MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

“Through the preservation of authentic, meaningful places, documents, artifacts, images, and stories, we leave a foundation upon which future Americans can build.”

—The Value of History Statement, History Relevance Campaign

As we move from Black History Month (February) to Women’s History Month (March), history is perhaps as much on the public’s mind as at any time during the year. So it seems an apt moment to reflect on the value of history and the work done by historical societies like HSBC.

In late 2012, a group of leaders from public and academic history organizations began what has become the History Relevance Campaign (HRC). The Campaign advocates for the importance of history to individuals, communities, and the nation, and by “history” they mean knowledge of the past as well as the work of preserving, researching, and interpreting history. In its core Value of History Statement, HRC makes an impassioned case for the unique benefits of history: helping people place themselves in their families and communities; teaching students vital skills; grounding communities in shared stories and experiences; promoting cultural and economic activity; and inspiring leaders and problem-solvers who can use the past to make a better future (for the full statement, please visit https://www.historyrelevance.com/value-history-statement). National History Day, a program that enables 6th- to 12th-graders to create history projects from their own research and compete at the local, state, and national level, has studied the impact of the History Day participation on the achievement of student alumni. NHD found that its alumni outperform peers on a range of tests and in a variety of subjects—not just history (for details, please visit https://www.nhd.org/why-nhd-works). History, then, provides an essential platform for learning and living as individuals and communities.

Historical societies like HSBC are vital local and regional preservers of the documents and artifacts that connect us to the past in unique ways. When you support HSBC with memberships, donations, and attending our programs, you join in our work of stewardship and storytelling. You make sure that our dedicated volunteer staff can keep collecting and caring for our tens of thousands of artifacts, photos, and documents of many kinds. You also aid us in sharing stories from Baltimore County’s 350+ years of history that help us all better understand our past and present. Thank you for being our partners in preserving local history, and we hope you find it as meaningful as we do. As Harry Truman opined, “There is nothing new in the world except the history you do not know.”

Happy Women’s History Month! —Kathleen Barry
UPCOMING EVENTS

First Thursdays each month: April 5, May 3, June 7, July 5, 10:00am-2:00pm @ 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, M.Ed. Walton-Raji is the author of Black Indian Genealogy Research: African American Ancestors Among the Five Civilized Tribes. The instructors have a wealth of general and niche genealogy knowledge, experience, and resources to share.

Thursday, March 15, 2018, 5:00-6:30pm @ HSBC Almshouse Headquarters
BOOK LAUNCH PARTY: JOHN MCGRAIN, 250 CANDLES FOR TOWSON: DOCUMENTS AND MEMOIRS (Free to all; please RSVP)
Please join us to celebrate the release of John McGrain’s latest book, 250 Candles for Towson: Documents and Memoirs. Mr. McGrain will be in attendance and wine, cheese, and other light refreshments will be served. Copies of 250 Candles for Towson will be on sale at $25 each (limit five per customer). This limited edition is available for purchase only at HSBC. Admission is free, but RSVPs are requested at 410-666-1878 / info@hsobc.org.

Sunday, March 18, 2018, 2:00-4:00pm @ HSBC Almshouse Headquarters
NEGRO LEAGUES BASEBALL ($5.00, free for HSBC members; please pre-register)
Speaker: Ray Banks
Just as we are looking forward to the start of the Major League Baseball season, Mr. Banks of the Hubert V. Simmons Museum of Negro Leagues Baseball will share with us the history and highlights of the Negro Baseball League, which had several local noteworthy players. Mr. Banks will be displaying many artifacts and photos as part of his presentation.

Sunday, April 29, 2018, 2:00-4:00pm @ HSBC Almshouse Headquarters
FERDINAND MAGELLAN, WORLD EXPLORER ($5.00, free for HSBC members; pre-registration will open soon)
Speaker: Jerry Kahan
Further details to follow in next issue...

REMINDER: PRE-REGISTRATION FOR SUNDAY SPEAKER EVENTS

With the overwhelming interest in and demand for seats at a few recent talks, it became necessary to shift from first-come, first-served seating to a pre-registration system. We have decided to make it a permanent change for Sunday talks to avoid confusion and turning people away at the door. Members are still entitled to free admission (one per event for individual members, up to two adults and two children for household members) - we just ask that you book in advance to guarantee we have a seat for you. You can do so by following the links on our website’s events page (www.hsobc.org/events), visiting our Facebook event listings, or contacting us at info@hsobc or 410-666-1878. Thanks!
YOU MAY HAVE MISSED...

RUMOR OR FACT? A TOWN UNDER LOCH RAVEN RESERVOIR — January 28 and February 11, 2018
In this pair of sold-out talks, HSBC Researcher Sally Riley traced the history of the town of Warren leading to its demolition in 1922, when it was flooded to make way for the expansion of the Loch Raven Reservoir. Illustrated with many photos of the “lost” town of Warren, Riley’s talk did not disappoint the many attendees who had snapped up tickets within a few hours of their going on sale in mid-January. Stay posted for details on more encore presentations later in 2018...

HISTORICAL TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES — Feb. 18, 2017
Chris Laughland, owner of what is likely the world’s largest collection of historical traffic control devices, showed off some of his artifacts while explaining the evolution of technology in managing traffic. LED lights and solar power were a few of the innovations pioneered in traffic control that spread to broader use. In the lively Q&A session Mr. Laughland ranged over many topics.

DID YOU KNOW?

EARTH DAY was started in 1970 and became the driving force behind environmental protection. The founder of Earth Day was Gaylord Nelson, a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin. After witnessing the disastrous 1969 oil spill in Santa Barbara, California, he was moved to form a coalition to have a national teach-in for the environment. He was inspired by the student anti-war moment and realized the energy and raised consciousness could help bring environmental protection to the fore. At that time air pollution was taken for granted as a sign of progress, and pollution of streams and rivers by industry went unchecked.

Nelson, working with Pete McClosky, a Republican Congressman from California, and Harvard graduate student Denis Hayes, formed a staff of 85 people to designate April 22nd as Earth Day and organize events. On April 22, 1970, an estimated 20 million Americans participated in events all around the country, especially at colleges and universities. Groups that had individually been fighting for causes such as preventing air and water pollution, loss of wilderness, and endangered species, found each other and coalesced into a national movement.

Earth Day 1970 forged an unlikely coalition of Democrats and Republicans, rich and poor, and city and country folk. By the end of that year, Earth Day had led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts. In 1990 the campaign went worldwide and continues to fight for environmental issues. Earth Day is celebrated every year on April 22.

THE ROOTS OF THE WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT

By Martha Hendrickson

Women’s right to vote is something we take for granted today, and it is amazing to think that this right was not granted until 1920. The long struggle for the women’s suffrage started in the abolitionist and temperance movements of the mid-1800s.

The right to vote was very limited in America at the outset, restricted to white men of substantial property. By the 1830s, most places in the country extended the right to white men regardless of property or wealth. At this time women were beginning to question the status quo and the cult of traditional womanhood. Women were speaking out in the abolitionist movement, temperance societies, and other reform crusades.

In 1848 the Seneca Falls Convention of women’s rights advocates was organized by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott. Historically considered the start of the women’s suffrage movement, the convention had interesting beginnings. Elizabeth Cady, daughter of a lawyer, saw many laws unfair to women. She was also an abolitionist and married fellow abolitionist Henry B. Stanton. In 1840, the Stantons spent their honeymoon in London and attended the World’s Antislavery Convention. There they met Lucretia Mott and her husband. Mott was the daughter of Quaker parents and was very active in the antislavery Quaker community. As women, Mott and Stanton were banned from the convention floor, but later seated in a women-only section. Mott and Stanton resolved to form their own organization for women’s rights when they returned to America.

Stanton’s declaration at the start of the Seneca Falls convention was modeled closely on the Declaration of Independence, and its preamble featured the proclamation, “We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights…” Of the many resolutions to address women’s inequality, including property rights and marriage and divorce laws, the right to vote resolution just barely passed after an impassioned speech by Frederick Douglass and others.

Stanton met Susan B. Anthony in 1851, forming an historic partnership. By then Stanton was tied to duties as wife and mother. Anthony, who was an excellent speaker and unencumbered by children, delivered many of Stanton’s speeches throughout the country. During the Civil War they agreed to suspend activity on women’s rights and focus more antislavery. In 1863 they formed the Women’s Loyalty League whose purpose was to end the Civil War and support a constitutional amendment to abolish slavery. After the 13th amendment abolishing slavery passed in 1865, the League disbanded.

During the postwar era, the women’s movement split into two main factions: those for and against the 15th amendment. The 14th amendment, passed in 1868, extended equal protection under the law to all citizens born or naturalized in the US (i.e. former slaves), but guaranteed voting rights only to male citizens over 21. The 15th amendment, ratified in 1870, proclaimed that voting rights

(Continued on page 7)
JUST FOR FUN  (answers on page 6)

JUMBLE

When March is here and spring is nigh, thoughts may drift to Irish eyes
So from the clues below here writ, discover charming Irish wit
(Use the clues below to unravel witty idioms and prose from the Emerald Isle)

Clue #1: Mister Patrick McGinty, and Irishman of note
    Came into a fortune, so bought himself a goat
    Said he, “Sure, of goat’s milk I mean to have my fill.”
    But when he got his Nanny home he found it was a Bill!

Clue #2: On Sundays, when they go to”, church there’s a saying said in jest
    Instead of saying “going to church” on this day of rest.

Clue #3: “If you need to get to somewhere soon, whether near or far
    The Irish have a saying if you’ve neither horse nor car
    “Worry not” they say in earnest, their eyes smiling while they’re talking
    And suggest this phrase instead. It means ‘to get somewhere by walking’.

Clue #4: The Irish have a saying they use when they’ve had enough
    Although to my own ears it doesn’t sound so gruff.

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

Final Clue:

Torn from my home in Britain, I was enslaved for six long years
As a shepherd on the Emerald Isle where God soon saw my tears
He sent me a vision and after helping me to flee
Thus did I make it my mission to spread his Word across the sea.

Put your answer here:

Jumble by Allen Hendrickson
LIBRARY ADDITIONS


This unpublished manuscript contains Chapters V and VI (continuing the chapter numbering system from Volume 1) and the Afterword. This material is reproduced as provided by John McGrain. We have chosen to put the Afterword first because it provides an excellent introduction as well as a closing chapter. Mr. McGrain donated the entire Volume 2 to the Maryland State Archives, but has kindly given us permission to make a copy available for use by the members and patrons of the Historical Society of Baltimore County.

We are also delighted to announce that John McGrain's newest book, 250 Candles for Towson: Documents and Memoirs, has been published. This limited edition is available for purchase only at HSBC. Copies are $25 each (limit five per customer). Please stop by or contact us to get your copy.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

INTRODUCTION TO VOLUNTEERING

Would you like to learn more about volunteering at HSBC and try it out before committing to a regular schedule? Do you have limited time to volunteer but would like to help a few times a year? HSBC may have a spot for you. Several times a year we have events, programs and other projects where additional volunteers are needed to supplement our core of regular volunteers. Such times may be on weekends, weekdays or evenings. Activities could involve light to medium labor (cleaning, painting, etc.) or sitting behind an information desk or other seated tasks. If this interests you, please provide your contact information (name, address, phone and email) and you will be placed on a volunteering-only contact list. At this time we can only accommodate volunteers 18 years and older.

Please contact James Long at jameslong@hsobc.org or mail your information to HSBC, 9811 Van Buren Lane, Cockeysville, MD 21030, Attn.: Volunteer Coordinator.

WHAT IS IT?

Can you guess what this is? It’s related to agriculture.

Find out in our next issue...

JUMBLE ANSWERS:

#1. McGINTY’S GOAT (I,S,T); #2. HAVE YOUR POT SCRAPED (A,P,C,A); #3. TAKE SHANK’S MARE (K,R); #4. CUT TO THE ONIONS (T,I,N)

FINAL ANSWER: SAIN'T PATRICK
could not be abridged on the basis of “race, color or previous condition of servitude”—but failed to address women’s unequal status. Some women’s rights activists opposed the 15th amendment, including Stanton. They wanted to push lawmakers for a universal suffrage amendment, even going so far as to side with white southerners. They formed the National Woman Suffrage Association. The other side said that it was unfair to endanger hard-won rights of newly freed blacks; they were willing to defer women’s rights in order to secure black male suffrage. The pro-15th amendment group formed the American Woman Suffrage Association and continued to work on women’s right to vote on a state-by-state basis. Mott, notably, did not take sides.

The animosity within the movement dissipated over time and in 1890 the two suffrage organizations merged into the National American Woman Suffrage Association, with Elizabeth Cady Stanton as the first president. The philosophy of many in the suffrage movement had evolved from the Seneca Falls claim that women deserved the vote because “all men and women were created equal” to the idea that women should vote because their maternal instincts and virtuosity would purify and improve government. This newer approach fit well with the temperance movement’s moral uplift agenda and segregationists’ goal of disenfranchising black men. In some western states, women were guaranteed the right to vote as early as 1890 (Wyoming).

Pressure from suffrage activism grew until a pivotal event occurred in 1913, on the day of President Woodrow Wilson’s inauguration. Protesters, led by militant suffragist Alice Paul, marched on Washington in the Women’s Suffrage Parade, then the largest public demonstration in U.S. history, taking attention from the inauguration. Radical activists such as Paul suffered imprisonment and beatings, which attracted public sympathy. By 1919, advocates had persuaded many that women’s contributions in World War I proved them worthy of the vote once and for all. Finally, on August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing women’s suffrage. On November 2, 1920, more than eight million women across the United States voted for the first time.

Sources:
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STEWARDS OF THE PAST FOR THE PRESENT AND FUTURE

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**Executive Director**

Kathleen Barry

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Research Library Hours:

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

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