



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE COUNTY



# NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2016

## HSBC HAS A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Kathleen Barry HSBC Executive Director

Board President Tom Graf has announced the hiring of Kathleen M. Barry, PhD to fill the position of Executive Director of the Historical Society of Baltimore County. Kathleen has a passion for history and many years of relevant teaching, writing, and administrative experience presenting history to diverse audiences.

Kathleen received a BA *magna cum laude* in history from Harvard University in 1992 and a PhD in history from New York University in 2002. She was a Mellon Research Fellow in American History at the University of Cambridge from 2003 to 2006, where she completed *Femininity in Flight: A History of Flight Attendants* (Duke University Press, 2007). The book received favorable notices in *The New Yorker*, *The Economist*, *London Review of Books*, *Times Literary Supplement*, *American Historical Review* and several other historical journals. She has taught American history at NYU, Cambridge, and Merrimack College.

Before moving to the UK to take up the Cambridge fellowship, Kathleen was on the staff of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, a New York City-based not-for-profit organization dedicated to history education. As the Institute's Coordinator of Special Projects and Publications, she was involved in the design, editing, and production of a wide range of publications for students, teachers, and the general public. She also assisted in the development of initiatives such as a summer history research internship for undergraduates. In recent years, she has served as a Subject Matter Expert in U.S. history for Cengage Publishing. After eleven years abroad (seven in England, four in Spain), Kathleen relocated to Towson with her husband and two children. She is delighted to be joining the Historical Society's staff and the Baltimore County history community.

Kathleen will be phasing in over the next few months to take the lead in the growth and development of HSBC, including our programs, events, and alliances. Please join us in welcoming Kathleen to our effort to pursue our mission and continually improve our services to our members, donors, business sponsors, and the Baltimore County community.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

We like to remind you that HSBC follows the Baltimore County Schools weather -related closings during weekdays and the Baltimore County Public Library closings on the weekends. Late openings also apply to both HSBC patrons and volunteers. For instance, if the schools open 2 hours late, HSBC opens 2 hours later than our normal opening time. Check your TV listings.

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *New Executive Director*
- *Upcoming Events*
- *You may Have Missed*
- *Glencoe*
- *Just for Fun*
- *Volunteer Corner*
- *From our collections*
- *What is this?*
- *Did You Know...?*



THE CITIZENS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesdays and Saturdays : by appointment only @ HSBC Almshouse Headquarters  
ALMSHOUSE TOURS (\$8.00 per person Free for members)**

Find out the interesting history of our Almshouse and learn about some of the people who lived here. Tours last approximately 1 hour, and are offered on Wednesdays and Saturdays, by appointment only. Please contact Pat Routson at HSBC headquarters 410-666-1878 to schedule your tour.

**First Thursdays ; March 3, 2016; April 7, 2016, May 5, 2016  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. @ HSBC Almshouse Headquarters**

### **GENEALOGY INSTRUCTION (Free to all)**

FREE, MONTHLY, GENEALOGY INSTRUCTION at the Historical Society of Baltimore County with local genealogist Noreen Goodson, and professional genealogist Angela Walton-Raji, BA, M.Ed.. Angela Walton-Raji is the author of *Black Indian Genealogy Research: African American Ancestors Among the Five Civilized Tribes*, and has a wealth of general and niche genealogy knowledge, experience, and resources to share.

**Sun., Feb 28, 2:00–4:00 pm @ HSBC Almshouse Headquarters (Speakers Series)**

**HISTORY OF HERBS AND SPICES: A STORY WHICH SPANS THE HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION (\$5.00 for non-members, Free for HSBC members)**

*Speaker: Jerry Kahan*

A slide presentation will be given by Mr. Jerry Kahan, a retiree of McCormick & Co. where he worked for 38 years. During ancient times, transporting spices from far-away lands was bound to prove difficult and expensive, and that forms the basis of a saga filled with exotic lands, myths, legends, brave souls, and numerous adventures. Mr. Kahan will conclude his talk with a brief history of McCormick & Company.

**Sun., March 13, 2:00–4:00 pm @ HSBC Almshouse Headquarters (Speakers Series)**

**HISTORY OF COCKEYSVILLE (\$5.00 for non-members, Free for HSBC members)**

*Speaker: Cynthia Mann*

Take a walk down memory lane with HSBC Volunteer Cynthia Mann as she details the history of Cockeysville in a talk at the HSBC Almshouse Headquarters. The talk will include the origin of Cockeysville, historic photos, before and after pictures ;and a question and answer period. Local schools, churches, businesses and the underpass will be some of the topics covered



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It is never too late to renew your membership. Continue to enjoy the membership benefits including the HSBC Newsletter, access to selected online HSBC research materials, reduced or free admission to HSBC events and the satisfaction that you are helping to collect, preserve and protect the history of Baltimore County. Renew today ! Renew online or at HSBC headquarters.

## YOU MAY HAVE MISSED...

### SUNDAY SERIES LECTURE;

### RUMOR OR FACT ? A TOWN UNDER LOCH RAVEN RESERVOIR

On January 31, 2016, Sally Riley presented the program, "Rumor or Fact: A Town Under Loch Raven Reservoir?". Ms. Riley has presented this program six times in the past and every time it has been a great success. It all started when she and several friends were looking for a cemetery in the Loch Raven Watershed. This search prompted some extra research. Thus a presentation was born. Nearly 70 people attended this fascinating talk on Jan 31st. Check upcoming events section for next months speaker. *(Photo by Jim Long)*



## FROM OUR COLLECTIONS



Does this portrait look familiar? This portrait of Lizette Woodworth Reese (1856-1935), by Florence Keefer, hangs in the Galloway room and is part of the HSBC collection of objects related to Ms. Reese. Lizette Reese was a well known poet who has recently been elected to the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame for 2016.

During the 1920s, Ms. Reese became a prominent literary figure, receiving critical praise and recognition, in particular from H. L. Mencken, himself from Baltimore. She has been cited as an influence on younger women poets and has been compared to Emily Dickinson. When her first poem, "The Deserted House", was published Southern Magazine in June 1874, she was considered ahead of her time. Her poetry focused on the everyday things without the sentimentality characteristic of the 19th century writing. She often using nature in her imagery. According to Robert J. Jones, editor of *In Praise of Common Things, Lizette Woodworth Reese Revisited*, she had a "blend of genius and the ordinary". One of her most famous poems "Tears", first published in 1899 in Scribner's, received high critical acclaim. In her lifetime she published 10 books of poetry, a book of selected poems, and two books of prose reminiscences.

Ms. Reese was born in 1856 in Waverly, which was then a rural village called Huntington. She was a Baltimore public schoolteacher for many years, first teaching at the German-English School, the Baltimore Colored School, and finally the all girls Western High School in Baltimore. She has been memorialized in a sculpture by Grace Turnbull, which is on 33rd Street, and also by a plaque by Baltimore's Hans Schuler. A commemorative tablet by Beatrice Fenton sponsored by Reese Memorial Society was unveiled at the Enoch Pratt Free Library in 1935.

We have many of her poetry volumes in our archives, special collection, including *A Branch of May*, *The Quiet Road*, and *A Handful of Lavender*. Other items in the Lizette Woodworth Reese Collection are exhibited on the second floor hall cabinet including photographs, books and personal items she had owned .

The induction ceremony into the Maryland Women's Hall of fame will take place on Thursday April 7, 2016 in Annapolis, Maryland.

Sources: "In Praise of Common Things Lizette Woodworth Reese Revisited, Edited by Robert Jones, Greenwood Press,1992  
Maryland Historical Society website blog, Underbelly. <http://www.mdhs.org/underbelly/2015/04/16/lizette-woodworth-reese-and-the-poetry-of-spring/>

## GLENCOE

By Sally Riley

Glencoe is a community on the Gunpowder Falls about two miles east of York Road and four miles north of the future Loch Raven reservoir. Parts of the original mansion date to 1810. William J. Ward turned the original dwelling into a mansion [BA-407]\* and added several hundred acres of choice land. The mansion and 223 acres were sold to Peter Mowell in 1858 for \$16,185. An 1876 tax ledger shows 21 structures, including a steam saw and grist mill.



Mowell Mansion -Photo HSBC archives

Joseph W. Mowell inherited the property, which was gradually broken up, and the 1915 Atlas shows George R. Mowell as the owner of the acreage. The property remained in the Mowell family until it was purchased in 1966 by Dr. & Mrs. Alex Haller. In 2011, the mansion and farm buildings were granted Baltimore County landmark status, almost 30 years after being placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1852 the rail stop on the Northern Central Railroad was renamed Glencoe, for a similar area in Scotland. Joseph Mowell built a summer resort there, including a three-story hotel [Glencoe Springs Hotel], a lake and boat-house. By the 1920s, the elaborate hotel was torn down, the general store and Post Office burned, and the lake dried up. The US Post Office in Glencoe was then re-located to the former boathouse which became famous as the smallest self-contained Post Office in the US (10 ft x 13 ft) in 1927. After the Post Office moved to Sparks, the boathouse [BA-408] was moved to the grounds of Oldfields School and is now open for special occasions.

The families of Glencoe had been worshipping at St. James Episcopal Church in Monkton. In the late 1860s, Rev. Mason of that parish suggested construction of their own church, which could also serve the students of Oldfields School. In 1870, an acre of land was given for the site of the new church, to which Mr. Joseph Mowell added a third of an acre. Construction of locally-quarried stone was begun in the summer of 1871 and the cornerstone was laid August 8, 1871. Immanuel Episcopal Church [BA-127] was consecrated on June 19, 1873. The Immanuel Parsonage [BA-967] was built in 1876.

The Glencoe area was the site of three well-known American schools: Oldfields School, The Oread Institute, and a training school for the Office of Strategic Services (O.S.S. later C.I.A.) Only the Oldfields School remains active. Oread Institute, built by Henry Perky in the late 1800s, was a boarding school for students to study scientific farming and domestic science. The Institute, save one building now a private home, was demolished in 1940. Mr. Perky, who had invented shredded wheat cereal, retired to an estate, Filston Manor [BA-452] and its 1,200 acres of prime farmland and pasture east of Glencoe and lived there until his death in 1906. The grounds and buildings of Filston Manor and Hillside House were rented by the U.S. Army from 1942-44 as training sites for "Wild Bill" Donovan's newly-recruited OSS operatives.

Other noteworthy buildings in Glencoe include River Run Farm on Gunpowder Falls, dating to 1774, which consists of a house, barns, outbuildings, and gardens and still stands. The Mowell Mansion [BA-407] at 1314 Upper Glencoe Rd. and large barn and some farm structures are still standing.

Sources: National Register of Historic Places – Glencoe [BA-407], U.S. Department of the Interior, John McGrain, March 18, 1983; Ralph Reppert, "Homiest Post Office," *Baltimore Sunday Sun Magazine*, June 11, 1961; Laney Inglehart, "During World War II - Part II: Glencoe was a Fake Combat Zone," *North County News*, November 1989; Michael Ruby, "Glencoe Mansion Gains Historic Landmark Status," *County Chronicle*, June 2011; David Allen, "Celebrity Educators and Students in the North County Village of Glencoe," *North County News* 8, no. 8, October 1996; Andrew Clemens, "About Glencoe's Celebrity Educators and Students" - Letters to the Editors, *North County News* 8, no. 9, November 1996; Jay R. Thompson, "'Shredded Wheat King' Subject for Local Author," *Baltimore Examiner*, January 3, 2008; "Travels - Letters from Europe - No. LIII," *Torch Light* (Hagerstown, MD), September 28, 1826, vol. XII, iss. 48, p. 1; Marry Carroll McCulloch, *Immanuel Church, Glencoe, Maryland: A Sketch of Its Beginnings* (1942); Pat van den Beemt, "Immanuel Episcopal Celebrates 125 years," *The Jeffersonian*, June 6, 1996, sec. A; "Immanuel Church is Glencoe Worship Center," *North County News*, May 16, 1963. [

(This article is an excerpt from the HSBC Falls to Faucet Tour Booklet ) \*The BA numbers in brackets are the Maryland Inventory of Historical Properties property numbers which can be used to access information at <http://mdihp.net/>

# JUST FOR FUN-

For you puzzlers out there, we have put together a little brain teaser with place name related clues. Answers on page 6. Good Luck!

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these jumbles- one letter to each square to form words related to place names.

Clue #1- A neighborhood, racetrack and fairground: these be my claim to fame  
From those fables of an ancient Greek wherefore came my name

○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I	O	I	U	N	M	T

Clue #2 - Taken from letters of first and last name  
Of that captain of aviation industry fame

○	○	○	○	○	○	○
R	G	A	L	M	E	N

Clue #3 - From nearby barracks came they to  
this hunter's paradise,  
Where greenish rock when melted down,  
could fetch a handsome price  
The mines now gone, the soldiers too,  
as nature has reclaimed  
This winsome park whose stunted trees  
are now its claim to fame

○	○	○	○	○	○	○
S	S	R	O	E	L	I

○	○	○	○	○	○	○
T	D	H	E	G	L	I

Clue #4- From a fragrant little flower growing in the nearby wood  
Did the locals give the name to this most southern neighborhood

○	○	○	○	○	○	○
S	A	U	R	T	B	U

Now arrange the circled letters to form answer suggested by the final clue.

**Final Clue:**

From a tavern I was born, the yellow circle on its sign  
Beckoned passing travelers "come inside for ale and wine"  
My yellow circle is still seen today, today by one and all  
It names the local neighborhood and – of course – the local mall

○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
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*Jumble by Allen Hendrickson*

# VOLUNTEER CORNER

## Volunteer appreciation Party

The HSBC board held a Holiday Party in appreciation of all the HSBC volunteers. With Board President Tom Graf presiding, certificates and gifts of appreciation were given out. Special awards went to Jim Long and Sally Riley for their extraordinary service to the organization. Excellent refreshments were provided. Of the events highlights were drawings for the fundraising raffle and the elephant gift game. Thank you to all the HSBC volunteers, the board, and organizers of the party.



(photos by Robert Levine)

**Writers needed**– The newsletter committee is looking for short one page articles related to Baltimore County History for this newsletter . Please submit your well written, complete, previously unpublished articles to for consideration to newsletter@hsobc.org.

# LIBRARY ADDITIONS

The library has just acquired a new book, *Greater Roland Park* by Douglas Munro. The book was published by Arcadia Publishing in 2015, and describes the history of the Roland Park area that was developed as a streetcar suburb at the turn of the 20th century. The history of elegant homes, families and institutions are detailed. Churches, Schools , the MA and Pa railroad and lake Roland are also covered in the book with historic photographs. Pay a visit to our library to see this and more during HSBC business hours.

## WHAT IS IT? ANSWER

If you guessed sauerkraut stomper or masher, you were correct. The sauerkraut stomper got the fermentation process started. The crock was layered with shredded cabbage and salt, and then the salted cabbage was pounded with the stomper. Sauerkraut was a source of nutrition before refrigeration especially in the winter months. It is traditional in many homes for the holiday season. The example pictured is in our farm museum.



## WHAT IS IT? ANOTHER WHAT IS IT.

This time we decided not to wait until the next issue to pose another what is it question. See if you can guess what this is—again related to farming in the 19h century



JUMBLE ANSWERS  
#1 Timonium(I,N,M) #2 Glenmar (G,L,N,) #3 Soldiers Delight (O,L,E,D,L,G)#4 Arbutus (A,R)  
Final Answer : Golden Ring Mall

## DID YOU KNOW?

### That the town of Glyndon was named by drawing a name out of a hat?

Many towns are named after specific families or estates but Glyndon has an unusual story. Located near Reisterstown, it is known for its large Victorian homes. In 1871, large tracts of land were bought near Reisterstown by two prominent Baltimore citizens, Dr Charles A. Leas, Baltimore's first health officer and S.P. Townsend, Baltimore merchant, in order to develop a town. They bought the land from H.H. Pennington of Baltimore and hired a surveyor named Bouldin to do the work.



In the meantime, the Western Maryland Railroad had extended its line as far as the town site in 1860 but the station was called Reisterstown Station. When the railroad was refused right of way by Reisterstown citizens to extend its railroad all the way through Reisterstown as originally intended, the railroad then diverted the route to go directly to the developing town. A name was needed for the town as plans developed. Bouldin, the surveyor, suggested that each town resident place a name in the hat for a public drawing. The drawing was held and the President of the Western Maryland Railroad, General Hood, pulled a name out of the hat. The name was Glyn. The surveyor had seen the name in the book he was reading and had placed the name in the hat with the others. By chance that name was chosen. The name Glyndon was coined and the town has been known as Glyndon since 1875.

Notes:

Origins of Names in Baltimore County by Jennie E. Jessop. Publications Committee, Baltimore County Historical Society.

It was originally stated in the book Origins of Names in Baltimore County, that Glyn is of Scottish origin, further research reveals that it means "Valley" in Welsh—Martha Hendrickson



### Did you also know

#### That The origins of Valentines Day go back to Roman Times?

Valentine's Day can be traced back to an Ancient Roman Festival – not Hallmark as some people think. The ancient Romans observed a holiday on February 14<sup>th</sup> to honor Juno, the Goddess of Women and Marriage.

During the reign of Emperor Claudius II, the emperor forbade marriage and engagements in Rome. He wanted to keep the young men single so that they would join the army. However a priest, Saint Valentine, secretly married the couples. When Claudius heard of this, Saint Valentine was arrested and put to death on February 14, 270 AD.

Valentine's Day festival gradually grew in popularity. Soon lovers began to exchange love notes to each other. At first they were hand made with ribbons and bits of lace. Eventually, during the Victorian Period, the cards were mass-produced. In time, Valentine's Day became a day to celebrate love not just romantic love but also friendship. Cards were presented to teachers, parents, siblings, and friends.— Pat Routson

**HSBC** HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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