and games for
children, small antiques, Historical Society
publications, and souvenirs of historic Marietta.

Location

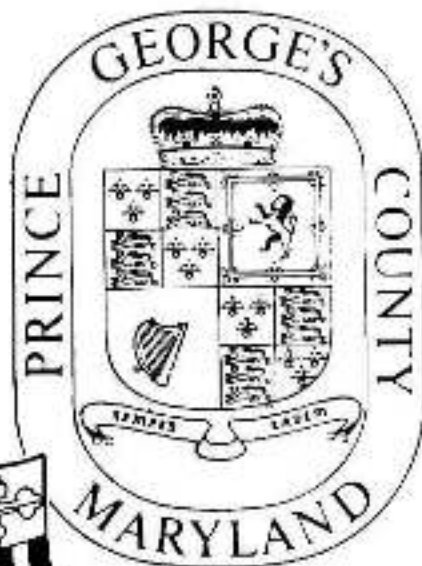
Marietta is located at 5626 Bell Station Road in
Glenn Dale, Maryland, off Route 193 near Route
450.



A Facility of
The Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission

Prince George's County Historical Society

P.O. BOX 14
RIVERDALE, MARYLAND 20737/0014



DATED MATERIAL

U.S. POSTAGE
Non-Profit Org.
PAID
Riverdale, Md.
20737
Permit No. 1948

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED



"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County
Historical Society



SEPTEMBER, 1992

FOUNDED 1952 - OUR 40TH YEAR

VOL. XX, NO. 8

OCTAGON HOUSE CURATOR TO ADDRESS SOCIETY -

Lonnie J. Hovey, Preservation Coordinator of the Octagon House in Washington will be the featured speaker at the Society's October 10, 1992 meeting to be held at Marietta. For those of you who have not visited the Octagon House since its owners, the American Institute of Architects (AIA), began its latest restoration project, I can personally vouch for a very interesting and informative discussion. Occupied by the AIA in 1890, the Octagon House was purchased by the AIA early in this century. In the late 1940s, at about the same time that the White House was restored under President Truman, the Octagon House underwent extensive restoration. In the process, the best minds of the architectural community determined that the house needed a steel frame to under gird the building. Now, only 40 years later, it has been discovered that the steel framing actually has a negative effect on the structure because it is not allowed to move naturally upon its foundations. So, as Mr. Hovey will no doubt describe, much restoration work being done currently involves returning the structure to its original wood frame construction. The meeting will begin, as usual, at 2:00 PM in the Library.

GIFT SHOP TO REOPEN - RELOCATED

Also on October 10, 1992, the Society's Gift Shop will reopen in its new (temporary) location in Judge Duvall's Office. That location will serve until the completion of the interior restoration of Marietta. In getting ready for the move and re-opening, many new items of interest have been acquired and await those early holiday shoppers looking for a unique present for the person who has everything. Please stop in and browse before the meeting. The Gift Shop's hours - Sunday's 12-4 p.m. will not change. See you there!

IMPORTANT DATES IN OCTOBER

- October 3 Board Meeting, Marietta, 10 AM
- October 10 Membership Meeting, Marietta, 2 PM
- October 22 Fall Lecture Series Begins, Marietta, 6:30 PM
- October 24 Fall Bus Tour, Leave Marietta, 8 AM
- October 29 Second Fall Lecture, Bladensburg Town Hall, 6:30 PM

PLEASE NOTE - NOVEMBER IS ELECTION MONTH - THE SOCIETY WILL BE ELECTING SEVERAL NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND OFFICERS. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO BE HELD AT MARIETTA AT 2 pm, NOVEMBER 14, 1992.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Thank you to all who have mentioned that you liked the last issue. I appreciate the support and hope that I can continue to maintain the high standards set by Fred DeMarr when he began this publication nearly 20 years ago. I have spent a bit of time in the Library pouring over old issues and have decided to feature some reprints as we go through the next year. I believe that some of the newer members will appreciate this, and hope that the more senior members do not mind 'reruns' from time to time.

I am also fulfilling a personal promise I made to a board member - Paul Lanham - by including some of the materials he has collected over the years for a column he provided to various editors. I am including his article on the Drane House in Accident, with an update as to what happened in the five years since he gathered the materials on which he based his article.

One concern we (the Board and I) have is that we bring the Society information that it needs and wants at a price that is reasonable. I can only contribute to that effort if you let the Board, or me directly, know whether the information is what you desire and what else you might want to see in News and Notes.

We mention elsewhere that the Society's membership meeting on October 10, 1992, will include a presentation by Lonnie J. Hovey, Preservation Coordinator at the American Institute of Architect's Octagon House. Some of you may have seen the feature article done on the Octagon House by the Washington Post (Home Section, Thursday, September 3, 1992). That article points out many interesting things about the house, but cannot compare to a personal visit. I especially recommend visiting with children of grade school or junior high school age because the discussion of

the 'what is it?' items in the cellars is fascinating. Call the Octagon House for information (202)-638-3105.

We also spent some time this month at the Prince George's County Fair. Having grown up near Syracuse, NY, where the New York State Fair has been running every August since 1841, and which I attended almost as an obligation as a teenager and college age youth, I had become somewhat jaded at the prospect of a 'county fair.' Now, thirty years later, I find myself drawn to the event in addition to the living history events so well presented by the M-NCPPC History Division, especially the Civil War re-enactment participants and the children's corner. I sense a feeling that - while the vehicles and the clothing styles may have changed, and the music certainly is different - much of what goes on at the Fair is the same now as it was before my birth. The agricultural products being grown, submitted and judged; the care that the housewives (and house husbands) take with their canning and their baked goods; the pride that the winners demonstrate - all of these things happened to my parents and their parents as they made that annual pilgrimage to the Fair. They came to see and be seen, to show off their best and to check out the competition; and to share in the richness that is America's agricultural tradition. I enjoy the Fair. See you there next year!

And, finally, for those of you unable to attend the Prince of A County Reception at Weston, I must say - you missed a treat. The excellent food and drink, the tour of the wonderful mansion and the conviviality of the company were overshadowed by the fascinating talk given by our Host, **Henry Contee Bowie Clagett, Jr.** Among his remarks, he mentioned that Weston is a 'fee tail male estate.' This is a term I had not heard used in this country for a piece of real estate still covered by an original grant. I had, of course, learned the term in law school so many years ago, but had thought it only of historical interest at that time. Black's Law Dictionary, 4th Edition, contains no specific definition, for the full term 'fee tail male,' but the term 'tale male' is defined as *When certain lands are given to a person and the male heirs of his or her body. The female heirs are not capable of inheriting it. In the event the person in current possession dies without male issue (a son or grandson living), the estate would revert to the party who gave it originally and his heirs.* Given that Mr. H C B Clagett, Jr. is the ninth generation in possession, and has two generations following him (Henry Contee Bowie III and Henry Wesley), the failure of succession is remote for the foreseeable future. A remarkable aspect of a fascinating story!

(Continued on page 4)

MacALPINE

LAST OF THE "RIVERSDALE" CALVERT HOLDINGS

[Ed. Note - This article appeared in the August, 1973, edition Vol 1, No. 6, of *News and Notes*. We shall do re-prints of interesting articles from past editions for the edification of new members and the remembrance of more senior members.]

In 1866, two years after Charles Benedict Calvert's death, Riversdale was divided among his heirs. His widow, Charlotte Augusta Calvert, received 300 acres, including the mansion, as her dower interest. The remainder of the property was divided into six zones which were distributed among his five children: George Henry, Charles Baltimore, William Morris, Eugene Stier and Ella Calvert Campbell.

Charles Baltimore Calvert received Zone 2, which was bordered on the west by the Baltimore Turnpike, on the north by present-day Albion Road (boundary between College Park and Riverdale), on the south by the stream which follows Wells Parkway in University Park, and on the east by Edmondston Road (Kenilworth Avenue). A small portion of the property extended east of Edmondston Road.

Charles Baltimore Calvert had managed the entire Riversdale estate during his father's last years. In 1863, he became the third graduate of the Maryland Agricultural College, whose Board of Trustees was chaired by his father, one of the founders. On June 14, 1866, young Calvert married Eleanor MacKubin, the only daughter of Dr. Richard Creagh MacKubin and Hester Ann MacKubin of "Strawberry Hill," Annapolis. The MacKubins were originally from Scotland and were members of the MacAlpine Clan. It is from this source that the estate **MacAlpine**, got its name. (Mrs. Calvert's brother, James MacKubin, built a house in Howard County and also called it **MacAlpine**.)

Charles Baltimore Calvert was elected to the General Assembly of Maryland as a Democrat in 1864 and was re-elected in 1867. He also served as a Trustee of the Maryland Agricultural College and was an officer of the National Hotel Company in Washington. Calvert was one of the original promoters of the Washington to Laurel electric line which ran through his property. Family legend claims that Calvert and his family had pass privileges on the B&O Railroad until they were revoked after he voted in favor of the Baltimore and Potomac RR (Pennsylvania) while in the General Assembly.

The Calverts moved into MacAlpine after it was finished in 1868. It was located on the top of Cat-Tail hill, just a short distance off the Baltimore Turnpike, facing east. The master of MacAlpine designed the house and supervised

its construction. It was of brick, 39' x 35', with a wing on south side 15' by 25'. Both the main block and the wing were original construction, being two stories high with full basement. A one-story porch 8' wide ran the full front of the main section. On the south end of the wing, there was a similar porch.

The main floor consisted of entrance hallway with stair, and library on the front of the building. To the rear were the dining room and parlor. The wing contained a back stair, pantry and kitchen. (The kitchen was originally located in the basement.) The second floor had three bedrooms in the main section and a bath (a post-1906 addition), bedroom and back stairs in the wing. The ceilings of the wing were lower than the 14' ones in the main structure. Two interior chimneys furnished fireplaces in each room.

Some years after its construction, MacAlpine was painted yellow, imitating the Federal Style of the late 18th- and early 19th centuries. The estate was farmed successfully until 1890 when a labor shortage caused the operation to be abandoned. Farm buildings included a circular ice house, barn, carriage shed, corn shed and pump house.

When Charles Baltimore Calvert died on August 31, 1906, his wife received a life estate in the property, which was to go to the eight children after her death. The family remained until 1910, when they moved to Washington. One of the children, Charlotte Calvert Spence (wife of Dean Thomas H. Spence, University of Maryland) spent her summers there until 1917. For the next 17 years, until September 4, 1934, the Spences lived there year round. At that time the property was rented to Reese Longfellow Sewell, who operated it as the Longfellow School for Boys. Classes covering the first eight grades were held through the beginning of World War II.

After the death of Mrs. Calvert on April 30, 1932, the property passed to the nine heirs: C.B. Calvert Carey and W. Gibson Carey, sons of Eleanor Calvert Carey (died October 5, 1920); Hester V. C. Lilly; Charlotte Calvert Spence; Richard C. M. Calvert; and Elizabeth Stuart Calvert Thomas.

During World War II the remaining property was purchased by the U.S. Government in order to erect housing for workers in defense plants. MacAlpine became an elementary school for children of the residents. By the early 1950s, the last of this temporary housing project, "Calvert Homes," had been torn down and MacAlpine stood vacant. Vandalism soon took its toll and the house had burned by the early 1960s.

During the 1960s, the Army Reserve Center and the Prince George's County Regional Postal Facility were constructed

While we are discussing the Fund Raiser, I want to ensure that the membership is aware of who is responsible for the success of this venture. Of course, H. C. B. Clagett, Jr and Mr. and Mrs. H. C. B. Clagett, III, were central to the success of the event. Madam President, Joyce MacDonald, deserves a big word of thanks. Special thanks to the History Division, M-NCPPC and to Oak Grove Design for their help, especially to Hank Handler (who is the contractor in charge of the work at Riversdale and at Marietta). Jean Hahn deserves special recognition for her efforts in addressing the 600 invitations, by hand. We also would like to recognize the great contributions of the ladies who acted as docents for the tours of Weston. Susan Pearl provided information on the history of Weston, and Alan T. Austin, an intern at the M-NCPPC Historic Preservation Section, did the excellent drawing used on the invitation and the brochure. Finally, the yeoman service of Warren W. (Dusty) Rhoads and Eugene B. Roberts in ensuring that the location was set up and operational on time, and for performing those many little tasks that ensure success, must be acknowledged. Thank you all!

MacAlpine (concluded)

on the property which was annexed by the Town of Riverdale. The remainder of the land stands vacant today. The ruins of the house's foundation and the broken concrete gatepost bearing the inscriptions "Calvert" and "MacAlpine" are the mute reminders of a once proud estate.

REFERENCE: Phillips, Jack W. The History and Construction of MacAlpine at College Park, Maryland. Unpublished paper prepared as an initiation requirement for Beta of Maryland of Tau Beta Pi, December, 1934. 36 pp. (Deposited in Maryland Room, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland.)

Paul Lanham Writes -

Prince George's Roots in Garrett County

The Drane House was the subject of a State Capital Grant from the Maryland Historical Trust in 1989. Paul writes:

This historic building is believed to be the oldest standing structure in Garrett County and was constructed circa 1800 by James Drane in the vicinity of what is today known as Accident, Maryland. Drane had emigrated to the area from Prince George's County and was one of several early farmers who unsuccessfully attempted tobacco culture in the area. The cool climate and the great distance to markets ultimately thwarted their imaginative efforts.

Since Garrett had originally been a part of Prince George's County, where tobacco cultivation had long ruled the economic, social and daily life of our early settlers, one can readily understand the motivation which guided James Drane and his associates in this doomed enterprise.

Numerous references to the Drane family can be found in early Prince George's County records and research would probably uncover even more. The Cultural and Historical Society of Accident, Maryland is undertaking such an effort as background for the restoration project. The Drane House is an unusual combination of log and frame construction and an uncommon variant of the hall-and-parlor plan. It was entered into the National Register of Historic Places in 1985.

(Ed. Note - we checked with the Cultural and Historical Society to determine where the project stands now - nearly 5 years later. Still progressing, we learned that the building was taken apart log by log, and that new logs and pegs were made by hand to replace those unusable in the reconstruction. The building is now standing once again, and the roof is currently being placed. Next Spring, the logs will be re-chinked and the exterior restoration will be completed. I have provided the Library with the materials I received on the House.)

FALL LECTURE SERIES SCHEDULED

Four lectures will be presented during the next two months under the joint sponsorship of the Society, Prince George's Community College and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission History Division. The lecture series may be subscribed to at a rate of \$12 per lecture, or \$36 for the entire series (one lecture would be free). Reservations may be made by calling (301) 464-0590 or (301) 322-0797. The lectures will take place at various places around the County, but all will begin at 6:30 PM. The Schedule is as follows:

October 22 at Marietta - **History Mysteries: Ghostly Tales From The Past** - Joan Chaconas, Presenter.

October 29 at the Bladensburg Town Hall - **Birth to ReBirth: 250 Years of Bladensburg History** - Jane Eagen, Presenter.

November 5 at Darnall's Chance, Upper Marlboro - **Political Personalities of Prince George's County** - The Hon. Thomas V. Mike Miller, Presenter.

November 19 at Marietta - **Feast and Folklore: Holiday Celebrations in Earlier Times** - Presenter to be announced.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

- 3rd **PGCHS Board Meeting, Marietta, 10 AM**
- 4th National Symphony Orchestra Decorator Show House, 1992, opens - The Toutorsky Residence, 1720 16th St. NW, call (202)416-8149 through November 1.
- 7th Prince George's County Genealogical Society Meeting, Greenbelt Public Library, 7 PM
- 10th Genealogy for the 90's Seminar, LDS Family History Center, Kensington, Contact PGCHS, P.O. Box 819, Bowie, MD 20718-0819
Membership Meeting, PGCHS, Marietta, Topic: Lonnie Hovey talks about the Octagon House
- 14th Maryland School of Architecture Fall Lecture Series, Kenneth Frampton, 7 PM, contact (301) 405-6284 (additional lectures on October 23, 26, November 4 and 11).
- 21st Friends of Montpelier, Lee Howard will discuss The History of Lighting, 7:30 PM
- 22nd **PGCHS Fall Lecture Series #1 - "History Mysteries: Ghostly Tales From The Past", Marietta, 6:30 PM**
- 24th **Annual Fall Tour, PGCHS, 8:45 AM, Contact Dusty Rhoads at 301-464-0590**
Laurel Historical Society Benefit Auction, Phelps Community Center, 7 PM, contact (301) 490-5792 or (301) 490-8847
Colonial Ball, Benefit Broad Creek Historic District Local Advisory Committee, contact Holly Scott (301) 292-8231 or Helen O'Leary (301) 292-2777 - Costumed Participants Receive a Discount!
- 29th **PGCHS Fall Lecture Series # 2 - "Birth to Rebirth: 250 Years of Bladensburg History", Bladensburg Town Hall, 6:30 PM.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

5 th

PGCHS Fall Lecture Series # 3 - "Political Personalities of Prince George's County", Darnall's Chance, Upper Marlboro, 6:30 PM.

6 th & 7 th

"The Total Community, Preserving a Way of Life" - Maryland's Annual Preservation Conference, Loew's Annapolis Hotel, Annapolis, Contact Sue King at (410)514-7616.

14 th

PGCHS Membership Meeting, Marietta, 2 PM

18 th

Friends of Montpelier, "Life on a Plantation", Margaret Callcott, 7:30 PM. (See related information in "From the Bookshelf")

19 th

PGCHS Fall Lecture Series # 4, "Feast and Folklore: Holiday Celebrations in Earlier Times", Marietta, 6:30 PM

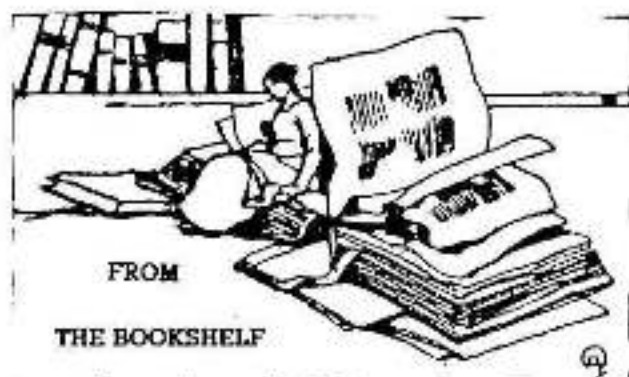
Resolving a Question of History

I have been advised by several members of the Society that November 19, 1992 will be the 40 th Anniversary of the Founding of the Prince George's County Historical Society. Information has come my way that indicates that this may not be so, and I would ask those in the Society who can to explain the apparent discrepancy. I will quote from what I am told is an article from the September 1973 issue of News and Notes, Vol. 1 No 7:

Twenty-One Years Ago

On September 15, 1952, twelve distinguished citizens of Prince George's County met in the Music Room of Riversdale (Calvert Mansion) [with] plans to organize an historical society. Those in attendance were T. Howard Duckett, Oden Bowie, M. Hampton Magruder, John S. Stanley, Leroy Pumphrey, Kent R. Mullikin, Robert M. Watkins, A. Gwynn Bowie, T. Hammond Welch, Jr., Mrs. Rhoda Christmas, Mrs. C. W. S. Musgrave and Mrs. Felix Christofane. Mr. Duckett was elected Temporary Chairman and Mr. Stanley served as Membership Chairman.

The Prince George's County Historical Society was formally organized on November 19, 1954 with 190 Charter Members and it was incorporated on January 5, 1955. Because of his great interest in the Society, it was fitting that Mr. Duckett served as the first President of the group. The other past presidents of the Society [as of 9/73] are Eugene B. Roberts, Herbert W. Wells, William Stanley, William H. Brooke, Forrest D. Bowie, James Wilfong, Jr., and Paul T. Lanham.



This column's ubiquitous moniker was selected to cover a myriad of research-resource bookish ideas which from time to time engage this librarian. It is meant to enumerate library resources, such as the column in the August 1992 issue, on materials related to individual county towns and cities. New library accessions, grouped by special interest, events, or themes, will also be discussed. And lastly, but probably not inclusively, when a particularly splendid book comes along, we will try to incite the members to read it. This last goal is the *raison d'être* for this column and the tome is called *Mistress of Riverdale: The Plantation Letters of Rosalie Stier Calvert, 1795-1821* edited by Margaret Law Callcott, of University Park, and published in 1991 by Johns Hopkins University Press. The Press, according to Leonard Hughes' article in the August 20, 1992, Washington Post, thought they were "taking a gamble on the publication." For fifteen dollars (paperback), or a reserve slip at your local public library, this incredibly diverse book, has something of interest for nearly everyone, especially following some of the topics outlined in our last column: county life relative to agriculture, economics, education, religion, and government. But be warned and be prepared to devote about two days totally immersed in these letters.

The editor-author and winner of a Maryland Historical Society book prize, creates a seamless fabric between the introductory chapters and the translated letters, arranged chronologically to facilitate the storytelling. In spite of the fact that I've given you only two days to read it, read everything including the voluminous, meticulous footnotes. Each reader is guaranteed to absorb the complex life on a large, county plantation at the beginning of the nineteenth century: how tobacco was grown, stored, shipped from the ports of Baltimore or Philadelphia and sold through agents in London and Antwerp; how drought and floods and was obliterated the crop or forced it's storage for years at a time; and how crops needed to be diversified. Their economic survival depended, in part, on the price received for the tobacco and for the years immediately following 1805 they lived in what is called "Straitened Circumstances." Rosalie, through it all, maintained the financial accounts for her father, Henry J. Stier, her brother Charles, and to a lesser degree her sister's

husband. A truly liberated woman, Rosalie's discussions of her decisions on how to invest her family's vast fortune are enlightening and, based on her results, exemplary. In those years, Europe was often disrupted by the military exercises of Napoleon and America by "Tommy Jeff's Embargo." She made decisions related to the purchase treasury bonds, stocks, and land with virtually no guidance from the family, but, in between the lines, one can readily see that she used her wide-ranging contacts with government officials and social acquaintances with aplomb and dispatch. She was also responsible for the early education of her nine children, since she was unable to engage proper tutors, especially ones knowledgeable in French, drawing and dancing. Later, at around age nine, the boys AND THE GIRLS were sent to Philadelphia for schooling. The early religious life in the county is epitomized with Rosalie's isolation from her Catholic family which necessitated frequently asking them to become the Godparents for each of her children and with her lack of spiritual guidance upon the loss of four of those nine children in addition to her beloved Mother.

Her family, who had returned to Belgium in 1802, were particularly sensitive to this when her Mother died. Her father sent word of the family in his frequent letters, often two or three months in transit. Rosalie's mother's death was sensitively announced in a letter under separate cover to George Calvert, so that he might break the news to his wife.

Rosalie's views on the Federal City and the occupants of the White House add still another dimension to this incredible work. Her fondness for the Washington's (George Calvert's oldest sister was married to Martha Washington's son by her first marriage) is juxtaposed with her intense dislike for Thomas Jefferson and his 'low-life' democrats. Only when Monroe came to the White House were order, manners and elegance restored! Many other facets of life in the Federal city are depicted, especially in the years from 1817 to 1819 when, Caroline, the Calvert's oldest daughter, debuted in Washington. However, it still took two hours to travel to Washington from Riverdale so life was still difficult. A chapter on George Calvert's life, after Rosalie's death in 1821, rounds out this tale.

One final note: the Riverdale Historical Society, under Ann Ferguson's guidance, and Fred DeMarr of Prince George's County Historical Society, should be very proud of their efforts associated with this work and The Johns Hopkins University Press should be encouraged to undertake more "gamblers" such as this.

Sharon Howe Sweeting

APOLOGY - LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Your editor pleads ignorance and, apparently, not without cause! I received a lovely letter from **David D. Duvall**, Past President, Society of Mareen Duvall Descendants concerning two errors in the September News and Notes. First, let us be clear, the Duvall family silver was acquired by the Society of Mareen Duvall Descendants and placed on extended loan with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission for display at Marietta. The Prince George's County Historical Society has no proprietary interest therein! Second, as to the spelling of the Duvall name, I quote from Mr. David D. Duvall's letter:

In keeping with your invitation to apprise you of suggestions or commentary that may be helpful in the future offerings, I should alert you that you have innocently waded into the pool of alligators who monitor the various spellings of the surnames assumed by the descendants of Mareen Duvall the Huguenot, who emigrated from France via England to Maryland about 1655 (Mareen was Judge Gabriel Duvall's great-grandfather). To make a long controversy short, with respect to the spelling of the family name, Duvall, Duval, duVal, DuVall or DuVal have all been adopted by Mareen's descendants. Suffice it to say there is no evidence to support the notion that the Judge ever spelled his name any other way but "Duvall." It seems it was actually the Judge's only child, Edmund Brice DuVal, who first adopted the Gallic orthography of "DuVal," which apparently has been used by that line of the Duvall family since Edmund's death in 1831. In noting your spelling of the Judge's name as "DuVal" in one place and "Duval" in another, you have joined the myriad of well-meaning folks who never know exactly which spelling to use. No less than the Prince George's County Board of Education when naming

DuVal (sic) High School in Glenn Dale also erred in the correct spelling of the school's honored namesake. Perhaps the Society should bring this historical inaccuracy to the attention of its members who may wish to request that the current Board of Education correct the mistake made by their predecessors nearly 30 years ago in the spelling of a county high school named in memory of Judge Gabriel Duvall.

A second letter concerns the story on the 250th Anniversary of Bladensburg - one of your editor's favorite towns - as we resided there (in the shadow of Bostwick) for nearly 15 years. **Florence Riedesel** writes:

The August News and Notes was a pleasure to read. Thank you for filling a need for an editor and doing it so well.

The coverage of Bladensburg's 250 celebration is appropriate. You may be interested to know that Board Member Jane Eagen (a non-Bladensburger) had a large role in the celebration. She created a week of elementary school curriculum for Bladensburg and Rogers Heights Elementary Schools.

The Editor would like to remind those of you who are interested in submitting articles, letters, reviews, calendar items, et. al. that

**THE NEWS AND NOTES
DEADLINE FOR THE
OCTOBER ISSUE IS**

OCTOBER 15.

FALL TOUR

1992

SPEND A PLEASANT DAY WITH THE SOCIETY AND

**ENJOY THE AUTUMN SCENERY IN CARROLL
COUNTY**

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

Itinerary for the day:

**8:45 AM - Depart from Marietta, 5626 Bell Station Road
BE PROMPT PLEASE!**

Coffee & Pastries and Orientation at KIMMEY HOUSE

(Headquarters of Carroll County Historical Society)

Tour- SHELLMAN HOUSE (1807)

Visit- ASCENSION CHURCH (1844)

Luncheon- COCKEY'S TAVERN

See below for Food Selection

Tour- HARD LODGING (1800)

**Price of \$32.50 includes all entrance fees, transportation
and luncheon**

Guests are Welcome

DEADLINE OCTOBER 16, 1992

Luncheon Selection and Name(s)

Baked Ham/Tomato/Cheese Melt

Chicken Pineapple Bouerre

Please make Checks payable to:

Prince George's County Historical Society

Mail completed reservation form to:

**Warren Rhoads, 12501 Kemmerton Lane, Bowie, MD
20715**

Prince George's County Historical Society

Annual Membership Application

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone - home: _____

Business: _____

**Please Indicate Whether This is a New Membership or a
Renewal**

☐ **New** ☐ **Renewal**

Check Below The Category You Select:

☐ **Full-Time Student** \$ 10.00

☐ **Member** 20.00

☐ **Life Member** 200.00

☐ **Sustaining** 50.00

☐ **Additional Contribution \$** _____

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

**I would also like to join the Maryland Historical Society,
I am enclosing \$25.00 for an individual membership or
\$35.00 for husband and wife.**

**Our operating support comes from your dues and
contributions. All contributions are tax deductible.**

We appreciate your support.

Make your check payable to PGCHS

Mail check and form to:

Prince George's County Historical Society

Post Office Box 14

Riverdale, MD 20738-0014

301/464-0590

Hours of Operation

Library: Saturdays 12-4 PM

Gift Shop: Sundays 12-4 PM and during
Special Events

Marietta Tours - Suspended During
Renovation

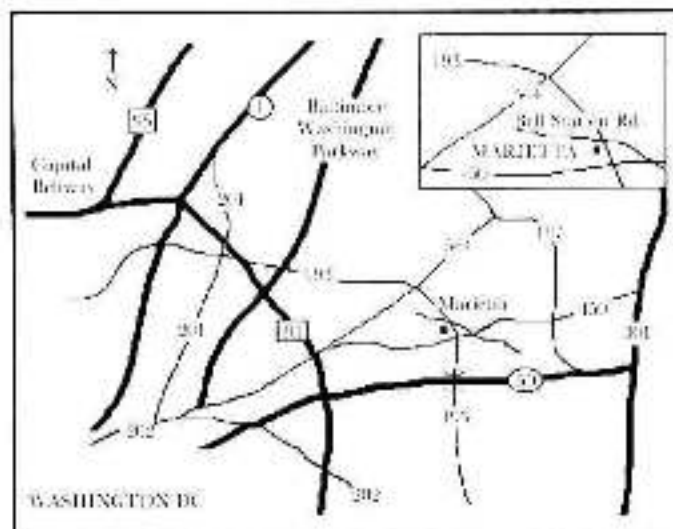
Information - (301) 464-0590

The Gift Shop

features a tasteful collection of handcrafted
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games for children, small antiques, Historical
Society publications and souvenirs of
historic Marietta.

Location of the Society

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Glenn Dale, Maryland, off Route 193 near Route 450. This is
a facility of the Maryland-National Capital Park and
Planning Commission.



Prince George's County Historical Society

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DATED MATERIAL



"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County
Historical Society



OCTOBER, 1992

FOUNDED 1952 - OUR 40TH YEAR

VOL. XX, NO. 9

GIFT SHOP REOPENS - RELOCATED

On October 10, 1992, the Society's Gift Shop reopened in its new (temporary) location in Judge Duvall's Office. That location will serve until the completion of the interior restoration of Marietta. In getting ready for the move and re-opening, many new items of interest have been acquired and await those early holiday shoppers looking for a unique present for the person who has everything. Please stop in and browse before the meeting. The Gift Shop's hours - Saturday's 12-4 p.m. Beginning November 15, the Gift Shop will be open both Saturday and Sunday throughout the Holidays. See you there!

IMPORTANT DATES IN NOVEMBER

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| November 5 | Lecture Series # 3: "Political Personalities of Prince George's County" |
| November 14 | Board Meeting, Marietta, 10 AM |
| November 14 | Membership Meeting, Marietta, 2 PM - Election of Officers |
| November 19 | Lecture Series # 4: "Feast and Folklore, Holiday Celebrations in Earlier Times" |

SOCIETY TO ELECT NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PLEASE NOTE - NOVEMBER IS ELECTION MONTH - THE SOCIETY WILL BE ELECTING SEVERAL NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND OFFICERS. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO BE HELD AT MARIETTA AT 2 pm, NOVEMBER 14, 1992. FURTHER DETAILS INSIDE NEWS AND NOTES. ALSO, ANYONE WHO IS WILLING TO PROVIDE SOMETHING FOR THE REFRESHMENT TABLE, PLEASE CALL Florence Riedesel at 864-5921 or THE SOCIETY TO SIGN UP. WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR PERSONAL PARTICIPATION IN THIS HISTORIC AND IMPORTANT MEETING.

With the Holiday Season just a few weeks away, we are reprinting for the information of our members and friends the recipe for the Chatham Artillery Punch. Many will remember it from years past. The Recipe will be found on the back of the Calendar Page. Enjoy!

Prince George's County Historical Society

1993 BUDGET

INCOME

MEMBER DUES	\$ 7,000	
CONTRIBUTIONS	300	
INTEREST ON SAVINGS	1,800	
HOUSE TOURS & SHOWS	0	
PUBLICATIONS - NET	0	
FUNDRAISER - NET	1,000	
BUS TOURS - NET	0	
ST. GEORGE'S DAY - NET	(1,000)	
SKARDA FUND	(200)	
VIRTA BOOK	1,200	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 10,100
EXPENSES		
NEWS AND NOTES	4,000	
MARIETTA	3,200	
PROJECTS	13,800	
MISCELLANEOUS	0	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 21,000
NET		(\$ 10,900)



Please note that the hours of operation for the Gift Shop at Marietta were mis-stated in the October News and Notes. Until November 14, the Gift Shop will operate on Saturdays, not Sundays, as reported. Beginning on November 14, the Gift Shop will be open both Saturday and Sunday for your shopping pleasure, keeping those hours until December 19. The Shop will revert to a Saturday only schedule after the holidays, pending reopening of the Mansion.

While on the subject of Holiday Shopping, please note also that we have included an order blank for the Society's publications. Publications may be purchased at the Library or the Gift Shop, or may be ordered by mail. I recommend these items as gifts. I also recommend purchasing life memberships or regular memberships in the Society as Holiday gifts for those who 'have everything.' Life memberships are very helpful to the Society and are reasonable in cost. Even if there is no increase in the annual dues, the complete cost of the membership is recovered in ten years - a bargain!

One of the pleasures I enjoy as President of the Maryland Heritage Alliance, the statewide organization formed to educate the State Legislature about historic and cultural issues in Maryland, and the importance of preserving our past, is that our monthly meetings are held in a different area of the state each month. This month we met in St. Mary's City and my wife and I spent some time at the historic site. Unique in the United States, this

The Approved Annual Budget will be presented at the Annual Membership Meeting on November 14, 1992, to be held at Marietta.

archeological site is bringing information about our earliest settlement to life in unique ways. The most exciting archeological "find" since the tomb of Tutankhamen was located by Howard Carter early in this century, was the uncovering of three lead coffins under the remains of the 17th century church in the historic area. These items were unearthed two years ago. The find was so spectacular that the site was covered again while experts from a number of disciplines got together to determine how best to deal with the coffins. Over the past two years experts in pathology, radar detection, environmental sciences, archeology, and other areas worked together on a specific and staged plan to capture as much information about the find as possible. Last week, the coffins were uncovered again and actual work began. Using machines developed specifically for this purpose, the coffins were 'viewed' by a special x-ray device that can 'see' through lead. Two of the coffins were found to be completely intact and the remains appeared to be in excellent shape. The coffins were then drilled with 1/8 inch drills so that samples of the air inside could be captured to see if air quality specialists could actually identify 17th century air. If this is achieved, man's knowledge of the effects of industrialization on air quality will be enhanced immeasurably.

While the holes were open, argon, an inert gas, was placed in the coffins to prevent decay of the remains, and photos were taken with special miniature devices. Again, early reports are that this is a very significant find that will yield a great deal of information. I recommend a visit to St. Mary's City. It is a unique experience and well worth the 1 and 1/2 hour drive and modest entry fee.

Upcoming events for the Society include the election of Officers and Members of the Board on November 14 and the annual Christmas Gala, which will be at Darnall's Chance on December 12. I hope each of you are able to attend. I also want to remind you that the Fall Lecture Series continues. Feedback on the first lecture, Joan Chaconas speaking about ghosts and other phenomena in historic houses, was well attended and well received. Our thanks to President Joyce McDonald for her excellent lecture schedule.

I will close by thanking all of you who have mentioned that you like what we are doing with News and Notes. As a volunteer, it is nice to know that one's efforts are appreciated. Again, if you have any suggestions, comments, questions, etc., please let me know. Vote on November 3rd. - it is your civic duty!

Lester Sweeting

Historical Society Annual Meeting - Elections

Frederick S. DeMarr, a past president and current Historian of the Society, will be the featured speaker at the annual meeting on Saturday, November 14, 1992, at Marietta.

His topic is "Launching an Historical Society in Prince George's County." Fred will clarify the discrepancies in the formation date of the Society raised in the last issue of News and Notes and will acquaint us with the fascinating cast of characters who were the movers and shakers in the early days.

The November 14, 1992 Meeting of the Society will also include an election of officers and several Board Members. The slate developed by the Nominating Committee is presented below, as is the list of those Board Members whose term of office continues into next year, as well as those who serve in an emeritus or ex-officio capacity. The Nominating Committee, Sarah Bourne, Chairman; Bud Dutton, and Jean Hahn, have proposed the following slate to the Board and they are recommended to the membership:

President Joyce McDonald

Vice President John Mitchell

Secretary Sarah Bourne

Treasurer John Bourne

Historian Fred DeMarr

Editor Lester Sweeting

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

- 4 th Prince George's Genealogical Society Meeting, Greenbelt Public Library, 7 PM. Connie Catania will speak on THE INS AND OUTS OF IRISH RESEARCH.
- 5 th PGCHS Fall Lecture Series # 3 - "Political Personalities of Prince George's County", Darnall's Chance, Upper Marlboro, 6:30 PM.
- 6 th & 7 th "The Total Community, Preserving a Way of Life" - Maryland's Annual Preservation Conference, Loew's Annapolis Hotel, Annapolis. Contact Sue King at (410)514-7616.
- 13th & 14th Symposium on Architectural History, "New Perspectives on Virginia Architecture," UVA Charlottesville & Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond. Call Susan Pearl at 301-952-3521.
- 14 th PGCHS Annual Membership Meeting, Election of Officers and Board Members, Marietta, 2 PM
- 14th & 15th Museum Open House, Surratt Tavern, Call Surratt Society, 301-868-1121.
- 18 th Friends of Montpelier, "Life on a Plantation", Margaret Callcott, 7:30 PM. (See related information in "From the Bookshelf")
- 19 th PGCHS Fall Lecture Series # 4, "Feast and Folklore: Holiday Celebrations in Earlier Times", Marietta, 6:30 PM

December

- 4 th & 5th Christmas Candelight Tours, Darnall's Chance, 5-9 PM; call 301-952-8010.
- 9th - 12 th Christmas Candlelight Tours at Montpelier; call 301-953-1376 for information.
- 12th PGCHS, Annual Christmas Gala, Darnall's Chance, Upper Marlboro, 2:00 PM.
- 11 th - 13 th Christmas in St. Michael's, House Tour, Breakfast with Santa, Gala Christmas Party, Call. 410-745-5909.



Historic Marietta at Glenn Dale, Maryland

Headquarters of the Prince George's County Historical Society

CHATHAM ARTILLERY PUNCH

1 lb green tea in 2 gal. Cold water, allowed to stand overnight, then strained.

1 gal. pluk Catawba wine

1 gal. rum

1 gal. brandy

1 gal. rye whiskey

5 lb. brown sugar

2 qt. cherries

Juice of 3 doz. lemons

1 gal. gin (to make it smooth)

12 qts. champagne

This recipe will make 12 gallons, enough for 100 parched people with a little to spare. For a smaller party, one quarter of the recipe will delight forty guests of average thirst.

Mix the tea and lemon juice together first, preferably in a cedar tub, but any container will do. Then add the sugar, cherries, Catawba wine and liquors (except the champagne). Let this stock sit for a week or two, covered, preferably in glass bottles. Strain the stock, removing the cherries. (The cherries are great to eat, sparingly - one at a time!)

When ready to serve, pour over a block of ice in a punch bowl and add one bottle of champagne.

The stock and the finished juice should both be stirred well while aging. The aging period of one to two weeks is very important if the punch is to be smooth and mellow. Without this blending period, the punch will be somewhat harsh.

Caution: The novice should have but one cup and others limited to no more than two cups. It tastes like fruit juice and kicks like a 32 pounder. (Hence the name!)

Ref: Beveridge, N. E. Cups of Valor, Stackpole Co., 1968, p. 73.

Directors 1993/1994

Cheryl Adams

Wallis Cain

Jane Eagen

The Members of the Board elected in 1991 for a two-year term are: **Edith Bagot, Anne Ferguson and Eugene Roberts, Jr.** The remainder of the current board includes **Director Emeritus - Susanna Cristofane** and **Past-Presidents - W. C. "Bud" Dutton, John Giannetti, Paul Lanham and Warren "Dusty" Rhoads.**

Remember, while this slate of officers and directors has been proposed by the Board, nominations will, as provided by the ByLaws of the Society, be accepted from the Floor at the meeting. Any nominee must be a member in good standing of the Society.

The Board thanks the members of the Nominating Committee for their efforts.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Prince George's County: A pictorial History, by Alan Virta. 1991 Edition, 308 pp. hardcover - profusely illustrated with rare photographs, beautifully written. \$29.95, plus tax.

Calvert of Maryland, by James Otis. Hard Cover, 166 pp. PGCHS exclusive reprint of this 1910 original, complete with lithographed illustrations. Delightful story of the settling of Maryland. A great holiday gift for a child with an interest in history. \$ 6.62 plus tax.

Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1878. Hopkins/White, Soft Cover, 50 pp. Published by PGCHS in 1975, this 2nd edition was printed in 1990. The maps are organized by then-existing election districts, show primary roads, major landmarks and lists property owners in 1878. A must for the home historian. \$5.00 plus tax.

Indexes to Church Records, Edited by Helen Brown. Soft Cover, 2 vol. Volume One covers King

George's Parish and Queen Anne's Parish, 353 pp.; Volume Two covers St. Paul's Parish and Prince George's Parish, 318 pp. An essential tool for genealogists, these public records of the colonial period are a great buy, \$20 plus tax for both volumes (not sold separately).

The Chesapeake Bay of Yore: Rowing and Sailing Craft, by Fred Tilp. Hard Cover, 148 pp. 1982 Outstanding illustrations and text on every known type of craft that plied the Bay; ship building, craftsmen, shipyards, folklore. A good gift for the sailor or historian. Supply is limited. \$25.00 plus tax.

Souvenir Book/ Lanham Centennial - 1872 to 1972, by Paul Lanham, et. al. Soft Cover, 112 pp. 1972 The history of the Lanham area, including interesting illustrations. Discusses early personalities and the influence of railroads on the development of Lanham. \$4.00 plus tax.

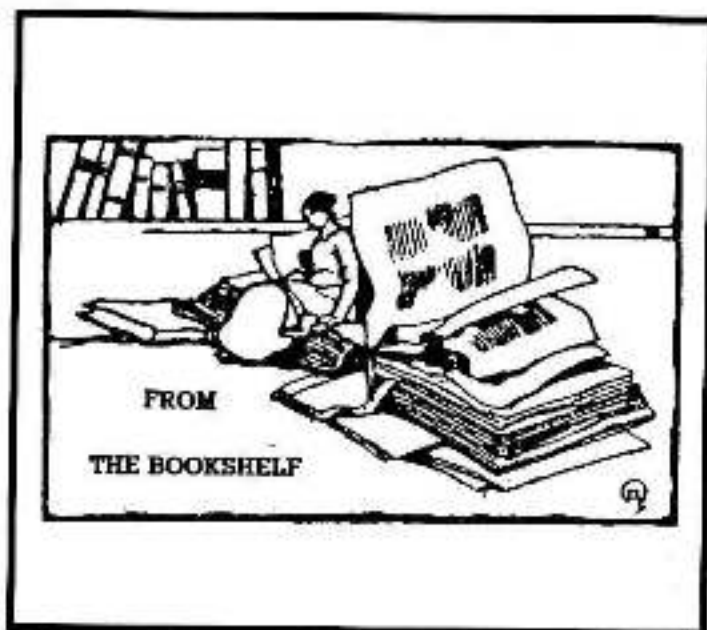
Berwyn Heights: History of a Small Maryland Town, Donald Skarda. Soft Cover, 54 pp. 1976. Well written story of a turn-of-the-century suburban town. Gives background history of the area. \$3.00 plus tax.

Gabriel Duvall, A Short Biography, by Shirley Baltz. Soft Cover, 5 pp. 1985. Brief synopsis of the life of Supreme Court Justice Gabriel Duvall, builder of Marietta. Proceeds benefit Marietta restoration. \$1.00 plus tax.

Fire Calk: A History of the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department, by Francis Geary. Soft Cover, 148 pp. 1977. Profusely illustrated and detailed history of the department, also many facts on Hyattsville and its environs. Includes many photos and references to residents of the area. \$5.00 plus tax.

A History of Beltsville, Soft Cover, 96 pp. 1976. Draws on the writings of the late historians Ethel Woodward and Susie Beall. \$4.00 plus tax.

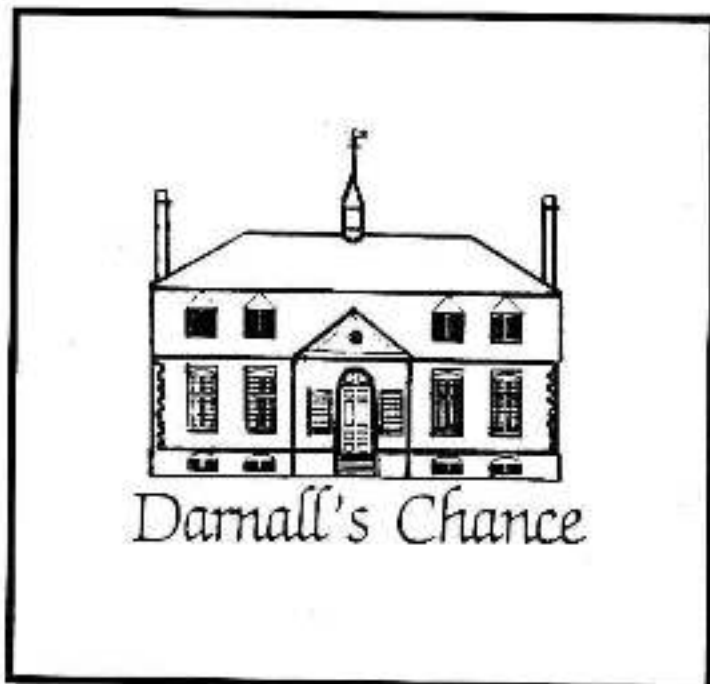
See inside last page for order blank for publications and application form to join the Society.



Following a languid, spontaneous summer, the crisp, bright days of Autumn always provoke, at least for me, a yearning for the regimented, intellectual stimulation of academic pursuits. This Fall was no exception and such pursuits were prompted by the request to review a document entitled "Prince George's County Historical Sites: Lesson Plans and Field Trips" as proposed for use in the Prince George's County Public Schools. "This packet was established as a cooperative effort between the Prince George's Public School System and the historical and preservation organizations of the county," including, of course, the Historical Society. In an effort to educate local teachers, many newly arrived in the County, seven sites were selected and lesson plans were developed for use in teaching history, language arts, fine arts, geography, archaeology, math and science. The architectural enthusiast in me focused on the module on Darnall's Chance, Upper Marlboro, dating from around 1700 and restored to its original colonial edifice in 1968. One lesson plan calls for a comparison of architectural styles of homes; or better still, why not compare the architectural evolution of a single dwelling: Darnall's Chance, for instance. What did it look like prior to its 1968 reconstruction? Prince George's County - A Pictorial History by Alan Virta (Donning Company, Virginia Beach, Va.; 1991) is listed as an invaluable resource to the lesson plans and I had just finished reading it! (With the 1991 edition so readily available, there is no excuse for not treating yourself to this profusely illustrated, informative, highly readable, well indexed volume.) And there on page 113 was a photograph of Harry Buck's House, courtesy of the Historic American Buildings Survey, as "transformed" in 1858 by E.C.W. Hall into the popular Italianate style. So that's what

the columns looked like that now support part of the Holden-Sweeting Library in Hyattsville (by way of the Newel Post)? Col. Henry Darnall's gambrel-roofed, red brick residence, as visited by today's students, appears on Page 253. After visiting Darnall's Chance, my interest in Upper Marlboro as the county seat was piqued and from the Bibliography of Alan Virta's book, I selected a title, frequently referenced by Historian Fred DeMarr and full of historical tidbits, entitled Across the Years in Prince George's County: A genealogical and Biographical History of Some of Prince George's County, Maryland and Allied Families by Effie Gwynn Bowie (Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1975). In the Introduction, the author describes the volume as a "potpourri" of narrative, genealogical and historical material, to reflect her "life-long and always sympathetic acquaintance with Prince George's County." I call it divine. And it was written for her family and children, which brings us back to the lesson plans. Information on the first county seat at Mount Calvert, known as Charles Town, on the Patuxent, might provide a politically historical context for the seven sites. Also of interest is the designation of Marlborough as the county seat in 1721, named for the hero of the Battle of Blenheim, the Duke of Marlborough. Where did the "Upper" come from your might ask? And when was the Marlborough shortened to Marlboro? (According to Mrs. Bowie, in 1893 by the U.S. Postal Office Department!). Should not all these historical nuances be included in the curriculum? See where this Fall's academic pursuits have led me?

Sharon Howe Sweeting



In Memoriam

Theodore L. Bissell
deceased September 22, 1992

NEW MEMBERS

MARY FORSHT-TUCKER

JOSEPH F. LEFFSON

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Our reprint of an article from the 1973 News and Notes on MacAlpine, one of the Calvert family holdings, resulted in the following letters:

Dear Sir

I would like to correct your article on "MacAlpine" in Vol. XX, No. 8.

The nine heirs of Charles Baltimore Calvert were:

1. C. B. Calvert Carey, and
2. W. Gibson Carey, sons of Eleanor Calvert Carey
3. Hester V. C. Lilly
4. Charlotte Calvert Spence
5. Richard C. M. Calvert
6. George Henry Calvert (my father)
7. Rosalie Eugenia Stier Calvert
8. Charles Baltimore Calvert, Jr.
9. Elizabeth Stuart Calvert Thomas

You omitted 6, 7 and 8.

Otherwise, I think it was an excellent article and I enjoyed it very much.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Calvert Powers

A second letter, from the author of the original article - Historian Fred DeMarr.

Dear Les,

The letter from Mrs. Eleanor Calvert Powers points out an obvious error made by me when it was written 19 years ago. The number of heirs is correct, however 3 names were omitted. I might also point out that the MacAlpine gate posts were restored by the City of College Park during the American Bicentennial in 1976.

Charles Baltimore Calvert always had an interest in good transportation, which was a real asset in the 19th Century. The Washington-Baltimore Turnpike (Rte. 1) was in his backyard and the Baltimore & Ohio R.R. was out front. He also had an interest in the contribution of the trolley line to Laurel which ran parallel to the railroad. Wouldn't he be surprised to know that the tunnel of Metro's Green Line to Greenbelt runs under his old property?

Fred

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**THE NEWS AND NOTES
DEADLINE FOR THE
NOVEMBER ISSUE IS
NOVEMBER 15.**

Prince George's County Historical Society, Inc

Publications Order List

___ Prince George's County: A Pictorial History
by Alan Virta \$29.95 plus tax \$1.50 plus \$2.00
s&h

___ Calvert of Maryland \$6.95 (tax incl) plus
\$0.55 s&h.

___ Atlas of Prince George's County \$5.00 plus
\$0.25 tax, plus \$0.50 s&h

___ Indexes of Church Registers 2 vols. \$20.00
plus \$1.00 tax plus \$2.50 s&h

___ Chesapeake Bay of Yore \$25.00 plus tax
\$1.25 plus \$1.00 s&h

___ Lanham Centennial \$4.00 plus tax \$0.20 plus
\$0.55 s&h

___ Berwyn Heights \$3.00 plus tax \$0.15 plus
\$0.35 s&h

___ Gabriel Duvall Biography \$1.00 plus tax
\$0.05 plus \$0.35 s&h

___ Fire Call \$5.00 plus tax \$0.25 plus \$1.00 s&h

___ History of Beltsville \$4.00 plus tax \$0.20
plus \$0.55 s&h

Please forward the above checked publications.
Full payment (Payable to PGCHS) enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____, State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Telephone _____

Thank you for your order.

Prince George's County Historical Society

Annual Membership Application

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone - Home: _____

Business: _____

Please indicate whether this is a New Membership or a
Renewal:

___ New ___ Renewal

Check Below The Category You Select:

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full-Time Student | \$ 10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member | 20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | 200.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining | 50.00 |

☐ Additional Contribution \$ _____

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

I would also like to join the Maryland Historical Society.
I am enclosing \$25.00 for an individual membership or
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301/484-0590

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Gift Shop: Saturdays 12-4 PM and
during Special Events Special Holiday
Hours Beginning November 14

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Renovation

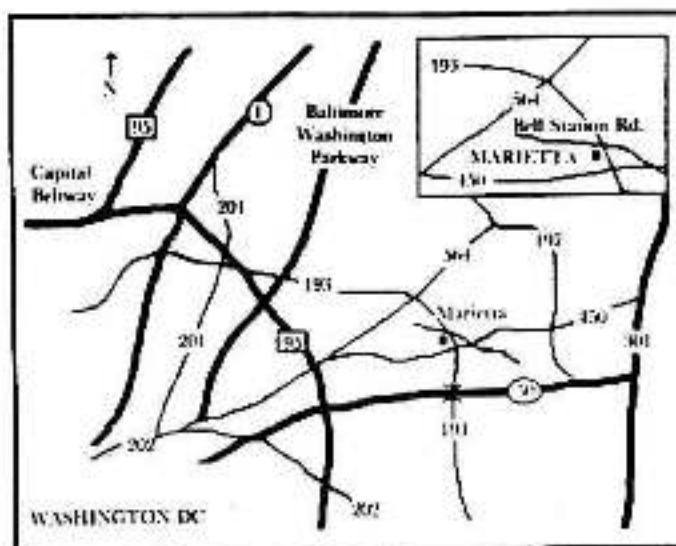
Information - (301) 464-0590

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Location of the Society

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Prince George's County Historical Society

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"Marietta"

News and Notes

Prince George's County Historical Society



NOVEMBER, 1992

FOUNDED 1952 - OUR 40TH YEAR

VOL. XX, NO. 10

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1993

President Joyce McDonald

Vice President John Mitchell

Secretary Sarah Bourne

Treasurer John Bourne

Historian Fred S. DeMarr

Editor Lester Sweeting

Directors:

Jane Eagen

Wallis Cain

Cheryl Adams

Edith Bagot

Anne Ferguson

Eugene Roberts

Director Emeritus:

Susanna Christofane

Past Presidents:

W. C. Dutton

John Giannetti

Paul Lanham

Warren Rhoads

HERITAGE CENTER MEETING

DECEMBER 5, 1992

The Society, in concert with the Prince George's County Genealogical Society and The Hall of Fame, is sponsoring a session at 1PM, December 5, 1992, to be held at the Park and Recreation Administration Building, 6600 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale. Patricia Williams, a resident of Mount Ranier and Deputy Executive Director of the American Association of Museums, will speak about the methods and procedures needed to bring the Center from an idea into reality. The Board of Directors of the Society, at a special meeting held on November 7, reviewed the background of its involvement in the proposed center and the concerns various Board members have about the specifics of establishing such a Center. Four specific points were agreed to by the Board:

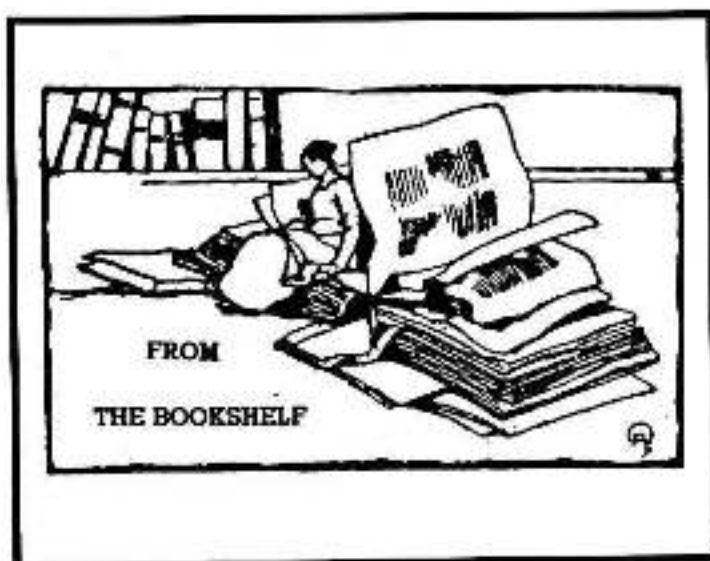
- The Society proceed with efforts to bring a Library/Museum/Heritage Center to the County by 1996.
- The Society continue to be a leader in this effort.
- The Society will continue to work with public agencies but the Society will NOT surrender its academic or procedural independence.
- The Society will continue to look for avenues to finance the library concept with private funding.

As members of the Society, each of us has a duty to ensure that we know what the Center is and will be, how it affects the Society and its holdings (especially the Fred S. DeMarr Library Collection) and how each of us can contribute to the Society's efforts in this regard. I urge each of you to attend the meeting and participate in this historic endeavor.

IMPORTANT DATES IN DECEMBER

December 5 Heritage Center Meeting Sponsored by the Society, 1:00 PM.

December 12 Annual Christmas Gala, Darnall's Chance, Upper Marlboro, 2:00 PM.



**CALVERT OF MARYLAND: A STORY OF LORD
BALTIMORE'S COLONY**

BY JAMES OTIS KALER

Reviewed By: Peter Kumpa

Young George Calvert was astonished. The land was a glory, the air sweet and balmy, the waters of the Potomac were choked with ducks, geese and heron, the green forests filled with song birds and the sky above darkened with great veils of pigeons. "I rubbed my eyes again and again to make certain it was no fanciful dream," said he, the 13-year-old pioneer to the new colony of Mary Land.

James Otis Kaler (1848 - 1912) wrote more than 100 books for children to open their eyes to history. This historically accurate short novel is a first person account of the founding of Maryland by the godson of the first Lord Baltimore, George Calvert. He is at the founding. He travels on the crowded Ark, survives the treacherous gales that threaten the expedition.

Young Calvert is a witness to the calamitous Christmas Day party in the Canary Islands. A dozen men, he is ashamed to report, who satisfied their thirst in such a brutish manner that they fell forever upon the decks of the historic vessel. Calvert is frightened by what seemed to him a punishment directly from God. But he is assured that the

Almighty has a loving and caring side. And indeed, the Ark sails on peacefully to the West Indies.

The author was sending a message to his young readers by including an incident that is often skipped over by other historians. These small morality lessons are weaved pleasantly into the narrative by Kaler. In fact, they illustrate why the first Maryland settlers were more fortunate than those in Virginia or Massachusetts.

They are friendly and deal fairly with the Indians, or the "brown" people native to the land. They trade honestly for their first thirty acres of land. They exchange skills. They plant corn for a rich harvest to take them through their first winter in comfort. They inherit an Indian village though pay for it (although the author skips over the reality that the Indians were abandoning their settlement for fear of raiding parties of Susquehannocks). They are blessed with the early abundance of the Chesapeake and the Potomac.

The novel skips lightly over the religious quarrels of the day. That is to the author's credit. The differences between Catholics and Protestants that caused such murderous warfare on both sides of the Atlantic is a part of English history that is difficult for the modern adult to comprehend. It is more difficult to explain to the young and does not belong here.

Young George does earn his title "Calvert of Maryland" as he grows up to take a man's role, that of a soldier to fight for the province against the early intruder, William Claiborne. He is off with musket, bandolier, ammunition and a sharp hunting knife. Remember, he is told "any ungentle act disgraces the uniform you wear, in addition to leaving its stain on your character."

Our hero does not fail his family or his province. He helps bring a well-deserved peace to the early settlers. And his story ends.

The Society has sponsored the reprinting of this little book, originally published in 1910. It was a popular theme at the turn of the 20th Century. Libraries were filled with entire series of histories in the early years

of the present century wherein young men like George travelled with their fathers, uncles or older brothers to witness the travails and the battles of the War of the Revolution and the Civil War. In a pre-television age, these were the touchstones that set off youthful dreams of adventure, war and patriotism.

In another time, this small volume may also have inspired such an interest and sparked the study of the past. Perhaps it still will. Today's 13 year-old, however, may have more trouble. This is not the easiest youngster's history. Kaler's prose can be dense at times. His opening sentence and paragraph take 99 words, a mere introduction. Some language is archaic, though most passages are fully understandable.

Despite these minor complaints, the Society should be congratulated for this reprint. It is valuable for it tells us how a past generation of youngsters was introduced to its own history. It is an excellent introduction to the colonial era when the Englishman first put his mark on Maryland's shores. Kaler's absolute adherence to historical accuracy is rare in such novels. He takes no liberties. The real story is good enough and exciting enough without any poetic embellishments.

Peter Krumpa is a member of the staff of the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Maryland Senate, a long-time member of the Society, and the recent lecturer on "Political Personalities of Prince George's County". Mr. Krumpa was a writer for the *Baltimore Evening Sun*, often writing on historical subjects.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

As we recover from the long, long political campaign and look forward to the Holiday season, our thoughts turn to the importance of remembrance in this era of change. Like many of you, I spend much of my time thinking about the everyday events around me in terms of my memory of what happened a decade, two decades or more ago, and my acquired knowledge of our history going back more than 350 years. This is one of the reasons we band together in Societies such as ours - so that we can pool our remembrances and the mementos of our past, can discuss the highs and lows of our history and can celebrate ourselves and our accomplishments. I come to the Society from one of its "side doors" - a love for and involvement in historic preservation - preservation of the physical manifestations of our history that help us understand our past. Others come from other side doors - a love of the story; a specific tie to an event, such as a World War, that one wishes to ensure is not forgotten; or a rich family history and tradition that one recognizes is of interest and importance to others. Whatever the reason, forty years ago a group of men and women got together at Riversdale to found the Society and I take pleasure in knowing that there are several of the founders still active in the Society.

The annual meeting and Birthday Bash for the Society took place in the Fred S. DeMarr Library at Marietta on November 14, as scheduled. An election was held and your new Officers and Board, listed on the front page, were duly elected to assume their offices on January 1, 1993. After the election, capably administered by Society Secretary, Sarah Bourne; President Joyce McDonald introduced our Speaker, Fred DeMarr, who discussed the history of the founding of the Society, and some of the fascinating personalities who were 'present at the creation' as the saying goes. A fine feast, with a wonderful cake presented to the Society by John Khromy of the Seabrook Bakery, located in the Seabrook Station Shopping Center. Thank you to Florence Riedesel for all of her efforts to ensure that the celebration was a success, and to those members who provided refreshments. Also, the Society's newly acquired video camera was put to good use by

Warren "Dusty" Rhoads, who taped the proceedings for posterity.

Additional Thank Yous - To Betty and Jim Maher for all of their work over hours and hours to set the Gift Shop up in its new, temporary location in Judge Duvall's Law Office. It was quite a job and has been done so very well. The Shop was enjoying a brisk trade on November 14, and is, I would hasten to remind you, open Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 4 through the months of November and December. Come and find that perfect gift!

While speaking about perfect gifts - think about yourself this year and give yourself a life membership in the Prince George's County Historical Society. The cost is modest, the help this gives the Society is great, and you will have patted yourself on the back in a special way. As you will no doubt note, the Society's annual membership drive is underway. You will find the forms and envelopes enclosed with these News and Notes. Please fill it out and send that check today. Your Society thanks you!

A short follow up on the "Coffin Project" at St. Mary's City. All three coffins have now been opened. While we are no further along in knowing exactly who was buried in those seventeenth century lead coffins, we do know that the smallest one contained the remains of a young child (most unusual, given the very high cost of a lead coffin), while the two larger ones contained a man and a woman, still most probably Calverts. The remains have been taken to the Smithsonian Institution where renowned forensic scientists will be studying them and will be reporting on their findings over the next two years. I might point out that these remains were only disinterred with the approval of the State of Maryland and the current descendants of the Calverts, as well as the Roman Catholic Church. They will be reinterred in a suitable ceremony when the studies are completed.

THE CHRISTMAS GALA

The Society's Annual Christmas Gala will take place at 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 12, 1992. Because of the restoration work being done at Marietta, the Gala will be held at Darnall's Chance in Upper Marlboro. As in past years, all Society members are encouraged to bring a favorite dish for the table. We would also be happy to have a copy of the recipe, and, if we receive enough recipe's, will consider a Cook Book. Because we are visitors to Darnall's Chance, it would be greatly appreciated if your donation could be delivered on a suitable plate or other container (marked on the bottom with masking tape if you need to have it returned), ready to be placed on the table.

Darnall's Chance is located on Governor Oden Bowie Drive, immediately behind Sacred Heart Church. The mansion does not have a parking lot. Parking is available along both sides of Governor Oden Bowie Drive. The elderly and handicapped should be driven to the door, and then the car should be parked on the street. If you need information about the party, please call the Society. If you need further directions to Darnall's Chance, please call the Facility Manager at 301-952-8010.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It is a pleasure to receive letters in response to the News and Notes pieces. This is especially true when we can learn more about some facet of County history from those who really know - the descendants of the people involved. As you remember, we reprinted an article by Fred DeMarr on MacAlpine a couple of issues back. Last month I reported on a correction to that article (my fault in transcribing Fred's original article, I find now). This month I received the letter following - both hard copy and on diskette. Thank you so much, Mr. C. B. Calvert!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

EVENT

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 2nd | Prince George's County Genealogical Society Meeting - Coon Blaauw on Dutch Colonial Records: Where and How to Access, Greenbelt Public Library, 7:00 PM. |
| 4th & 5th | Christmas Candlelight Tours, Darnall's Chance, 5-9 PM; call 301-952-8010. |
| 5th | Planning for a Tri-Centennial Heritage Center, Pat Williams, Moderator, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, 6600 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale, Contact 301-952-3560 for Reservation - No Charge |
| 9th - 12th | Christmas Candlelight Tours at Montpelier; call 301-953-1376 for information. |
| 12th | PGCHS, Annual Christmas Gala, Darnall's Chance, Upper Marlboro, 2:00 PM. |
| 11th - 13th | Christmas in St. Michael's, House Tour, Breakfast with Santa, Gala Christmas Party, Call. 410-745-5909. |
| 12th - 14th | Christmas Candlelight Tours of Surratt House, Clinton, Dec 12 and 13, 5-9 PM, Dec. 14, 6-9 PM, Contact 301-868-1121. |
| 18th | 18th Century Christmas Feast, 7:00 PM, Darnall's Chance, Upper Marlboro, Contact 301-952-8010. |

Dear Editor:

Reprint of article from 1973 *News and Notes on MacAlpine* in Vol XX, No. 8.

In recognition of, and thanks to, Eleanor Calvert Powers for her correction to the list of heirs, and Fred DeMarr for his note about the restoration of the gate posts. I would like to share with you some of my recollections that go back to MacAlpine:

My father, George Davis Calvert, son of Richard Creagh MacKubin Calvert, told me that my grandfather, who grew up at MacAlpine, built the gate posts. I'm not sure where he went to "high" school, but understand that he attended Johns Hopkins University in the early 1890's and earned a degree in Engineering. He married Zoe Ammen Davis, daughter of Major General George Whitefield Davis and Carmen Atocha Davis.

General Davis is noted, in part, for having been asked, and completed the building of the Washington Monument, which in building, had gotten out of alignment. A Washington, DC news paper article I have seen, said he used a barrel of molasses as a "plumb bob" hanging from the top for vertical alignment. Part way up the monument, the change in color of marble is from where he directed the realignment and construction. My Grandmother is said to have "sat on top of the monument". She did in fact sit on the cap before it was hauled up and placed on top.

Dad said his father was very fond of and interested in the agricultural cultivation and gardening at Riversdale and perhaps MacAlpine.

R.C.M. Calvert and his wife had a place in Oxford, North Carolina known as "Rustling Oaks", for its many large white and red oak trees. The house was Federal Period with the addition of a sleeping porch and front porch with rocking chairs. Perhaps these additions were from the Victorian, or "Turn of the Century" Periods. Moreover, he had developed an orchard, garden and wonderful places for children to play: tennis court, tall swings, large boulders, stands of bamboo, bird baths, and a tree house for his grandchildren. There was a large "shop" for maintenance and building things like hammocks and sling-shots. We grandchildren learned the hard way that new bamboo shoots make superb switches.

The Orchard contained several types each of apple trees, pear trees, cherry trees, a grape arbor with big fat scuppernong grapes, fig bushes, and green grapes hanging on the fences that separated the orchard from the main house. At the gated formal entrance were boxwood bushes, at least eight feet tall, that formed a path down to

the grape arbor and fruit trees further on.

Wow! Summers were fun with climbing around, playing, resting, and eating our fill. The cook used the fruit to make delicious desserts. Grandfather made wine and brandy. I enjoy today having a few of his "homebrew" wicker covered tall bottles and the small wooden keg he used to make and store brandy.

Inside the orchard and to the left of the entrance, was a flower garden with rows leading to a totem pole and large Pacific Ocean Clam Shell basin at its foot. The totem pole was carved with openings. As a youngster, I made the mistake of putting my hand in an opening. I fled in terror as a nest of wasps chased and stung me. It was a long time before I stopped flinching at the thought of so many stings at once.

Dad told me of sitting along side the road at MacAlpine one summer, watching the paving of US 1. It was an era when children had more time to learn and grow.

With Dad having seven uncles and aunts on his father's side, and many first cousins in Maryland, Washington, DC, Virginia and North Carolina; we enjoyed lots of visiting and still do.

And, there are more family stories that I am passing on to my children.

Sincerely,

Charles Baltimore Calvert

THE BALLOT BOX

Apropos of our recent election, during his presentation at the recent Society Fall Lecture Series on Political Personalities in Prince George's County, long-time member Thomas V. Mike Miller, our Senator and President of the Maryland State Senate, donated a unique and timely gift to the Society. The gift consisted of a glass sided ballot box, in its original case. The Ballot box was used last on June 2, 1952, and contains the ballots, the unused ballots and the poll register for the Town of Bladensburg. The event was a special election at which the sole issue was whether the electors would approve a ballot question dealing with the approval for continuation of State and County sanctioned gaming devices (commonly referred to as 'slot machines'), in the County. This was a significant question of the day

since the tax on such devices was a major source of revenue for the County during the 1950s. The good citizens of Bladensburg declared against the referendum question. One interesting tidbit, discussed by Historian Fred S. DeMarr, was the manner in which the ballots were counted. The ballots, as they were counted, were strung on wire (using a needle in one case) to ensure that already counted ballots were properly marked by a telltale hole. This is a wonderful and unique example of our history. Given its special interest to Bladensburg, the Box has been placed on loan to the Visitor's Center in Bladensburg, where it may be viewed shortly. It should be noted that the box was never used again because of the introduction of machine balloting in the 1952 November General Election - when General Dwight David Eisenhower defeated Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Miller for this unique and important gift.

**THE NEWS AND NOTES DEADLINE FOR
THE JANUARY 1993 ISSUE IS**

JANUARY 15.

Have a safe and Happy Holiday

From Past Issues:

THE COUNTY SEAT, THE NEW OFFICE BUILDING AND THE BUCK HOUSE

Many people in Prince George's County were pleased to learn recently that an agreement on the location of the much needed County office building has been reached between County officials and the Town Board of Upper Marlboro. The general location is that of the Buck property which is behind St. Mary's R. C. Church.

On the other hand we are distressed to learn that the Buck House will join the fate of many of its other

past contemporaries of Upper Marlboro and become a parking lot. This structure is one of the few remaining Greek Revival houses in the County. There are many appropriate uses to which it could be put. Among other things, it has been suggested that it be utilized as an official reception center for the County. Certainly there is no other place in the town which can meet this need now or in the foreseeable future.

Considering that both Prince George's County and the Town of Upper Marlboro are over 350 years old, there is little evidence of this past heritage to be seen in the town today. Parking lots and flimsy commercial buildings are mostly what we have to show our visitors. At the present rate, in a very few years there will be nothing to distinguish it from any other small town of the early 20th century.

Hopefully the County Executive and the County Council will give the Prince George's County Historical and Cultural Trust their support in the Trust's desire to retain the Buck House to be enjoyed by future generations. F. S. D. January 1974 V. 2, No 1.

BUCK HOUSE REVISITED

In this publication last fall it was indicated that the Buck House in Upper Marlboro was a potential victim of the proposed new County Office Building. We are pleased to report that County Executive William Gullett has included \$100,000 for its preservation in the proposed budget recently sent to the County Council. This amount is contingent upon reports as to feasibility of restoration and the structure's authenticity. Possible uses for this Greek Revival Structure would be as a reception center for County Visitors and as headquarters for the Historical and Cultural Trust. April 1974, V. 2 No 4.

Query

The Greek Revival Buck House in Upper Marlboro no longer exists. Why?

Prince George's County Historical Society, Inc

Publications Order List

Prince George's County: A Pictorial History
by Alan Virta \$29.95 plus tax \$1.50 plus \$2.00
s&h

Calvert of Maryland \$6.95 (tax incl) plus
\$0.55 s&h.

Atlas of Prince George's County \$5.00 plus
\$0.25 tax, plus \$0.50 s&h

Chesapeake Bay of Yore \$25.00 plus tax
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Lanham Centennial \$4.00 plus tax \$0.20 plus
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Please forward the above checked publications.
Full payment (Payable to PGCHS) enclosed.

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Thank you for your order.

Prince George's County Historical Society

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Date: _____

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Please Indicate Whether This is a New Membership or a
Renewal:

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Check Below The Category You Select:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Full-Time Student | \$ 10.00 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | 200.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining | 50.00 |

☐ Additional Contribution \$ _____

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

I would also like to join the Maryland Historical Society.
I am enclosing \$25.00 for an individual membership or
\$35.00 for husband and wife.

Our operating support comes from your dues and
contributions. All contributions are tax deductible.

We appreciate your support.

Make your check payable to PGCHS

Mail check and form to:

Prince George's County Historical Society

Post Office Box 14

Riverdale, MD 20738-0014

301/484-0590

Hours of Operation

Library: Saturdays 12-4 PM

Gift Shop: Saturdays 12-4 PM and
during Special Events Special Holiday
Hours Beginning November 14

Marietta Tours - Suspended During
Renovation

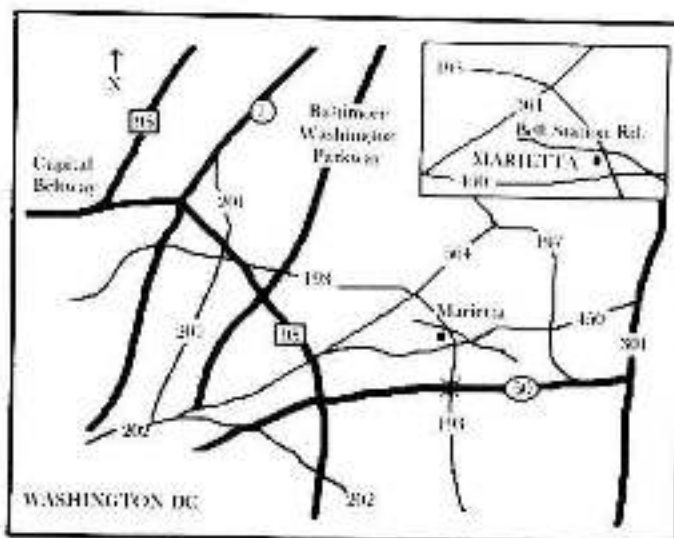
Information - (301) 464-0590

The Gift Shop

features a tasteful collection of handcrafted
items for homes and gift-giving, toys and
games for children, small antiques, Histori-
cal Society publications and souvenirs of
historic Marietta.

Location of the Society

The Society is located at Marietta, 5625 Bell Station Road in
Glenn Dale, Maryland, off Route 193 near Route 450. This is
a facility of the Maryland-National Capital Park and
Planning Commission.



Prince George's County Historical Society

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