



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE COUNTY



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2013

HSBC ONLINE...

Our Facebook and Twitter pages are growing. We now have over 300 “likes” and followers on Facebook, and 105 followers on Twitter. We have new volunteers dedicated to more actively engaging these social media accounts on our behalf, and our YouTube channel is steadily growing too! On our Facebook site, you can view photo albums of our past events and selected historic images from our collections too. On YouTube, you can review video clips from past events and survey footage of our growing oral history recordings. On Facebook and Twitter we continue to post news of upcoming events and links to noteworthy stories related to our mission and history and genealogy generally. Please tune-in!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *HSBC Online Update*
- *New Items For Sale Online*
- *New Members*
- *Collections Policies*
- *Upcoming Events*
- *Support HSBC*
- *Other News*

Please ensure we have your up-to-date e-mail address too, so you receive our occasional e-mail blasts from the Almshouse. Write us at info@hsobc.org.

NEW ART, PAINTINGS & GREETING CARDS FOR SALE

Some local artists have taken it upon themselves to produce artistic renderings of our historic Almshouse and other sites around Baltimore County. We are featuring their framed prints and paintings, and their beautiful greeting cards too. Visit www.hsobc.org/shop for prices and purchases. Sales are commission-based, and a sizable portion of every sale directly supports the mission of the society!



HSBC Board of Directors

- Phyllis Bailey, President
- Evert Cornell, Vice-Pres.
- H. David Delluomo, Treas.
- Barb Yingling, Secretary
- Tim Dugan
- Glenn Evans
- John Gasparini
- Jeffrey Higdon
- Cassie Kilroy Thompson
- Jackie Wilson
- Vicki Young



THE CITIZENS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

NEW MEMBERS

Beverly Bareham of Parkton
 Michael Beninati of Owings Mills
 Chris Deaver of Joppa
 Cheryl Eisenhower of Timonium
 Todd Evans of Reisterstown
 Karen Hoffman of Baltimore
 David Lari of Parkville

Michael Mann of Pikesville
 Marie Mencken of Baltimore
 Elizabeth Sexton of Towson
 Mark Swank of Severn
 Jan Thomas of Timonium
 Vicki Young of Towson



COLLECTIONS POLICIES

After months undergoing a collections policy review and revision process, the society's board of directors recently approved a new policy for HSBC's museum and cultural artifacts collection. The contents of the new policy can be found from the drop-down menu of our website's homepage, under "About." A separate, new policy is being developed for the society's research library and archival collections in the coming months.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 4, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Join guest speaker Carol Kostakos Petranek, Co-Director of the Washington, D.C. Family History Center, as she gives a lively presentation titled, "Beyond the Search in Family Search," at our free, monthly genealogy classes hosted at the society's Almshouse headquarters. Registration is not required, and the on-going, monthly genealogy classes are open to the public the first Thursday of each month, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, April 27 - BUS TOUR—Baltimore County's Underground Railroad - Join local African American historian and author Louis S. Diggs on an engaging bus tour through Baltimore County sites affiliated with the Underground Railroad. You will visit churches, homes, businesses, and safe houses in the western portion of Baltimore County which aided slaves in their escape from bondage. Details to-be-announced. E-mail info@hsobc.org to indicate your interest and ensure a timely notification when registration materials are finalized.

Saturday, May 18, 2:00 p.m. - Annual Membership Meeting. (Members only). All society members are encouraged to attend this year's meeting! Light refreshments and drinks will be served, and the society's President and board members will deliver a state-of-the-society address. Directly following the meeting, members will be invited to a soft-opening of a new Almshouse exhibit that is still in development. Volunteers have been working hard performing research to support our new Almshouse exhibit which is still a work-in-progress, awaiting additional funding and support. We hope to see you there!

Saturday, May 18, 3:00 p.m. - New Almshouse Exhibit - Soft-opening! Following the society's annual members-only meeting, the general public is welcome to attend a soft-opening of the society's historic Almshouse exhibit and interpretation, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Our volunteer staff has spent hundreds of hours preparing our new exhibit space, which is slated for future upgrades and renovations. And, they've spent hundreds of hours researching primary sources and pulling together artifacts looking specifically at the third and last Baltimore County Almshouse.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TOURS AND LIBRARY AID

- **LIBRARY**

The library is in need of volunteers to perform data entry. We have a number of library information folders and cards to be entered into our growing database. With the growth of the database, we will have a more thoroughly indexed collection to aid researchers in finding the information and related materials they need. Some level of comfort and experience working with computers is required, and our staff will train you with regards to the specifics of the task and the software you'll use.

- **EXHIBITS, SITE TOURS & DOCENTS**

The society is researching, planning, and organizing volunteers to aid with site tours of our exhibits and historic Almshouse site. We need volunteer docents with excellent people skills to interface and with the general public. Responsibilities may include conducting guided tours of our operational exhibits and our building and grounds, while delivering primary and secondary source based interpretation. Our exhibits and site tour consist of: (a) the society's farming & agriculture exhibit located in the barn adjacent to the Almshouse, (b) a walking tour of the historic Almshouse site, outbuildings, interior, and the new, dedicated Almshouse exhibit, and (c) tours of the society's Civil Defense fallout shelter installed in the basement at the height of the Cold War and Second Red Scare.

OTHER MEANS OF SUPPORTING HSBC:

- 1) **Stocks/Securities.** The society is able to accept stock and securities as gifts. The gift date is the date of which the stock or securities enter the Historical Society of Baltimore County's account. Please contact the society for more information about transferring your stocks or securities to the society as a charitable contribution.
- 2) **Matching Gifts.** Does your employer provide matching gift incentive programs for charitable giving? Many do! Employers like Verizon, Exxon, and many more may match, dollar-for-dollar, every donation you make. Please consider this option when you perform your charitable giving.
- 3) **Bequests!** One of the easiest ways to leave a legacy of history preservation and education is to leave a bequest to the Historical Society of Baltimore County. Many bequests are unrestricted with the understanding we will use your gift to the best extent possible, or others may be targeted for particular purposes. Contact us for more details and we can put you in touch with a professional estate-planning attorney who can advise you specifically how to accomplish this with regards to the Historical Society of Baltimore County.
- 4) **RMDs - Required Minimum Distributions.** If you're required to take a RMD from your IRA, and you don't necessarily need the funds, you have an opportunity to make a twofold gift to the society. A recent Tax Act extended your ability to donate all, or a portion of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to a charitable organization and avoid paying income tax on that distribution. The donation must move directly from your IRA to the society. Simply notify your brokerage where you would like to send your RMD, or call us at 410.666.1878 for more information.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF
BALTIMORE COUNTY

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OTHER NEWS

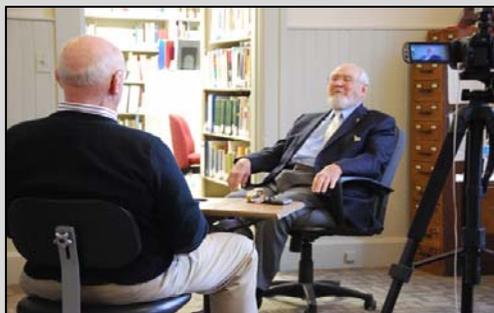
EXHIBIT ROOM PROGRESS

With our library now fully reopened from last year's relocation, we've begun work on a new exhibit room. We are hosting a soft-opening of the room's first exhibit on Saturday, May 18 (see page 2 for details). Our new exhibits room will slowly be improved and upgraded as funding allows, and it will feature new lighting, carpeting, and professional display panels. Stay tuned!



ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

Our Oral History Committee is moving forward with gusto! Our latest interview was with Mr. Ira Rigger, a Baltimore County developer (pictured). Whereas the interview prior was with Mr. Ned Murray, the former Civil Defense Director for Baltimore County. Clips from these interviews are on our YouTube channel. www.youtube.com/hsbc9811



Hours of Operation:

Fridays from noon to 4 p.m.

Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

2nd Wednesdays 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.



Find us on Facebook,
Twitter and YouTube!