



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Mount Calvert, Society Headquarters

To Our Members and Sponsors:

Welcome to the Prince George's County Historical Society's 2018 annual report. This report is designed to provide a recap of the events and activities of the Society's 66th year, as well as a look forward to plans for the future.

This year I had high hopes to be able to make some changes and offer different activities. Unfortunately just as some momentum was beginning, I was grounded to a halt with a broken knee. With being out of commission for the better part of five months, my plans for the Society somewhat fizzled. Now that I am back on my feet, I am hoping to reinvigorate plans for 2019. The board will meet in February to discuss how the Society will be moving forward.

A few things were accomplished though. At our December 9, 2018, membership meeting, the Society's by-laws were successfully amended to allow for the board to nominate and vote upon the slate of officer and director nominees. We welcome all members to attend board meetings and volunteer on the board. If interested, please contact us. The by-laws also included changes to allow for more efficiencies and ease of doing board business, such as allowing for attendance of board meetings by conference call and casting votes by email. Also, we did move the St. George's Day Awards to being presented at the Historic Preservation Month Reception in May. The Society also established an on-going fundraising campaign for the De Marr Library – Fill-a-Shelf. These funds will allow us to complete collections of books and other publications that benefit our visitor. The first collection to be completed is the *Prince George's County, Maryland, Land Records*.

The DeMarr Library is continuing to grow as we purchase items to add to our resources, receive donations of books and various materials, and gain volunteers. Our volunteers do a variety of activities ranging from answering questions, assisting researchers, cataloguing books, collecting and organizing materials, converting slides to digital and VHS tapes to CDs, being a smiling face as you walk in the door, and so many other things. If you are interested in volunteering a few hours a week, a month, or have a project in mind, please contact the library.

For 2019, one of my priorities is to update the website. We are looking for a webmaster that can assist us in updating the website when needed, as well as keeping the calendar current. Please contact us if this is something you can help with, or if you can suggest someone we might be able to call.

Again, thank you for being a member or sponsor of the Society. It is greatly appreciated!

Respectfully,

Donna Schneider

Donna Schneider
President

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Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PGCountyHistory>
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The Society's 2018 Activities

Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History is located on the lower level of the Greenbelt Public Library. The DeMarr Library was founded by Fred DeMarr, who served as President and Historian of the Society for a number of years. He was a life-long resident of the county and had an abiding interest in all aspects of Prince George's County history. His collection was donated to the Society by the DeMarr family after his untimely death in 1997. Our library "angel," Fred's sister, **Louise Tatspaugh**, passed away on December 31, 2018, and as his executrix, she was the person who donated Fred's "library" to the Society in 1999.

The DeMarr Library continues to be staffed by a dedicated team of volunteers that assist visitors with historical and genealogical research, catalogue and organize the collections of written materials and maps, scan and index newsletters, archive obituaries along with all of the other miscellaneous things that need to be done to keep the library running. The Society would like to recognize our volunteers: **Sarah Bourne, Anthony Engel, Kurt Flick, Kevin Fries, Oscar Gregory, Susan Pearl, Leigh Ryan, Tom Simon, and Diane Stultz**. Long-time Society member and dedicated volunteer, **Dusty Rhoads**, moved out of the area and is no longer able to join us at the library. We continue to receive collections of papers, articles, books, ephemera, and photographs to add to our collection. In 2018, we received several items of interest to add to our collection: slides of Prince George's County from Bowie historian Shirley Baltz, slides from the construction of Prince George's Plaza, a scrapbook documenting the history of the Toaping Castle Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Vera M. Thorne Family History Collection. We are always in search of yearbooks from schools in the county, so if you have any to donate, please let us know. Questions about Prince George's County may be directed by telephone to 301-220-0330, email at info@pghistory.org, or on the web message board. Materials do not circulate, but may be used at the DeMarr Library. Photocopies of non-copyrighted materials are free for Society members and color copies or items scanned onto a CD are available for a modest fee.

Membership and Sponsorship. We would like to thank members who renewed and new members who joined us in 2018. ***The membership cycle is on a calendar-year basis from January to December***, with dues notices sent to members each December. A membership card is provided for each membership and sponsorship and all members receive the Prince George's County Historical Society's newsletter. Program discounts will periodically be offered to members. PGCHS members are able to receive a discounted membership with the Maryland Historical Society with payment of PGCHS dues annually or with status as a life member.

Preservation of the county's historic properties continues to be an interest of ours. We continue to monitor the Glenn Dale Hospital, Fairmount Heights High School, the Old Marlboro High School/Elementary School, the Old Stone Building, the Peace Cross, and others.

Public Relations activities are through our website, www.pghistory.org, the *Then & Now* newsletter and Facebook page and blog. *Then & Now* continues to be our primary source to impart news and information to our members. Late breaking news or announcements will be emailed to members for whom we have email addresses, and will appear in a banner on the home page of our website. If you would like to receive information by email, please send a request to info@pghistory.org.

Fundraising. We continue to receive donations to the **John M. Essex Memorial Fund**, which provides financial assistance to scholars, authors, graduate students and doctoral candidates wishing to research the architectural heritage of Prince George's County, MD.

The Society established the Fill-a-Shelf campaign at the library. This effort will help us complete collections of important and requested research materials.

Programs and Activities:

We partnered with the Marietta House Museum for a spring and fall lecture series. The spring lectures were on a variety of topics: historic African-American architects by Dreck Wilson and **Susan Pearl**, unearthing Prince George's County history by archeologist Kristin Montapetro, historic waterways in the county by archeologist Stephanie Sperling.

For the spring, we partnered with the Prince George's County Memorial Library System for a lecture on pirates and privateers on the Chesapeake Bay by Richard Brown.

The annual St. George's Day awards were presented at the Historic Preservation Month reception held on May 24, 2018, at the Publick Playhouse in Cheverly. Society member, **Professor William G. Thomas III**, was the guest speaker. His presentation was a film about Ann Williams from Bladensburg, MD, and her fight for freedom. St. George's Awardees were:

Sandra Emme for *Celebrating 200 Years of Faith A Brief History of Trinity Episcopal Church Upper Marlboro, Maryland 1810-2010*

Judith Freidenberg for *Contemporary Conversations on Immigration in the United States: the View from Prince George's County*

Kimberly Gatto for *Belair Stud, the Cradle of Maryland Horse Racing*

Greenbelt News Review in recognition of their 80 years in publication

Leslie Montroll for her work on the 200th anniversary of College Park's Old Parish Hall

Patricia Sluby for *Inventive Spirit of African Americans*

Nancy Snyder for the centennial celebration of the Boyden House

St. John's Episcopal Church, Broad Creek, in celebration of their 325th anniversary

Del Quentin Wilber for *A Good Month for Murder*

The library staff decided to have an impromptu celebration of the 10th anniversary of the moving of the DeMarr Library to Greenbelt on May 19.

The Society sponsored a presentation and discussion of Professor Thomas's film *Anna* at the Oxon Hill Library.

Belair Mansion in Bowie co-sponsored with the Society a lecture and book signing by Aaron Marcavitch for his book, *Images of America: US Route 1*.

Jane Taylor Thomas and **Nathania Branch Miles**, as the Society's representatives, joined with the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. Prince George's County Chapter and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to host the 13th annual Juneteenth Celebration on June 16, 2018. The annual event commemorates the end of slavery. This year's dynamic keynote was given by Carroll R. Gibbs. Workshops on genealogy, using data sources and available records, sessions for children, family stories, a presentation on the USPHS Syphilis Study and an archeology presentation were just a few of the day's activities. This event is a complement to the family fun day hosted by the Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation at Watkins Regional Park.

Our 30th annual and last Prince of a County fundraiser was held at Beechwood, the home of our Vice President, **Jack Thompson, Junior**, on September 30, 2018.

The 23rd Annual Maryland Legacy Day was sponsored by the Prince George's County Chapter Afro American Historical and Genealogical Society, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the Society. Maryland Legacy Day is in honor of the legacy and heritage of the enslaved men, women and children who became free on November 1, 1864. This year's celebration was held on November 17, 2018, at the LDS Cultural Hall in Suitland. The theme was "Maryland Emancipation: Then and Now" with keynote speaker, Sharita Jacobs Thompson, a former Assistant Professor of Civil Era Studies at Gettysburg College.

We went "home" for our holiday party on December 9, 2018. Marietta House Museum opened its doors to host this year's celebration and a short board meeting. The house was open for tours and the Society provided food and drink to share.

Prince George's Hall of Fame:

The portraits of distinguished Prince Georgians that were hanging in the County Courthouse in Upper Marlboro had to be removed in 2017. The portraits are being stored and we are looking for new locations for them to be displayed. Our preference is for them to be located at venues so they can continue to educate the public and be enjoyed. If you are aware of a location that can accommodate the portraits, please let the Society know. The portrait of Jim Henson and Kermit was lent to the Forest Garden Club of Prince George's County for use in their Henson/Muppet-themed Christmas vignette installed in the Rotunda of the The Maryland State House in Annapolis for the 2018 hoiidays.



As always, we would like to thank our valued members and sponsors for their support and participation. We could not continue to operate without your involvement. Also, we renamed our sponsorship categories to represent a bit of the Society's history. Each Circle represents a home of the Society since 1952.

Mt. Calvert Platinum Circle (\$1,000+):

Barry & Mary Gossett
VOB Ltd. Partnership

Marietta Gold Circle (\$500-\$999):

Eugene & Lynn Roberts
Donna Schneider

Montpelier Silver Circle (\$250-\$499):

Melissa Messick
G.S. Proctor & Associates, Inc.
Patricia Tatspaugh
Sybil Williams

Riversdale Bronze Circle (\$100-\$249):

Jayne Beilke
George & Margaret Callcott
Sandra Cross
Sandra Emme
Steven Gilbert
Theodore Hull
Rebecca Livingston
Dan Louck
Barbara McCeney
Benjamin & Diana McCeney
Douglas & Susan McElrath
Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
Frank & Shirley Nicolai
Judy & Ken Schneider
Stephen & Barbara Sonnett
William Thomas III
Donna Whitaker
Patricia Williams
Henry & Nora Wixon



Members are the lifeblood of the Society and we thank you for your support!

Allen County (IN) Public Library
Lisa Babin
Rushern Baker III
Ann Barrett
Susan Leonard Bayly
Donna Beatley
Joseph & Peggy Behun Jr.
Jayne Beilke
Barbara Benfield
Mary Benson
Howard Berger
Richard Bernhard
Sharmila Bhatia
Sarah & Richard Bourne
Leila Boyer
Elizabeth & Howard Bradley
Betsy Bratek
Dieter & Birgit Brill
John Brunner
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Brusco
Katharine Bryant
Lisa Butler
Steven & Wallis Cain
Margaret & George Callcott
Dennis Campbell
Jack Carson
Katherine Cawood
City of Bowie Museums
Mrs. Brice Clagett
Henry Contee Bowie Clagett Jr.
Michael Clark
Norma Coffren
Mark Collins
Sandra Cross
Patricia Cunniff
Ann Harris Davidson
Christina Davis & Ed Joynes
Maya Davis
Ludwig Alexander Deglmann
James DeMarr Jr.
George Denny Jr.
Dist II Federated Garden Clubs of MD
Arthur Dock
Paul & Elizabeth Dougherty
Rev. Joseph Doyle
Jonathan Ebbeler
Amanda Elliott
Brian Emerson & Chris Lorence
Sandra Emme
Anthony Engel
Elaine & Willard Entwisle
Patsy Fletcher
Paul Flick
Mrs. Robert Ford
Effie Gwynn Fox
Anna Frankle
Paul & Mary Frazer
Micki Freeny
Judith Friedenberg
Kevin Fries
Robert Frisby, Jr.
Christine Garcia
Melinda & Arthur Galloway
Honorable & Mrs. Raymond Garthoff
Constance Gasch
Kimberly Gatto

John Giannetti
Steven Gilbert
Barbara Glover
Christopher Goins
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gookin
Barry & Mary Gossett
Ken & Mary Gossett
Patrick Gossett & Howard Menaker
Mildred Ridgley Gray
Oscar Gregory
Mark Hanyok
Kerstin Harper
Trueman Haskell Jr.
Stacey Hawkins
Phyllis Herdon
Otway Berryman Hill Sr.
Kathy Hinkal
Sally Holder
Andrew & Karen House
William Hudelson
Theodore Hull
C. Harold Hutcheson
Cliff & Sue Jenkins
Carolyn Sweeney Johnson
Owen & Genevieve Kelley
Mrs. John Brooke Kelly
Linda Kelly
Raymond King
Michelle Kretsch
Phyllis La Borwit
Linda Lacey & Greg Leizear
Mrs. Carlyle Lancaster
David & Sandra Lange
Mrs. Paul Lanham
Edward Leddy
Jay Lilly
Elizabeth Lingg
Rebecca Livingston
William Long
Dan Louck
Addie Martin
Margaret Martin
James Masters
Barbara McCeney
Benjamin & Diane McCeney
Justin McClain
Barrington McCoy
Mrs. Robert McDonald
Douglas & Susan McElrath
Kathleen McKee
Barrington McKoy
Melissa Messick
Karen Miles
Nathania Branch Miles
Thomas Dixon Miller
Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
Evalina Mitchell
Leslie Montroll
Dean Morehouse
Frank & Shirley Nicolai
John O'Hara
Mark Opsasnick
Susan & John Pearl
Mrs. W.E. Phillips
Kiwani Pickens
Elizabeth Pocurull

Donald Powers
Omar Price
G.S. Proctor & Assoc. Inc.
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Leigh Ryan
Ghiselin & Anne Sasscer
Nancy Dixon Saxon
Sven Schmidt
Donna Schneider
Judy & Ken Schneider
Timothy Schoepke
Daniel Searing
Jon Sellin
Yoku Shaw-Taylor
Silesia Citizens Foundation Inc.
Patricia Skews & Brian Callicot
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Karl & Valerie Smith
Natalie Smith
Nancy Snyder
Stephen & Barbara Sonnett
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Frank Sprtel
St. John's Episcopal Church
Jennifer Stabler
Herbert & Anne Stone
Tracy Stone
Diane Stultz
Sharon Sweeting
Louise Tatspaugh
Patricia Tatspaugh
Melanie Taylor
Jane Taylor Thomas
William Thomas III
Jack Thompson, Junior
John Peter Thompson
Wayne Tonkins, Sr.
Train Printing Co. Inc.
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Alan Virta
VOB Ltd. Partnership
Joan Walker
Andrew & Sondra Wallace
David Wallace
Sealani Weiner
Donna Whitaker
John White Jr.
Norma Irene White
Pam Williams
Patricia Williams
Sybil Williams
Henry & Nora Wixon
James & Susan Wolfe
Joyce Wyatt-Anderson
Timucin Yatman

The purpose of the Prince George's County Historical Society is to Collect, Preserve, Interpret, Share and Disseminate the Heritage, History, and Cultures of Prince George's County.

To support our purpose we:

- ❖ Foster an understanding and appreciation of the history and heritage of Prince George's County;
- ❖ Collect, record, organize, restore and preserve historical data, artifacts and all associated materials relative to Prince George's County and the state of Maryland;
- ❖ Promote and encourage research into all aspects of Prince George's County history and heritage;
- ❖ Acquaint and make available to members and the general public historical data and all associated materials relating to Prince George's County through programs and publications arranged or sponsored by the Society; and
- ❖ Encourage and participate in the protection and preservation of historic sites and structures in Prince George's County.

The Society is a non-profit body of five officers and up to 18 directors. The Board of Directors is a volunteer body and serves without compensation. The Society may accept gifts, bequests or endowments and solicit funds for its programs under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Board of Directors as of December 31, 2018

President – Donna Schneider
Vice President – Jack Thompson, Junior
Secretary – Jane Taylor Thomas
Treasurer – Lynn Springer Roberts
Historian - Susan G. Pearl

Directors (year term expires)

John Brunner (2019)	Justin McClain (2020)
Katharine Bryant (2020)	Barrington McKoy (2018)
Maya Davis (2018)	Nathania Branch Miles (2020)
Arthur Dock (2020)	Nancy Dixon Saxon (2018)
Amanda Elliott (2020)	Wayne Tonkins, Sr. (2018)
Christine Garcia (2019)	Sealani Weiner (2019)
Stacey Hawkins (2019)	

Board of Director Meetings

All members and sponsors of the Society are invited and welcome to attend Society meetings. Please check our website for dates, times, and location.

Profit and Loss Report – FY17 and FY18

	<u>FY 2018</u>	<u>FY 2017</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Book Sales	\$ 262.08	\$ 398.89
Donations Received	\$ 317.00	\$ 1,293.00
Interest Income	\$ 13.26	\$ 21.28
Library Income	\$ 2,943.45	\$ 901.24
PGCHS Dues Received	\$ 2,755.00	\$ 4,940.00
Program/Activity Income	\$ 5,675.00	\$ 5,767.00
Sponsorships Received	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 4,350.00
Total Income	\$ 16,515.79	\$ 17,671.41
<u>Expenses</u>		
Book Sales Postage/Taxes/Fees	\$ -	\$ 73.02
Donations & Gifts Paid	\$ -	\$ 96.45
Dues & Subscriptions Paid	\$ 148.00	\$ 315.00
General Operations Expenses	\$ 6,850.97	\$ 5,709.45
Grant Funded Projects	\$ -	\$ 154.67
Insurance Paid	\$ 1,266.00	\$ 1,311.00
Accounting Fees	\$ 1,555.00	\$ -
Library Expenses	\$ 650.63	\$ 661.82
Membership Expenses	\$ 995.24	\$ 791.84
Newsletter Expenses	\$ 2,136.24	\$ 2,377.47
Program/Activity Expenses	\$ 3,309.51	\$ 6,743.03
Total Expenses	\$ 16,911.59	\$ 18,233.75
Profit/(Loss)	\$ (395.80)	\$ (562.34)