



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE COUNTY



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2013

2013 BANQUET AND FUNDRAISER WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

This past September's Shrimp Feast and Bull Roast Fundraiser was a great success and loads of fun. This year we had the addition of gaming wheels where participants won wine, plants and other items. The silent auction featured many gift certificates, baskets, and over-night hotel stays. The winner of the 50/50 raffle winner walked away with a \$626 check. More than 200 people attended, and the event grossed more than \$16,500, breaking



prior records.

HSBC particularly wishes to thank the following businesses who contributed to our silent and live auctions. Please show your appreciation by patronizing them or by thanking them directly on our behalf:

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Shrimp Feast, Donors & Sponsors*
- *Miniatures Exhibit*
- *Bus Tour*
- *State Fair Recap*
- *Upcoming Events*
- *Internships*
- *Volunteer News*
- *New Members*
- *New Almshouse Renovation*
- *Latest History Trails*
- *Recent Donations*
- *Support HSBC*

Laissez-Faire & Co. , David Delluomo, Rosanne & Brian Torpy, Cynthia Shreaves, Phyllis Bailey, Elizabeth Cockey, HSBC Board of Directors, Gramercy Mansion , Wockenfuss Candy Company, Treasure

Chest, Stoneleigh Bowling Lanes, Padonia Ale House, friends of HSBC, Barrett's Grill, Fitness Together, Charles Village and Pub &Patio—Towson, The Baltimore Orioles, Kathy James, Boordy Vineyards, Casey's Restaurant, Pappa's Restaurant, Sue Island Grill, Extended Stay America—BWI Airport, Creative Jewelry Designs by Rosemarie, 100 West Hair Studio, Karen Hoffman, Amy Meyerl, Michael's Café, Mars Super Market, Padonia Ale House, Radebaugh Florist and Greenhouse, Sue and Chris Shay, The Peppermill, Four Points by Sheraton, Mary Jo & Jeff Higdon, Delmarva Shorebirds, Basignani Vineyards, Szechaun House, Kathy James, The Baltimore Museum of Industry, Victorian Charm, About Faces, Under Armour, Residence Inn by Marriott Baltimore Downtown/Inner Harbor, Woodhall Wine Cellars, Serio and Higdon, Baltimore Coffee and Tea, The Baltimore Blast, The Walters Art Museum, Brooks Huff Goodyear Auto Centers, BlueStone Restaurant, Razorback's Restaurant, Bowmann Restaurant, Tim's Automotive, Three Kings Gifts, BWI Airport Marriott Hotel, Vicki Young, Rick Wright, Padonia Ale House, and Baltimore County Gymnastics.

Special thanks goes to HSBC board member Vicki Young and her committee who organized the event.



THE CITIZENS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

“MINIATURES THROUGH TIME” EXHIBIT IN OCTOBER BROUGHT NEW VISITORS AND REVENUE TO HSBC

In October, the Maryland Miniatures Unlimited and HSBC volunteers put together a fascinating miniatures exhibit to benefit the society. The bi-annual exhibit brought in new visitors to HSBC to enjoy history and the world of miniatures. It raised approximately \$1,000 for the society in admission fees, and saw over 120 visitors during the 2-day event. This year, organizers of the show expanded the scope to include a military miniatures display showing the War of 1812 Battle of North Point, a train garden in N scale, and a ship model display. Throughout the show there were expertly made small cottages, houses, room boxes and scenes by featured artists. Several large dollhouses and blocks of miniature Baltimore row houses also fascinated visitors of all ages. Other parts of the exhibit featured HSBC’s Ravenhurst dollhouse, and a section about the history of miniatures and the history of the Almshouse. Miniatures by Betty Petrakus and a replica of the Almshouse kitchen, created and donated by Maryland Miniatures Unlimited, added interest in this part of the exhibit. Thanks to sponsors: Ashland Café and Klein's for support! Special thanks goes to the Maryland Miniatures Unlimited for putting on the exhibit and all the HSBC and MMU volunteers who participated.



SELL OUT BUS TOUR, “FROM FALLS TO FAUCET,” WAS FUN AND EDUCATIONAL FOR ALL

On September 21, we enjoyed a full bus of guests (56) to visit Prettyboy Dam, Loch Raven Dam, and the Montebello Filtration Plant, the latter two of which the group entered and toured. The journey aided attendees in better understanding how the Baltimore metropolitan area came to develop and maintain such fine drinking water. Along the way, we listened to researchers talk about Baltimore County historic sites. A repeat of this tour may be presented in 2015. Meanwhile, four of our researchers have prepared a program about the significant aspects of the tour for presentation early next year.





THE MARYLAND STATE FAIR

This past August we participated in the Maryland State Fair again by staffing a booth to educate the public about HSBC and its mission. The display included artifacts, pictures, books, pamphlets and free historic sites maps. Volunteers interacted with fair-goers, explaining the mission and activities of the society. Thanks goes to the State Fair for inviting us back and to the many volunteers for helping.

COCKEYSVILLE COMMUNITY DAY

The Society was represented at Cockeysville Community Day in the Cockeysville branch of the Baltimore County Public Library on November 2. Johnna Suter, Kathy Aspden and Bud Cornell manned the display. Thank you to the Cockeysville Library for the opportunity.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Restarting February 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (and every first Thursday thereafter) Free Genealogy Instruction! The first Thursday of each month, genealogy classes will be underway to the public free of charge. Bring your laptops with you! The classes are taught by professional genealogist and author, Angela Walton-Raji, BA, M.Ed, and/or by local genealogist Noreen Goodson.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

It's that time of year again! Due to limited staffing we keep all our members on a calendar year schedule. Given that December is upon us already, it's time to renew your membership for 2014 and consider all the valuable things your annual dues help support!

You can renew online today, or wait for a renewal notice later this month in your mailbox. Also, consider the option of gift memberships for the holidays!

In this past year, with your support, we produced three new *History Trails* issues, took-on four new interns from Towson University, manned a booth at the MD State Fair, continued our oral history program and audio-visual productions as posted on our YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/hsbc9811), continued our popular monthly genealogy courses, hosted yet another annual joint City & County history event, partnered with local artists to sell their historically themed work on commission, offered bus tours with interpretation to various site around the county, brought you a variety of presentations by local scholars, and more!

Please renew your membership today!

INTERNSHIPS

The Historical Society is presently hosting 4 college interns and is happy to work with more. These are some of the projects and activities we are offering:

- **Perform lengthy historical research** and narrative composition—historical monograph style for possible *History Trails* use.
- **Working with our museum collections** (object location, identification, photographing, data entry).
- **Public History Blog** (light research and writing) - writing multiple brief articles about Baltimore County history topics providing photograph and/or video to supplement.
- **Filming Brief Local History Documentaries** at locations around Baltimore County (short YouTube-like videos for our YouTube channel at www.YouTube.com/hsbc9811).
- **Historic Photograph Collection** (select, scan, identify, prepare labels, set-up storage, perform data entry.)

VOLUNTEER NEWS



Volunteers are our mainstay when it comes to accomplishing our day to day tasks at the society. Of our many volunteers we would like to recognize three who have been with us for some time: Cynthia Mann (since 2007), Kathleen O'Brian (since 2007), and Kathy Aspden (since 2008). Cynthia is our principle researcher for fee-based, staff-conducted research. As a historical and genealogical researcher she regularly provides answers to members and non-members alike regarding family history, historic properties, or Baltimore County history. Kathleen has been our most dedicated data entry volunteer. She is responsible for entering over 5,500 records into our database, including microfilm, digital media, audio and video media and surname vertical files. Kathy is our head librarian. As head librarian Kathy is responsible for the cataloguing of our research materials and books. The Historical Society depends on these and other volunteers to keep our doors open, and keep the society running smoothly. We offer our sincerest appreciation for their efforts!



IN-HOUSE BOOKLET PRINTING & OCR!

HSBC recently renegotiated a new contract with Maryland Non-Profits copy-print vendor of choice, Advanced Business Systems. Our new contract and machine has both saved the society a significant amount cost, while also expanding the organization's capabilities. We have added optical character recognition (OCR) capabilities to our "arsenal" of tools, along with color printing, on-site, professional booklet printing and more! If you are already familiar with OCR and these other features, you know this is a big deal for an organization constantly engaged in creating, scanning, indexing and sharing historic research material!

ALMSHOUSE RENOVATIONS & NEWS

- The society is still pursuing funding to renovate its spaces that are slated to become permanent and rotating museum exhibits. The permanent exhibit will feature historic interpretation of the Almshouse itself. A rough estimate of the funding required is \$15,000.
- The society will soon be sharing the historic Almshouse with two Baltimore County agencies. Baltimore County Family Services has been operating in the building since 2012. Meanwhile, the building is being renovated, and will soon be utilized by upwards of fifteen employees from Baltimore County Environmental Protection Services. We are looking forward to the new personnel and the potential this new activity in the building will hold.

YOUTUBE UPDATES: “BALTIMORE WATERWORKS HISTORY”

Recently added to our YouTube video channel are clips from “Baltimore Waterworks History”:

- William P. Stack, Deputy Director, Center for Watershed Protection
- Edward Papenfuse, Former Maryland State Archivist
- Kurt Kocher, Baltimore City Dept. of Public Works Information Supervisor.

Visit www.youtube.com/hsbc9811 to see what you missed!

LATEST HISTORY TRAILS

The society recently published its latest *History Trails* issue, titled, “When No One Else Cared: The Story of the Upland Home, the Third and Last Baltimore County Almshouse.” This issue chronicles the fascinating history of the structure that we, at the Historical Society of Baltimore County, have called our headquarters since 1959. The Upland Home, now commonly referred to simply as the Baltimore County Almshouse, or the Almshouse in Cockeysville, was constructed in 1872, and served a variety of purposes and populations.

If you already read the issue, we hope you enjoyed it and learned something new about the care of the homeless, poor, indigent, mentally ill, or those with a variety of other afflictions in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Our *History Trails* publication is a benefit of membership and only made possible through the support of our friends and neighbors. Join today, or stop-by to purchase a copy!



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When No One Else Cared
The Story of the Upland Home,
the Third and Last Baltimore County Almshouse

By: Patrick Cutter



Interior of the third Baltimore County almshouse in Cockeysville, Maryland. This image was captured for the Maryland State Lunacy Commission's State Care Campaign of 1908-1910. Images like this were on display at Johns Hopkins and the Maryland State House 1909-1910. The caption reads: "County Almshouse. Interior of a room in which a white woman had been confined for nearly eight years... a true picture of the desolate condition of the room and the utter hopelessness of a patient confined in such a place. The patient ate her meals from a tin can... the patient was not violent, yet she was kept in this cheerless room, with no furniture except a small iron cot...." (Courtesy Maryland State Archives' online exhibition: *The Use and Implications of Photographs for Mental Health Care Reform.*)

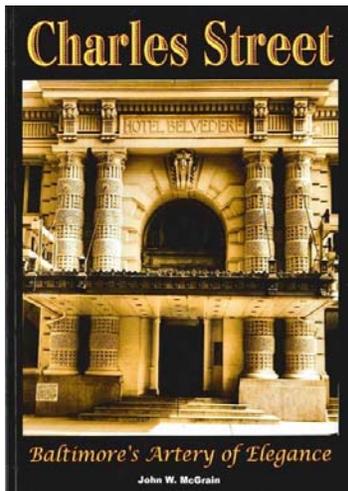


THE CITIZENS OF
BALTIMORE COUNTY



JOHN MCGRAIN'S NEW BOOK! *CHARLES STREET: BALTIMORE'S ARTERY OF ELEGANCE*

Baltimore County historian John McGrain has recently self-published another book! You may have seen it briefly reviewed by Fred Rasmussen in the *Baltimore Sun* on Friday, Nov. 15, 2013. We have a limited supply.



\$30 at the society!



MARBLE, MARBLE EVERYWHERE...

State Geologist Ira May gave a fantastic presentation on October 27, 2013. He left us the small gift of a marble rock - the same marble from the same quarry (in Texas/Cockeysville, MD) that built the bottom third of the Washington Monument in DC, the Washington Monument in Baltimore's Mt. Vernon, the iconic marble steps around Baltimore, the Peabody Institute, and numerous other iconic structures around the city and region.

*Famous Buildings Using
Cockeysville Marble*

- ✧ Washington Monument, Baltimore
- ✧ Washington Monument, Washington
- ✧ State House, Annapolis
- ✧ Porticoes of the US Capitol
- ✧ St Patrick's Cathedral, New York
- ✧ Peabody Institute, Baltimore
- ✧ White Steps of Baltimore Row Houses



RECENT DONATIONS & LOANS



Dr. Burton and HSBC Collections Manager, Melissa Heaver, standing alongside Dr. Burton's donation of historic wooden pipes and kitchen pump to the society.



The society's cutter sleigh, derived from a Baltimore County farm, was loaned to the Rawlings Conservatory & Botanic Gardens for their Victorian Christmas celebration in honor of their 125th anniversary. The Conservatory is named after Howard Peters Rawlings, the first African American to chair the powerful Appropriations Committee in the Maryland House of Delegates. The society is listed as a sponsor of the show.

www.rawlingsconservatory.org

HSBC Board of Directors

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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.



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STEWARDS OF THE PAST FOR THE
PRESENT AND FUTURE

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

This December, the society conducted its latest interview with honorary board member, and Maryland House of Delegates Speaker Pro Tem, Adrienne Jones. Video clips from this interview will be available on the society's YouTube channel as soon as the editing process is complete. www.youtube.com/hsbc9811



Pictured are HSBC Secretary and former President, Barbara Yingling (left), sharing a copy of the Baltimore County 350th anniversary book with Del. Adrienne Jones (right), as a thank-you.



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.



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Twitter and YouTube!