



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

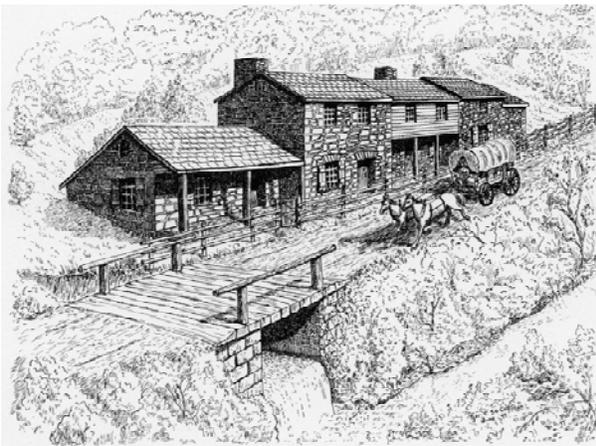


# NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2014

## HSBC RECEIVED A DONATION OF GORDON CALLISON PRINTS

Those familiar with local history may have seen the work of Gordy Callison, an artist known for detailed pen and ink drawings of mills, historical towns and buildings. The Society recently received an array of prints and note cards by Callison, some of which may be offered for sale by the Society.



Detail of "Rockland Village," by Gordy Callison

Callison was best known for his exquisitely detailed pen and ink bird's eye views of mill towns showing them as looked when they were thriving communities.

The most notable of these were the towns of Warren, Rockland, Ruxton and the Jones Falls Valley. Callison also did many individual drawings of historic mills and houses in the Baltimore County area.

Gordy Callison was born in Bisbee Arizona and lived in various parts of the United States, including Florida, Pennsylvania and later New York. Although Callison drew cars and planes as a child, and always had an interest in being a professional artist, he was encouraged by his father to find a practical trade. So, Gordon made his living as a wood worker and tool and die machinist. After he suffered an injury at a plant in Cockeysville, he took up drawing historical mills along the back roads of Maryland during his long recuperation. He conducted detailed research for his subjects, photographing the sites, consulting documents and talking to Baltimore County historians like John McGrain and Richard Parsons. He was a largely self-taught artist, although he did take some classes at the Corcoran School of Art. The drawings suggest that he sometimes started with pen and ink sketches of his subject from various angles before moving on to more detailed drawings. He started a business, called Gordy's Mills, which later became Historical Creations, and began selling his work and accepting commissions. Callison died in May of 2013 at the age of 75. the collection was donated by his spouse of 51 years, Sandra Callison.

(Source: Frederick Rasmussen, "A Birds Eye View of Yesteryear," Baltimore Sun, Nov. 23, 2002; and Obits for life.com)

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Gordon Callison Prints*
- *Upcoming Events*
- *Ongoing Projects*
- *New Interns*
- *Latest History Trails*
- *Publications for Sale*
- *Costume Society of America*
- *Recent Donations*

Special thanks goes to Sandra Callison for the donation .



THE CITIZENS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday, March 2, 2014, 3:00– 4:00 PM at the Almshouse (HSBC Headquarters) 18TH CENTURY MEDICINE

Come join us for an exciting afternoon with Gary DePaolo (who portrays Dr. Barton Tabbs) and explains what medicine was like during the 18th century. As Dr Tabbs, topics of discussion include his life as a Physick and Surgeon in Maryland during the colonial years through the American Revolution. Dr. Tabbs will explain common medical practices, apothecary for treatments and common surgical techniques. On display will be 18th century medical instruments and medicinals.

### Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 2:00 PM At the Baltimore County Library-Cockeysville Branch RUMOR OR FACT? A TOWN UNDER LOCH RAVEN RESERVOIR

Not everyone knows there was once a town below what is now the Warren Road Bridge. Volunteers Sally Riley, Sharon Leggin and Bud Cornell will give a presentation about the history of the mill and town called Warren. The program will cover the time period from the 1800's until the 1920's, at which time the mill was eliminated to make way for our drinking water supply. The program is a continuation of the theme of the Legacy tour "From Falls to Faucet" that was held in September 2013. This event is FREE to attend.



Warren Road Bridge Under Construction c. 1920.  
(Photo courtesy HSBC collections.)



Cockeysville Bank & Electric Car, c. 1920s.  
(Photo. courtesy HSBC collections.)

### Friday, April 4, 2014, 10:00 am At the Cockeysville Senior Center HISTORY OF COCKEYSVILLE

Take a walk down memory lane with HSBC Volunteer Sharon Leggin as she details the history of Cockeysville in a talk at the Cockeysville Senior Center. The talk will include historic photos, before and after pictures and a question and answer period. Local schools, churches, businesses and the Cockeysville underpass will be some of the topics covered. This event is FREE to attend.

**First Thursday of each month –FREE GENEALOGY INSTRUCTION!** 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, B.A., M.Ed, and/or by local genealogist Noreen Goodson.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ONGOING PROJECTS

### Oral History Projects

The Oral History committee is working on several projects, one of which is to interview several people from Cockeysville who served in WWII. Volunteers are needed for the committee. Contact Bud Cornell via e-mail: [evartcornell7@verizon.net](mailto:evartcornell7@verizon.net)

### HSBC Legacy Tours

The Tour Committee has started working on this year's tour for October. Volunteers are currently doing research for the tour which will focus on churches and cemeteries from I-83 to Catonsville. New dedicated volunteers are welcome. The committee meets every second Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

## NEW INTERNS



**Kathleen Black** is a Museum Studies major at Towson University. Under the direction of our collection's manager(s) she is working with our approx. 10,000 museum artifacts, performing data entry into our museum management software, preparing to compose small grant applications for the society in conjunction with her grant-writing course at Towson University, and may compose a blog article or two based on collections items that pique her interest.



**Lina Mann** is an History and Anthropology major, with a Museums Studies minor at St. Mary's College of Maryland. She is working on filming, editing and producing short YouTube-like videos of the society's rarely-seen collections storage areas, Almshouse campus, Agriculture museum and exhibits, and Civil Defense fallout shelter. For her secondary project she will be reviewing current literature and professional development blogs in the field of Museum Studies.



**Rachel Martin** is an American Studies major at Towson University. She will be working with our historic photograph collection, digitizing and doing data entry into the society's PastPerfect Museum software database, and labeling and preserving the photographs using archival materials. For her secondary project she will also be reviewing current literature and professional development blogs in the field of Museum studies



**Brandon Rider** is an American Studies major at Towson University. He will be engaged in a major research and writing project for the society. His subject matter consists loosely of slavery and slave-systems in the eastern portion of Baltimore County from the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries.

## COMING SOON: LATEST EDITION OF *HISTORY TRAILS*

In cooperation with our editor, Baltimore County Historic Preservation Planner, Teri Rising, is fine tuning an article for our next *History Trails* publication. Here's a little teaser about its subject matter:

*In the 19<sup>th</sup> century almost every community had a fraternal Lodge. Many of these groups, including the Freemasons, Elks and Odd Fellows, gained popularity in 19<sup>th</sup> Century America and were often joined by middle class men who sought a symbolic brotherhood. When African American men sought similar opportunities for brotherhood and were turned away, they founded groups for themselves that were similar in many aspects but were also sensitive to the needs of their membership and community. In the historic African American community of Winters Lane, several examples of these fraternal organizations can be found. While each of these groups were unique in their history, rituals and symbols, they were united by their civic pride and sense of purpose. The results of their dedication and devotion to improving the well-being of the Winters Lane community can still be seen today.*

## PUBLICATIONS

The society sells a variety of publications. Right now we are featuring a couple of which we have only a limited supplies remaining: *In Full Glory Reflected: Discovering the War of 1812 in the Chesapeake*, by Burt Kummerow and Ralph Eshelman; and, *Charles Street: Baltimore's Artery of Elegance*, by John W. McGrain. Call today!



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

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STEWARDS OF THE PAST FOR THE  
PRESENT AND FUTURE

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**THE COSTUME SOCIETY OF  
AMERICA OFFERS HELP AT  
THE SOCIETY**

The Costume Society of America is visiting the society on May 27<sup>th</sup> to spend a whole day processing many of our textiles museum artifacts and donating upwards of \$2,500 worth of materials. Donations to HSBC include a camera and archival storage materials.

**RECENT DONATIONS**

- Through Exxon’s Volunteer Matching Program, Exxon Mobile contributed another \$1,000 to support the society’s mission thanks HSBC volunteer Charlie Clifton.
- Two board members stepped forward and donated two new computer systems for use by our volunteers and interns. Thanks goes to Dr. Evert ‘Bud’ Cornell and H. David Dellumo, C.P.A.
- HSBC members Sarah Riley and Pat Ichniowski are donating the purchase and installation of a new ceiling-mounted projector for use in our on-site lectures and presentations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PAST AND  
PRESENT SUPPORT!



**Hours of Operation:**

Fridays: noon to 4 p.m.  
Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Find us on Facebook,  
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