

# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY, INC.



## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT PRESERVING OUR PAST FOR YOUR FUTURE

## 2006 FINANCIAL REPORT



In recent years, the procedures for handling the finances of the Historical Society were disrupted due to the sudden death of the Society's then Treasurer and the difficulties of establishing a new permanent Treasurer. During the past year we have implemented additional accounting procedures that permit timely and accurate financial pictures for events, contributions, operating costs, salary, etc. In addition, we started the year with a well defined budget. Our accounting policies and the handling of Society funds are still maturing. As our Society has grown, the time required to enter financial data into the Society's accounting system requires additional technician support. This request is being considered by the Board of Directors.

### INCOME

<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 29,937.58</b>
Annual Giving	\$ 15,085.00
Donations	\$ 11,204.00
Other	\$ 3,648.58
<b>GRANTS</b>	<b>\$ 31,625.00</b>
Harford County	\$ 22,000.00
Bel Air	\$ 5,000.00
Other	\$ 4,625.00
<b>PROGRAMS</b>	<b>\$ 9,230.71</b>
Bullets/Books	\$ 6,139.98
Other	\$ 3,090.73
<b>FUND RAISING</b>	<b>\$ 45,285.73</b>
Membership	\$ 16,525.00
Other	\$ 28,760.73
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>\$ 16,597.97</b>
Marriage Certificates	\$ 5,197.27
Dividends & Interest	\$ 3,515.18
Other	\$ 7,885.52
	<hr/> <b>\$132,676.99</b>

### EXPENSES

<b>PROGRAMS</b>	<b>\$ 16,270.81</b>
Bullets	\$ 6,200.00
Newsletters	\$ 3,479.27
Other	\$ 6,591.54
<b>FUND RAISING</b>	<b>\$ 7,600.49</b>
Bus Tours	\$ 1,547.00
Concert	\$ 1,807.60
Other	\$ 4,245.89
<b>GENERAL &amp; ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	<b>\$ 85,946.78</b>
Salary	\$ 22,148.00
Insurance	\$ 4,966.00
Loan Interest	\$ 12,076.53
Repairs	\$ 9,772.24
Utilities /Phone	\$ 22,140.66
Other	\$ 14,843.35
	<hr/> <b>\$109,818.08</b>

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My first year as president has been personally very rewarding. I have continuously learned details about the operation of the Historical Society and the Hays House Museum, attempted to meet over time all our volunteers and understand their dedicated efforts, and tried to address some policy, financial and activity items of the Society based on my background and work experience.

From my perspective, the Historical Society is organized into the following five divisions: (1) Court Records, (2) Genealogy, (3) Library, (4) Archives, and (5) Hays House Museum. These units are supported by our Administrator, the Board of Directors, and by committees or individuals that take on critical support tasks. I would like to highlight some of those tasks.

### FUNDS

An organization such as ours requires and runs on money. For several years our financial standing was stressed due to unusually pressing maintenance issues at the Old Post Office and the large obligation associated with the purchase of the Hays House Parking Lot. Our current Treasurer, George Borneman, has done a wonderful job this year of understanding our position and strengthening our monthly financial reports in order to present our available funds to the Board of Directors. Currently, Dorothy Stambaugh single handedly continues to handle our membership renewals, the annual giving campaign and send thank you letters for all donations. The Investment Committee has solidified our regulations on our three investment accounts and repositioned our portfolios for income and the monthly withdrawal of dividends for use as a partial supplement for payment on the Hays House Parking Lot. We have also instituted actions to reduce our spending, yet maintain our same level of service to our membership. This cost reduction is ongoing. Other financial matters included developing the 2006 budget and instituting Society payments per the guidelines of the bylaws. We received supporting grants from the Harford County Cultural Arts Board for our bulletin publication and programs at the Hays House, and a Maryland Historical Trust Matching Grant for repairing the roof of our headquarters building. We were awarded a large donation, based on a contest sponsored by the HARCO Federal Credit Union, our close neighbor. This year no funds were designated for paying down the principal on the Hays House Parking Lot, only interest payment of over one thousand dollars per month. Since purchasing the lot, we paid approximately fifty thousand dollars on the principal, but this year we needed breathing room to replenish our operating account.

### HAYS HOUSE

This year the Hays House Museum is operating very efficiently under the leadership of Co-chairs Cecilia Fox and Betsy Lehmann, and their crew of volunteers. In the past, the museum required funds for several capital projects; these were completed under

President Richard Herbig and Hays House Chair Millicent Jordan. This year the museum is self sufficient and actually providing funds to support paying for the parking lot.



*Hays House Event*



*Headquarters Building*

## COMUNICATION

Patricia Hathaway continues (as she has done for the last ten years) to be the editor of our bimonthly newsletter, coordinator of the quarterly meetings, keeper of the bylaws, and volunteers in the Archives department and the Hays House Museum. Likewise, Jim Chrismer continues to be our lead in producing our *Harford Historical Bulletin* on a quarterly basis. We did recognize a need to support Jim in his effort, when several of his committee members retired. In continuing our outreach efforts, Lena Caron, along with Glenda Unzelmann and their volunteers, have organized and hosted many events in the Old Post Office Building. These efforts serve two purposes: (1) to encourage our membership to visit our facility, and (2) the Society realizes more profit from each event. Lena and her committee, over the past few years, also upgraded and maintained our gift shop in the Headquarters lobby. This not only adds to our operating funds but also brings new people to the Society. Robert Magee does the coordinating of speakers for organizations and groups throughout the county. Robert has already given a lecture to a group in Joppatowne. We also briefed the elected officials in Aberdeen requesting a line item in their annual budget for our support. They supported this request. Finally, our web site, [www.harfordhistory.net](http://www.harfordhistory.net), run by our web master, El Penski, has had approximately 1.5 million hits since inception.

## FACILITY OPERATIONS

In the prior couple of years and part of 2006, the Historical Society spent in excess of fifty thousand dollars for repairs on the heating and air conditioning system and averaged over one thousand dollars per month in utility costs. This year the system is operating well. We have changed our service contractor and instituted a maintenance contract. However, the utility bills are constant. The roof problem needed addressing

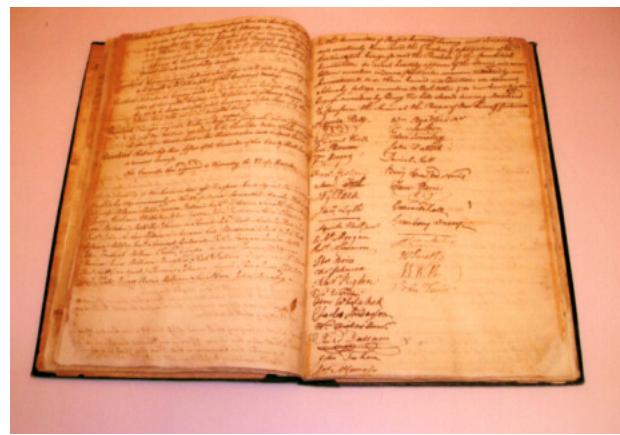
this year. First, we submitted a grant request to the state for a matching funds grant to install a new roof. We eventually received approval for thirty five thousand dollars; however, we must come up with matching funds before we can realize this money. Our initial four contractor estimates came in much higher then expected. Until we can acquire matching funds and more affordable estimates, Robert Preston, our Facilities Chairman, patched one of the most water-damaged sections of the roof. This effort has stopped that leak. We hired a contractor to caulk our roof capstones and the roof flashing. This appears to have stabilized the situation as we work towards funding a new roof.

#### INVENTORY AND POLICY

In terms of administrative items, we are on an inventory mission in the Hays House Museum and the Post Office Building. In the past ten years, we have received over 25,000 new items for our collection. Working with a new inventory system, we are able to account for these and older items. We started this inventory effort in 2006 using student interns and volunteers. When it is completed, a review of our insurance policies will be in order. We currently spend about four thousand dollars on insurance annually. Supporting the inventory effort, we have reviewed /created policies relating to gifting to the Society, de-accession of items and of loan of our items, have looked at our fund raising procedures, established a financial procedure for everybody to use in directing funds to our treasurer, and put a marquee management procedure in place.



*Antique Silver*



*Bush Declaration*

#### RECOGNITION

The Events Committee hosted a well-attended volunteer luncheon at Headquarters in the summer of 2006. The servers were the officers of the Board of Directors, which I thought was a nice touch. My grandson, age 15, helped. Another thing of which I am proud was the establishment of the annual Archer Fellow Award program in order to thank volunteers and others for their devotion to preserving Harford County History.

The award is named after Dr. George Washington Archer, who was one of the founders of the Historical Society of Harford County in the late 1880's and whose writings served as a wonderful base for our early historical awareness. The following three volunteers were recognized for this honor at our annual fall quarterly dinner meeting.

Dorothy Stambaugh for her devotion to the Annual Giving Program, Membership Renewals, and Archive support.

Patricia Hathaway for her dedication to the Newsletter, Quarterly Meetings, Volunteering at both the Archives and the Hays House Museum, and as a Past President of the Society.

Elwin Penski for his management of our successful web site and tireless devotion to the Booth Family Legacy.



2006 Archer Fellows (l-r, front) Patricia Hathaway, Elwin Penski and Dorothy Stambaugh, pictured with (l-r, rear) Administrator Maryanna Skowronski, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Millicent Jordan and President Joe Swisher

I could write more about this year's events and devoted volunteers, but I will continue my salutes to our activities and personnel in next year's annual report. We have some neat things in the works for 2007.

Joe A. Swisher  
President

## ARCHIVES

Though much of the day-to-day activity on Wednesdays has been centered on processing the archives materials presented to the society, there is a new additional tool to add variety to our lives. Thanks to the generosity of El Penski, we have *Past Perfect*, a computer program designed to aid in the accessioning and cataloging of our materials as well as the collections of the other divisions within the society.

*Past Perfect* will assist a project I started at the end of 2005 - the digital cataloging of the photo and postcard collections. With the technical assistance of Doug Washburn and the efforts of Dotty Myers and Annetta Bloxham, this effort is well under way. When completed, researchers will be able to enter a subject or category into a computer and be able to see images without the need to pull the actual item from the collection. This will save the volunteer time and, more important, save wear and tear on the photos and postcards themselves. Digital copies (which fill most people's needs) can be made from the stored digital images for a fee based on the size and quality of the copy requested.

The number of items donated in 2006 plus those unprocessed from 2005 have created a backlog in accessioning the materials. The time required to properly process these donated items is greater than the time available from current volunteers. In spite of the dedicated hours of volunteer service throughout the year, there is still a lot of work to be done in evaluating items and completing the cataloging. This condition can only be remedied by having additional members who are willing to dedicate time to this basic function of the archives division.

By charter, the archives collection is to focus on the history of our county and surrounding area, as well as the people who have inhabited the region. As the volunteers have been going through files in the process of helping researchers, they have found materials that have no connection to the county, region or its people. The value of this material is lost to researchers unless they happen to stumble upon it in our collection. This "non-Harford" material could be better utilized in other repositories more appropriate to the subject matter of the item. In order to facilitate the prudent transfer of this material, a de-accessioning policy was developed; it was approved by the Board of Directors, and a committee to oversee the process was created in the fall of 2006. The de-accessioning process is time consuming, and, to date, numerous items have been identified but have yet to be submitted to the committee.

The financial needs of the archives in 2006 fell within the budget requested due to several much appreciated special donations from generous members. Our real need is for more hands and eyes to do the work expected of your Historical Society. The archival process cannot be short-cut or it will be diminished in value and usefulness. The activities described in this report are short- to medium-length projects, and with your help our archives section will be able to fulfill the needs of researchers and donors. If you wish to lend a hand with our projects, please contact the Historical Society at 410-838-7691 or Richard Sherrill at 410-557-7243.

Richard Sherrill  
Archives Chairman



*Wine Tasting*



*Wine Tasting*



*Wine Tasting*



*1880's Dress Display*

## ACTIVITIES

### HAYS HOUSE MUSEUM

**H**ays House Museum opened the 2006 season in February with its wedding dress exhibit, entitled *With This Ring*, as a follow up to its award-winning 2005 historic clothing exhibit, *Fashion and Finery*. Volunteers devoted more than 400 hours to researching and mounting this latest exhibit along with developing the publicity and brochures to accompany it. More than 20 wedding dresses, dating from 1865 to 1970, were displayed, along with bridesmaids' dresses, flower girls' dresses and other wedding attire and accessories. Hays House was staffed every Sunday from late February until mid-December from 1 to 4 pm by volunteer docents, whose ages range from eight to eighty. Volunteers staffed monthly special events, fifteen private tours and teas, and welcomed more than 1000 visitors in 2006.



1920s Wedding Dresses



Hays House Docent

In March, Hays House sponsored an off-site Celtic concert featuring Charlie Zahm and Friends. The fundraising concert and its accompanying silent auction drew an audience of 300 and netted a profit of \$4,000 earmarked toward paying down the loan to purchase the Hays House parking lot.

Special events held during the year included a garden party and plant sale on Mother's Day, a Civil War display with period re-enactors in June, and a very successful Ice Cream Social in August featuring costumed colonial artisans. November, which is designated Native American Month, featured a natural history exhibit and a Great Plains tipi. Professional storytellers and musicians

performed on selected dates throughout the year. Many of the programs and performers were sponsored by a grant from the Harford County Cultural Arts Board. Other events included admission-free open houses held on the Fourth of July and in December when the house was lavishly decorated by the Country Garden Club of Harford County. Also in 2006, an *American Girl* doll raffle raised \$275.

The year culminated with the annual Christmas Concert and Tea held at Emmanuel Episcopal Church featuring a concert by *Musica Antiqua* followed by afternoon tea prepared and served to the 124 attendees by Hays House volunteers.

Hays House Museum received generous publicity in 2006, including feature articles in *The Sun*, the *Pennysaver*, and the *Aegis*. All marketing and press releases were accomplished through the efforts of Hays House volunteers. The Small Museum Association selected a proposal on how volunteers mounted Hays House's award-winning *Fashion and Finery* exhibit for presentation at its annual conference to be held in Ocean City in February 2007.

Cecilia Fox and Betsy Lehmann  
Co-chairs

#### EVENTS COMMITTEE

The events committee had an interesting and fun-filled 2006. The idea of using Headquarters as a venue for activities proved very successful. Not only did it increase income, it also created interest, increased membership and gave much needed exposure to the Society and its goals in researching and preserving history. The members of the committee always strive for perfection in presentation, good food and carefully thought out decorations in order to provide an attractive background for each event. By creating what we call our "stash room," over the year we have assembled enough china and flatware to serve seventy-five guests. This cuts the cost of an event considerably as paper products are expensive and rentals are out of sight.

We started the year on February 26<sup>th</sup> with the annual Winter Lecture and Dessert. With seventy people in attendance, this was our first test of seating that many. The color scheme was red, and white with brass candlesticks and we served twenty assorted desserts. We were pleased!

The annual Spring Lecture and Tea was held on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Our serving table was done in yellow, blue and white. We had forty in attendance and served an assortment of twenty-three sandwiches and cookies.

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, two knowledgeable ladies from Smyth Jewelers lectured on styles in jewelry and identified pieces of jewelry brought in by our guests. A lovely tea, done in a pink and spring green theme, followed. Thirty-eight people were in attendance. Twenty-five assorted cakes, cookies, and sandwiches were served.

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, a bus trip to Hillwood, in Washington, DC, the estate of the late Marjorie Merriweather Post, gave everyone a special day to explore the manicured gardens and lavish house filled with exquisite antiques. Thirty-three people enjoyed the trip.

The Third Annual Wine Tasting was held on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Decorated in a scheme of black and gold, we expanded the seating area and draped the tables in black felt and used shimmering gold on the serving tables. The music was great, wine and food exceptional and everyone seemed to have fun.

A Christmas Lecture was held on November 30<sup>th</sup>. The lecture, publicity from Maryland Public Television and the Baltimore Sun, brought many new faces to our annual open house and Greens Sale held on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Other events included preparing and serving two teas at the Hays House and hosting a luncheon at the Headquarters for our wonderful Society volunteers. We served appetizers, lunch and desserts to seventy volunteers at the latter event. Inspired by compliments, the committee has embarked on a big job of writing a cookbook for publication in the near future. The members of the Events Committee also served on the Shop Committee. Again, our gift shop was supplied 98% by donations and items made by committee members. As a result, our events raised over ten thousand dollars for the Society. We are anticipating another successful year in 2007.

Lena Caron and Glenda Unzelmann  
Co-Chairs

## VAN BIBBER ART TRAVELS

The Historical Society has had in its collection for many years numerous works of art by the late George Van Bibber (1906-1979). A dapper man about town, colorful character, architect and artist, he was the last private resident of his family's noteworthy Main Street Bel Air *Van Bibber House*. Upon his death, George Van Bibber left much of his artwork to the Historical Society of Harford County. The works represent scenes of Harford County, the artist's foreign travels, portraits, architectural studies and caricatures. Unframed and packed away in storage, the many watercolors and drawings had never before been exhibited.

This changed however, when in the spring of 2006 an exhibition of the artwork was mounted at the Gallery of Bel Air's historic Liriodendon Mansion. With the help of local artist Jim Butcher and photographer Todd Holden, approximately forty pieces of the Historical Society's collection were framed and on display for two months. At the close of the exhibit, half of the mounted works were then moved to the County building on Bond Street where they were displayed for a six month period of time.

As 2006 came to a close and the time came for the County show to be taken down, word arrived that a request for artwork had been received by the Harford County Cultural Arts Board from the Harford County Delegates' office in Annapolis. The request was for work to hang on the gallery walls in the corridor of the Lowe Office Building outside of the Delegates' offices. It had been decided that the Van Bibber works would be a perfect fit and the Society was asked to loan a selection of the collection. With the approval of the Board of Directors of the Historical Society, we arranged for the transportation of the paintings to Annapolis. Thus, in January 2007, seventeen pieces were hung to the sound of many appreciative comments and words of thanks from not only the delegates but from many other workers whose offices are located near the exhibit. The paintings will remain on display through May of 2007 after which time they will return to the Society. In addition, a smaller number of paintings are on loan to the Bel Air Visitors Center located in the Bel Air Armory on Main Street. The collections of the Historical Society of Harford County are in reality held in public trust. The Society is pleased to have been able to make this particular collection so accessible.

Maryanna Skowronski  
Administrator

## GIVE US THE CHANCE TO SAY “YES”

The old saying, “one man’s trash is another man’s treasure” is especially true in the preservation of our history. Sometimes the treasure is literally that, as is seen weekly on the popular Public Television series *Antiques Roadshow*. More often, the value of an item lies in the history behind it. The Historical Society of Harford County has been fortunate over the 100 plus years of its existence. Many people have thought of the society as they have given their family papers, furnishings and other heirlooms into our keeping. Hardly a week goes by when someone does not telephone or stop in to ask if we would be interested in having some object or document.

Often the donation comes from someone who is moving into a smaller residence. In doing so, he finds that there just is not room to take everything along, and no one in the family is interested in some of the items. Quite often, they are of too great a sentimental value to dispose of and are in need of a good home. Such is the case with wedding dresses especially.

In other instances diaries and old photographs are donated. One donation in particular stands out however. A few years ago, a gentleman came in and stated that he had some items he had rescued during the disposition of his late mother’s estate. Considered as having no worth to anyone, the items were to be disposed of. What he had rescued was a collection of items and rosters from the Harford County chapter of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of WWI. There were flags of the era, black mourning crepe, and of particular historical significance were the lists of those Harford Countians who had served. Included among the lists were some of the oldest family names in the county.

Most recently, the society received a phone call from a gentleman who was the administrator for the estate of one of the relatives of the owners of the long gone Bel Air landmark, the old Kenmore Inn. This time we were invited to a home to see which items related to the old inn might be of interest to us. One pickup truck and one SUV load later, we returned to the society with furnishings, draperies, desk accessories, dinnerware, letters and many other items. For those of us too young to have known the elegant old inns and hotels that once were a major part of the community, the collection is a three-dimensional look into the past.

Of course, we cannot find a place for everything offered to us. In such cases, we try to tell a prospective donor this when first contacted. If we have no need for an item (perhaps it is a duplicate or does not match the society’s mission), or if we feel we

cannot properly care for an item should we take it in, we will try to suggest other organizations which might have a use for it.

How fortunate we are that so many have entrusted us with items they no longer have use for and most especially those which they themselves treasure yet have given up so that others many learn from and enjoy the history they have to impart. How lucky for us that so many people have given and continue to give us the chance to say "yes".

Maryanna Skowronski  
Administrator



*Events Team*



*Court Records Team*

## SUPPORTERS

The following people, businesses, foundations and other organizations have supported the work of The Historical Society of Harford County through monetary and in-kind donations.

Bel Air Liquors	Forest Hill Framing	Smyth Jewelers
City of Aberdeen	Harford Bank	Clark Turner
Mr. Josh Dresher	Preston's Stationary	Town of Bel Air
B&O Railway Historical Society		Harford County Cultural Arts Board
Junius Brutus Booth Society		Harford County Government
The Dresher Foundation		Jarrettsville Furniture
Louis and Phyllis Friedman		Klein's Super Markets
David H. Gleason Associates, Inc. Architects		Mr. Vincent Matanowski
Emmert Hobbs Foundation		Wegman's of Hunt Valley
Harford Community College Building Preservation and Restoration Program		
National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century Maryland State Society		
Facilities and Maintenance Department of Harford County		
Harford Community College Historic Preservation Guild		
Harford County Republican Women		

## 2006 ANNUAL GIVING

Elizabeth Claire Albert	Dave Davis
Dr. & Mrs. W. Don Allison	George & Thelma Davis
Elmer L. Arrington	Dean Insurance Agency, Inc.
Anne Baranowski	George F. Deibel, III
Mary Barnes	Carol Deibel
Pat Barnes-McConnell	Del Haven Service Center
Richard Barton	C. Harris & Carole M. De ran
Bill & Connie Beims	Charles B. Diem
Lorraine Bem	David & Mary Dilworth
Carol Benck	Carl Dirzuweit
Judith Biebesheimer	Mr. & Mrs. Raymond J. Dombrowski
W. Claire Blackmer	Brian & Amy Donley & Family
Annetta Bloxham	Jim Dresher
Jo & Bernie Bodt	Carolyn M. Drummey
Kenneth Boyle	Barbara W. Ehlers
Thirza M. Brandt	H. Stephen Fender
Pauline S. Brannan	Grace E. Fielder
William Brieger	Joan J. Garrett
Edith A. Brown	Judith A. Gavlinski
Joann Brucksch	William Groseclose
Barbara Burke	Elmer R. Haile, Jr.
Ruth S. Burns	Mr. & Mrs. Blaine H. Hans
Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Robt. Cardwell, Jr.	Harford Mutual Insurance Company
Beth Caron	Patricia J. Hathaway
Lena Caron	David Heckman
Robert J. Carson	Arthur & Ann Helton
William R. Mc Cartin	Richard G. Herbig
James T. Charnock	Mrs. Paul Hicks
Jim Chrismser	Dr. & Mrs. David C. Hodge
Sharon B. Clark	Patrick & Anne Marie Howard
Thomas F. Cline	Randi Hughes
Ruth R. Cobb	Independent Can Company
Dr. Alvin B. Cole	John & Ellenor Jarrett
Kathleen M. Conlon	Mr. & Mrs. Marc Johnston
Dorothy P. Corbin	Jack & Doris Jones
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Cox, Jr.	Clark & Charlotte Jones
Elaine W. Crowe	C. Kent & Millicent Jordan

## 2006 ANNUAL GIVING (CONT'D)

Blanche S. Jourdan  
Linda Marie Kammer  
Ann M. Kelly  
Jeanne H. Kidd  
Edwin Emalyn Kirkwood  
Hannah T. G. Koziski  
Len & Judy Laylon  
Marlene M. Le Brun  
Fred & Gloria Liedlich  
Franklin W. Littleton  
Minnie B. Lowe  
M&T Bank  
Marlene Magness  
Lee Magness  
Catherine V. Martin  
Elizabeth G. Maxwell  
Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Maxwell  
McComas Funeral Home P.A.  
Howard K. McComas, III  
Gordon F. McGhee  
Lisa Melody  
Mercantile County Bank  
Dorothy & Lyman Meyer  
Marie Milanski  
Elizabeth A. Miller  
Frederick O. Mitchell  
D. J. Munnikhuysen  
Lois Nagle  
Terry & Stephanie Noye  
Lois M. O'Neil  
Edna M. Osborn  
Brian Pabst  
Curtis R. Pace  
Pamela Paris  
Mary Jane Parrish  
Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur Pearce  
Henry C. Peden, Jr.  
Elwin C. Penski  
J. Arch & Mildred Phillips  
Leigh Piepenbring  
Don S. Preston  
Preston's Stationery  
Carl & Shannon Punte  
Timothy Raab  
Charles F. Ramsey, Jr.  
Phil Raub  
Betty Riordan  
Helen G. Robinson  
Genevieve Robinson  
Shirley Rodgers  
Virginia O. Rothwell  
Joan A. Ryder  
Myrtle M. Sadlowski  
Leigh Sanders  
Jeffrey K. Sawyer  
Catherine W. Schaefer  
David C. Seibert  
Richard Sherrill  
Mary L. Silling  
Col. Benjamin S. Silver  
William Silver II  
Charles & Virginia Singleton  
Maryanna Skowronski  
Dale & Patricia Sloop  
Jeffery K. & Page K. Smart  
Mrs. Anna Lee Smith  
Susan Smith  
Judith Smith  
Miss Nancy E. Smith  
Lucie Snodgrass  
Patrick P. Spicer  
Dorothy Stambaugh  
Russell D. Stansbury  
Stockson Printing

## 2006 ANNUAL GIVING (CONT'D)

John W. Stump	Viola Washburn
Richard Suarez-Murias	Bonnie Watts-Cook
Sue & Joe Swisher	Vernon L. Weaver
George & Mary Timmons	Linda Weeks
H. Edward Townsley	Marijane Weeks
Pat & Donald Trout	Virginia F. Wetter
H. Jane Turner	Jo Anne Whale
Robert B. Turner	Alice Grier Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Werner O. Unzelmann	Delma K. Witten
Martin Van Horn	Marvin & Jean Wright, Jr.
Ralph & Ruth Walker	Mr. & Mrs. Paul C. Zurkowski
Doug Washburn	

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2006

February 12 <sup>th</sup>	<i>With This Ring</i> wedding gown display at the Hays House
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Dessert Meeting
March 5 <sup>th</sup>	Colonial Concert by the Hearth at the Hays House
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Celtic Concert featuring Charlie Zahm
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Lecture by Sallee Kunke1 Filkins
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Smyth Je welry antique and vintage talk
May 14 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Party at the Hays House
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Hillwood Museum and Gardens tour
June 18 <sup>th</sup>	Civil War Day at the Hays House
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Independence Day at the Hays House
August 6 <sup>th</sup>	Ice Cream Social at the Hays House
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	Chrysanthemum Festival at the Hays House
September 29 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Meeting and Dinner
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting at Society Headquarters
October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	All Hallows' Eve at the Hays House
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	Archer Memorial Lecture and Dessert
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	Great Plains Tipi Exhibit at the Hays House
November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Decoration Demonstration at Christ Episcopal Church
December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Holiday Open House at the Hays House
December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Open House & Greens Sale at Headquarters
December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Colonial Candlelight Christmas Concert and Tea at Emmanuel Episcopal Church

## VOLUNTEERS, THEY KEEP US GOING

The Historical Society of Harford County would not exist were it not for the efforts of the volunteer staff. Three days a week and on the fourth Saturday of each month the building is filled with a dedicated group of individuals who see to it that the society's collections are accessible to the public. They provide researchers with access to materials, but prior to that they are the ones who receive, accession, catalog, file, shelve and sometimes repair those materials and do the paperwork necessary to document the items.

Volunteerism at the Historical Society goes far beyond "paperwork". Volunteers also do the majority of maintenance, cleaning and grounds keeping. This includes not only the Old Post Office building but the historic Hays House Museum as well. There are gardens to be maintained, floors to be swept and mopped, dusting to be done and waste baskets to be emptied. We are fortunate that Harford County Government takes care of the major outdoor work including mowing and snow removal. Yet there are always leaves to be raked, dead branches and litter to be picked up. The cost of hiring outside services to take care of such tasks would be beyond the budget of the society. To do so would take away from funds more importantly used to protect and house historical documents, photographs and artifacts as well as the buildings themselves.

Retired seniors are a vital source of volunteerism. Almost 100% of our regular volunteers are retirees many of whom having been working at the society for years. At the Hays House we are lucky enough to have some younger folks-students and those still obligated to 9 to 5 jobs but who none the less make time in their busy schedules to run the well respected living history museum.

If you have read this far, that's good. We haven't scared you off. Being a volunteer of the Historical Society or Hays House does not mean that you have to commit to coming in week after week on a regular basis. The society has many projects that are short term with a definite start and finish. Often we are given a collection of items dealing with a particular subject area. One such example is that of the American Red Cross. When the Bel Air chapter closed, much of its memorabilia was given into our care. We were given a collection of items from the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of WWI. We also received a large collection of materials from Aberdeen Proving Ground. A group of retired APG employees came in for a few weeks, went through the collection, helping to

sort and identify. In this collection were photographs of Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman visiting APG. We have receptionists who greet visitors and answer the phone. As we go to press, a group of former Harford County public school librarians is in the process of inventorying our library collection. Other volunteers come in as they can and clip articles for the vertical files. Still others help out at social events such as our lectures and teas. We may only see them a half dozen times during the course of a year but their service is invaluable!

What this all boils down to is a request that you consider your schedule. If you have a few hours to spare here or there, please give us a call or stop by. We are a friendly group (and there are usually some good snacks being passed around)!

Maryanna Skowronski  
Administrator



*Christmas Greens Sale*



*Smyth Visitors*



*Petroglyphs Talk*



*Christmas Concert*

## 2006 Volunteers

Lacey Allen	Linda Holly	Elaine Rogers
Valerie Baker	Denise Hutchinson	Judy Rogers
Anne Baranowski	Hannah Hutchinson	Janet Ruckle
Doris Barben	Holly Hutchinson	Donna Sanborn
Margaret Bishop	David Iorio	Shelby Sauls
Claire Blackmer	Kent Jordan	Jeffrey Sawyer
Annetta Bloxham	Millicent Jordan	Anna Scholl
George Borneman	Midge Kalb	Emma Scholl
Stephanie Borneman	Elsie Kaste	Kathy Scholl
Ryan Boulay	Kathryn Keen	Sarah Scholl
Jean Boyer	Jean Kidd	Jack Shagena
Gwen Brown	Roberta Kimball	Rebecca Sheeler-Duncan
Lauren Brown	Jean Klein	Miriam Shell
Jim Butcher	Dale Knapp	Jean Sherman
Marlene Butler	Dot Kraft	Richard Sherrill
Mary Cardwell	Elizabeth Kruger	Mary Ellen Shugart
Robert Cardwell	Len Laylon	Becca Silberman
Lena Caron	Betsy Lehmann	Beth Silberman
Roger Caron	Fred Liedlich	Jeff Smart
Mary Cassilly	Gloria Liedlich	Page Smart
Tom Chambers	Robert Magee	Susan Smith
James Chrismar	Ruth Mahan	Dorothy Stambaugh
Art Coates	Mary Mares	Patrick Staso
Catherine S. Consort	Sara Meagher	Joe Swisher
Dorothy Corbin	Kay Menchey	Sue Swisher
Thelma Davis	Robert Mercado	Frank Terhune
Rhonda Deeg	Dorothy Meyers	Sarah Terhune
Lydia Di Stefano	Shirley Miller	Jane Turner
Diane Ehrhart	Cay Moore	Glenda Unzelmann
Dinah Faber	Jessica Moore	Werner Unzelmann
Ceil Fox	Michelle Olney	Alexandra Van Dusen
Richard Fox	Pam Paris	Karen VanDusen
Jeni Gerdom	Henry Peden	Roy Van Dusen
Mary Hanlon	Veronica Peden	Doug Washburn
George Harkins	Elwin Penski	Marijane Weeks
Betty Hartman	Judy Plitt	Jack Weinrnl
John Hartman	Carol Powers	Jackie Welckner
Patricia Hathaway	Rob Preston	Alice Williams
Richard Herbig	Phil Raub	Mandy Wilmoth
Liz Hicks	Carolyn Reeger	Milli Wilson
David Hodge	Marylee Reeger	Susan Wooden
Todd Holden	Susan Robbins	

Archeological Society N. Chesapeake

Country Garden Club of Harford County

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

The web site size and usage continues to grow since it was initiated in 1996. At the end of 2006, the site included 456 files, 323 pictures, 1133 total hyper-links and 123 links to the inter-net. From 2002 until the end of 2006, our web site had over 1,400,000 hits. Some of these visitors were from countries such as Canada, United Kingdom, Sweden, Germany, India, Russia, Australia, France, Lithuania and Brazil to name a few. Each year additional elements are added to the site. Besides pictures and references to historical data, the site also contains such items as Biographical Memorials, Society Bylaws and documents, Society upcoming events and lectures, and references to oral histories by local citizens. Our focus of the web site mission is helping researchers, genealogists and students of all ages in seeking information on our Harford Heritage and keeping our membership informed on events and Society needs.

Elwin Penski  
Web Master

## Harford Historical Bulletin

### Current and Back Issues

- NO. 86 Above and Beyond: The Civil War Careers of Alfred B. Hilton and Charles E. Phelps
- NO. 87 Harford's Greatest Generation: WWII Remembrances of Harford Citizens
- NO. 88 Collecting the Historical Writings of Dr. George W. Archer
- NO. 89 Welsh Settlers of Delta, PA / Cardiff, MD
- NO. 90, 95 History of the Susquehanna Baseball League: 1946-1953 - Parts I & II
- NO. 91 Wilna: "On the Road from Bel Air to Joppa"
- NO. 92 Six Susquehanna Bridge Crossings: Thirteen Bridges
- NO. 93 The Little Stone House of Best Endeavor
- NO. 94, 96 One & Two Room Schoolhouses of Northern Harford County  
Parts 1 & 2: Districts 5 & 4, Dublin & Marshall
- NO. 97 Recollections of Early Havre de Grace: Excerpts by E. N. Woodhouse
- NO. 98, 99 Edwin Booth: Harford County's *Prince of Players*, Parts 1 & 2
- NO. 100 Mary Eliza Watters Risteau: First Woman To The State Capitol
- NO. 101, 102 The Colored Schools of Harford County: Separate and Equal? Parts 1 & 2
- NO. 103 Tinsmithing in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Harford County
- NO. 104 Joseph and Ann Hall: Behind the Scenes at Tudor Hall

## HARCO AWARD



Photo courtesy of the  
HarCo Credit Union

*HARCO Credit Union Check Presentation Ceremony*

In October of 2006 the Historical Society of Harford County was the recipient of a \$5,000 donation by HARCO Federal Credit Union. In honor of their 50th anniversary the credit union decided to give back to the community in which it is based. Members of the credit union were asked to nominate a non-profit organization which they felt to be most deserving of the award. The top five nominated organizations were then put before the credit union's membership. HARCO members were allowed to vote for one non-profit. The organization garnering the most votes would win the \$5000 prize. In a campaign conceived by society administrator Maryanna Skowronski and helped along greatly by Harford Community College student intern, Jennifer Gerdom, the Historical Society asked its own members and others to "get out and vote" for the society. Mass e-mail communiqués went out. Fliers were distributed. Signs went up in front of the Hays House and the Historical Society asking for votes. Everything was done short of standing along roadways waving at cars! It paid off in the end when the phone call came announcing that the Historical Society of Harford County had received the most votes. President Joe Swisher, Administrator Maryanna Skowronski and Jennifer Gerdom accepted the check on behalf of the society. The funds were used toward the repair of the heating and air conditioning system.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Historical Society of Harford County, Inc. is a not for profit membership organization whose mission is to collect, preserve, promote, and interpret the rich and diverse history of the County area in its regional context from its prehistoric origins to the present.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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1st Vice President.....	Jeffrey Sawyer, PhD
2nd Vice President.....	Millicent Jordan
Corresponding Secretary .....	Dorothy Stambaugh
Recording Secretary .....	Susan Smith
Treasurer.....	George Borneman
Past President.....	Richard Herbig, Esq.

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Raub, Glenda Unzelmann
Class of 2006-2007: Clare Blackmer, Mary Cardwell, Rhonda Deeg, Robert Magee, Robert Mercado, Richard J. Sherrill, Patrick Spicer, Esq.

## ADMINISTRATOR: Maryanna Skowronski

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Court Records.....	Claire Blackmer
Investments.....	Arthur Coates
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Memorials .....	Glenda Unzelmann
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Speakers Bureau.....	Robert Magee
Administration.....	Jeffrey Sawyer, PhD

## **THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY, INC.**

### **Headquarters**

143 North Main Street  
Bel Air, MD 21014-0366  
(410) 838-7691

### **Hays House Museum**

324 South Kenmore Avenue  
Bel Air, MD 21014  
(410) 838-1213

### *Hours of Operation*

#### *Tuesday*

##### **Court Records**

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

#### *Wednesday*

##### **Archives**

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### *Thursday*

##### **Resource Library**

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

#### *Fourth Saturday*

**Archives / Resource  
Library**  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

#### *Sunday*

**Hays House Museum**  
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
And by appointment

#### *Anytime*

**On the Web**  
[www.harfordhistory.net](http://www.harfordhistory.net)  
HARCHIS@MSN.com

**THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY, INC.**  
143 NORTH MAIN STREET  
BEL AIR, MD 21014-0366

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2006 ANNUAL REPORT

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