



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Partners



To Our Members and Sponsors:

Welcome to the Prince George's County Historical Society's 2020 annual report. This report is designed to provide a recap of the events and activities of the Society's 68th year, as well as a look forward to our future plans.

Well, 2020 didn't exactly turn out the way the Society expected. Other than partnering with Maryland Milestones for several virtual lectures and several in-person lectures with Marietta House Museum at the beginning of the year, the rest of our planned activities did not occur due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The unknown of when we can safely gather again has left us in limbo as to when we can plan in-person activities for 2021. We are continuing our partnerships with Marietta House Museum and Maryland Milestones for virtual lectures in 2021. Expect a new feature, History Chats, starting in the first quarter of 2021, that will be a monthly virtual discussion on history-related topics with guest speakers and moderated by the Society,

Even though the Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History has been closed since March 15, 2020, we have been busy with responding to inquiries and questions submitted to us at info@pghistory.org. Our telephone is not currently working, so if you want to contact us, please email us. Also, we do not know when the Prince George's County Memorial Library System will re-open its libraries. We are looking forward to welcoming you back as soon as that happens. However, when we do re-open, we will be requiring the safety measures, such as wearing masks, using hand sanitizer, and donning gloves to handle books and materials to protect the health of both staff and visitors.

In 2021, Prince George's County will be celebrating its 325th birthday. The Society will be posting county history tidbits weekly on its Facebook page. We hope to be able to plan other events later in the year to commemorate the anniversary.

We welcome all members to attend board meetings and participate. Please contact us to find out when we are having meetings or if interested in volunteering.

Again, thank you for being a member or sponsor of the Society and we value your continuing support!

Respectfully,

Donna Schneider

Donna Schneider
President

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The Society's 2020 Activities

Frederick S. DeMarr Library of County History. Even though we were closed for the majority of 2020, we continue to receive collections of papers, articles, books, ephemera, and photographs to add to our collection. We are always in search of yearbooks from schools in the county, so if you have any to donate, please let us know. Materials do not circulate and may only 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. Many thanks to **Susan Pearl**, our historian, for continuing to receive and answer the questions and research needs being requested.

Membership and Sponsorship. We would like to thank members who renewed and new members who joined us in 2020. *The membership cycle is on a calendar-year basis from January to December* and are due no later than March 31 to be current. A membership card is provided for each membership and sponsorship and all members receive the Prince George's County Historical Society's newsletter, *Then & Now* and free or reduced rates for library services. Program and book sales discounts are periodically offered. PGCHS members receive a discounted membership with the Maryland Center for History and Culture (formerly the Maryland Historical Society) with payment annually of PGCHS dues or sponsorship or with status as a life member.

Preservation of the county's historic properties continues to be an interest of ours and we continue to monitor properties through our relationship with the county's Historic Preservation Commission.

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 **John J. Petro Fund** supports placing ghost structures and signage at Mount Calvert Archaeological Park in Upper Marlboro MD.

The **DeMarr Library** gets monetary contributions to help purchase books and other items needed to aid researchers and others in learning about the County's history. We established the Fill-a-Shelf campaign to assist in completing collections of important and requested research materials.

Programs and Activities: We appreciate our partnership with Marietta House Museum and Maryland Milestones for lectures we co-sponsored with them during the year. Maryland Milestones facilitated and co-sponsored with us three on-line illustrated lectures through "GoToWebinar" after it became clear that we could not host any in-person lectures. Three lectures, followed by on-line discussion were presented by the Society: June 24 – "The Burroughs Diaries"; July 22 – "Two Centuries of Education in Maryland"; and September 10 – "The Riversdale Painting Collection." Plans were made to present more of these webinars in partnership with Maryland Milestones in 2021.

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.

In Memoriam

The Society would like to recognize and remember members and volunteers that we lost in late 2019 and throughout 2020:

Willard Entwisle
Mildred Ridgeley Gray
Phyllis Herndon
Clement Lau
Diana McCeney
Warren "Dusty" Rhoads
Eugene Bowie Roberts, Jr.
Lansdale Ghiselin Sasscer, Jr.
Laurie Verge
Patricia Williams

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
Angela Porter
Lynn Springer and Anne Roberts
Donna Schneider

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

Edward Leddy

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

Richard & Sarah Bourne
Patricia Cunniff
Kenneth Gossett
Melissa Messick
Herbert & Anne Stone

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

Howard Berger
George & Margaret Callcott
Sandra Cross
James DeMarr, Jr.
Willard & Elaine Entwisle
Patrick Gossett & Howard Menaker
Laurie Heffernon
Karen & Andrew House
Theodore Hull
Dan Louck
Barbara McCeney
Benjamin & Diana McCeney
Douglas & Susan McElrath
Barrington McKoy
Frank & Shirley Nicolai
Donald Powers
Ken Schneider
Jon Sellin
William Thomas III



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 the Society's 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 member-supported, non-profit organization 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, 2020

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

Directors (year term expires)

Damon Austin (2022)	Justin McClain (2020)
Katharine Bryant (2020)	Barrington McKoy (2021)
Maya Davis (2021)	Nathania Branch Miles (2020)
Arthur Dock (2020)	Nancy Dixon Saxon (2021)
Amanda Ferrario (2020)	Wayne Tonkins, Sr. (2021)
Christine Garcia (2022)	Sealani Weiner (2022)
Stacey Hawkins (2022)	

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 – FY19 and FY20

	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>FY 2020</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Book Sales	\$317.54	\$437.00
Donations	\$0.00	\$10.00
Royalties	\$0.00	\$80.00
Interest Income	\$8.52	\$1.14
Library Income	\$4,405.80	\$1,275.00
PGCHS Dues Received	\$3,294.00	\$3,055.00
Program/Activity Income	\$2,250.00	\$120.00
Sponsorships Received	\$4,400.00	\$6,842.21
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Total Income	\$14,675.86	\$11,820.35
<u>Expenses</u>		
Book Sales Postage/Taxes/Fees	\$15.69	\$0.00
Dues & Subscriptions Paid	\$98.00	\$98.00
General Operations Expenses	\$6,789.87	\$6,105.90
Insurance Paid	\$1,262.00	\$1,262.00
Accounting Fees	\$887.00	\$0.00
Library Expenses	\$858.60	\$15.59
Membership Expenses	\$521.86	\$404.89
Newsletter Expenses	\$2,819.32	\$2,462.47
Program/Activity Expenses	\$2,077.18	\$0.00
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Total Expenses	\$15,329.52	\$10,348.85
Profit/(Loss)	-\$653.66	\$1,471.50

Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2020

Checking & Savings	\$24,665.34	\$27,783.66
Accounts Receivable	\$1,625.00	\$1,005.00
Fixed Assets	\$12,478.27	\$12,478.27
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Total Assets	\$38,768.61	\$41,266.93