



# COALITION COURIER

“to build the future, we do not have  
to destroy the past”

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Protect Maryland  
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**Inside this issue:**

## Annual Meeting Planning in Full Swing

### Meeting to be held April 26, 2008 in Sandy Spring, Maryland

Our 16<sup>th</sup> annual meeting will be hosted by the Sandy Spring Museum at its campus in Sandy Spring on Route 108 in Montgomery County.

Speakers are Ms. LuAnn Moorman on Conditions and Status of Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Baltimore and Elizabeth Beth Garrettson and her husband Lorne Garrettson whose topic is Quaker history in Sandy Spring, Quaker cemetery and Sandy Spring Meeting House- "1832".

PLEASE: Remember the deadline for registration is April 12. Form is on Page 8.

The design of the Sandy Spring Museum captures the architectural style and charm of the early 18<sup>th</sup> century Farm homes and barns of the area. The Museum and its Architect, Miche Booz, received the Excellence in Design Award for 1997 from the Potomac Valley chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The event will be held in the Dr. Bird room at the museum. It is a spacious 28' diameter octagonal room with high ceilings and plenty of room for up to 80 guests seated at tables.



Committee at Work!



The Dr. Bird Room



Approach from the North



Approach from the South showing Buildings

## WELCOME TO THE CPMBS GIFT SHOP

We have found many unique items that we hope you will enjoy. If you have any ideas for items to sell please contact the fundraising committee, Kristin Kraske, Amanda Becker, and Barbara Kraske. The fundraising committee met again on January 7, 2008 and reviewed a list of books to add to our inventory for inclusion on the Gift Shop enclosure. Special thanks to Gravestone Artware and Bernadette Loeffel-Atkins for their help in making this gift shop a success! Insert will come with Annual Mtg. circular.

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## **Continuing Request That Each Booth/Exhibit be Staffed by at Least 4 Volunteers**

From experience at staffing booths/exhibits last year it became quite obvious that 4 or more in number are needed to volunteer their services at all such functions as well as for all to enjoy the whole day. In addition, more volunteers were so helpful in setting up and packing all exhibition items.

### **President's Message**

Meeting Support Reimbursement -- As per the minutes of the January meeting this topic will be brought up at the annual meeting.

Dues -- The sad issue of a proposed (by me) dues increase! Please keep in mind that donations have kept us from going negative each year. The dues have not seen any increase since at least 1997. Since then, if it is assumed that inflation was level at 3.5% over the eleven years the dues adjustment factor for inflation alone would be 1.46 resulting in calculated dues of \$14.60, rounded up to \$15.00, for individual membership and \$22.00 for household membership. I plan to resurface this issue at the Annual meeting

A number of other committees need to start now! In particular, the Community Outreach and Publicity committees. We need to plan for exhibit season. On March 10th, Barb Kraske contacted the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for the Event Calendar. These are in process. This is a starting point.

### **COALITION TO PROTECT MARYLAND BURIAL SITES JANUARY 19, 2008 MINUTES**

Eighteen attendees were present:

President Gerhardt Kraske  
Vice-President Melvin Mason  
Secretary Amanda Becker

Board of Directors:  
Director Leonard Becraft  
Director Ann Bolt  
Director Kristin Kraske  
Director Thomas Mason  
Director Paul L. Miller

Coalition members in attendance:  
E.W. Fields, M.W. Fields, James Lanier, Brenda McNeal, Lu Moorman, Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer, Candy Warden, Sandra Wright and John Wright

Absences were Treasurer Kraske, Directors Lyons and Hasan. Secretary Becker would be late.

The Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites' January 19, 2008 meeting was called to order by President Gerhardt Kraske at 4:04 pm at the Miller Library in Ellicott City, Maryland. Kristin Kraske wrote up the minutes until Secretary Becker's arrival. President Kraske held off review of the previous minutes pending arrival of Secretary.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The TREASURER'S quarterly report from October 24, 2007 to January 19, 2008 was then given. The bank balance as of October 24, 2007 was \$7,036.76. Income was \$742.98 and the expenses were \$175.68. The bank CD was \$1,096.34 as of January 18, 2007. The bank balance as of January 19, 2008 is \$8,697.40. The President called for approval of the treasurer's report. It was motioned and seconded. All were in favor and it was approved.

#### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Director Kraske gave the membership report. She stated that the Coalition has 94 members of which 78 are paying members. Three new members have joined the Coalition although the Membership listing incorrectly just says 2. President Kraske called for the approval of the membership report which was motioned by Vice-President Mason and seconded by Director Mason.

Secretary Becker arrived at 4:08 pm and took over the minutes.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The SECRETARY'S REPORT was reviewed. President Kraske called for acceptance of the October 24, 2007 minutes. Director Becraft made a motion for the minutes to be accepted. Vice-President Mason seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

##### **ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE**

The ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE chairman Leonard Becraft gave a brief report of the summary of the meeting of the committee. The annual meeting will be held at the Sandy Spring Museum, Montgomery County on April 26 from 8:30-4:30 pm. A bus tour to the Sandy Spring Slave Museum and the

Sandy Spring Quaker Friends House along with two cemeteries have been planned. The cost will be \$28.00 per person and the lunch will be catered by committee member Sandra Wright. Mrs. Wright then handed out menu ideas which were discussed. Hotels are in Columbia for out of town members and guests to stay in. The next meeting of the annual committee meeting will be held on March 8 at 1:00 pm at the Sandy Spring Museum.

#### FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Amanda Becker, chair of the FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE then spoke of the meeting that occurred with the fundraising committee. List of books that the committee would like to purchase along with their prices and discounts that we would receive was distributed among those present at the meeting. Diane Nesmeyer asked if members would receive any discounts on books. More thought needs to be done on this as this would include the other items that we sell. All were in favor of Ms. Becker using the \$500.00 (which was voted in at last meeting) to go ahead and buy the books for the Coalition gift shop.

#### BY-LAW COMMITTEE

Vice-President Mason, chair of the BY-LAW COMMITTEE presented their report. Vice-President Mason was to email President Kraske the revisions of the By-laws with the revisions shown in red. This would be printed and available for all to discuss at the annual meeting.

#### AGENDA/OLD BUSINESS:

President Kraske then requested information of cemeteries that have been in the Coalition's forefront.

The Becraft Family Cemetery in Frederick County has been sold for 1.2 million dollars. Leonard Becraft will find out if this person is willing to allow him access to his family cemetery.

Mt. Auburn in Baltimore City was spoken about by Luann Moorman of Preservation Alliance. Preservation Alliance was formed in May of 2007 for the protection and preservation of Mt. Auburn Cemetery. It has been in a state of disrepair for over twenty years and is in deplorable condition. It is the first African-American Cemetery in Baltimore and on the grounds of Sharp Street Methodist Church who is the "steward" of the cemetery. This nomenclature has to be defined within the boundaries of who actually owns the cemetery. Baltimore City has fined the church for illegal

dumping and a fence was to be put up, but the fence would hurt the already sad state of the cemetery. An engaging and sobering film was shown by Ms. Moorman with Coalition members Leonard Becraft and Robert Mosko participating in it. This condition of the cemetery and the history of its demise is a perfect example of the Coalition's goals and should be an example that can be used to push our ideals forward and save this cemetery at the same time.

After a short break, Candy Warden of the Rosa Bonheur Cemetery shared with the group the Christmas Fete in the Rosa Bonheur Cemetery. It was in December at the above mentioned cemetery. Tents were put up with delicious treats and hot drinks to welcome the visitors. Visitors enjoyed the walks and tours around the Rosa Bonheur Cemetery to see the prolific decorations. This is a great boost to the cemetery since only a few months ago it was in a sad state of external affairs; internal affairs are still being worked on!

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The need for more committee activity was discussed by President Kraske. The committee sheet was passed around for those willing to sign up and participate.

One committee in particular that needs attention is the Community Outreach Committee. Also the Fundraising/Inventory Committee needs more places to sell their wares and make sure that enough inventories are in stock to sell.

Periwinkle Awards Nominee possibilities were then discussed. Joy Turner, Loren Garrison and a person from Aberdeen have been those possibilities.

The Periwinkle awards will be \$75.00 and the awards will be framed. Director Becraft made a motion for this to occur and Director Mason seconded it and the motion carried.

Brought up by President Kraske was the need for re-imburement for expenses incurred attending meetings, etc. supporting CPMBS. Mileage at the IRS rate and food up to \$15.00 was discussed for those helping in CPMBS causes. This was to be spoken about more at the next meeting.

#### Other news of members:

Peerless Rockville has received a grant for Phase IV of the Montgomery County Cemetery Inventory Project and for a brochure (5,000 copies) for the City of Rockville on the history of Rock Creek Cemetery.

The President made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned and Director Mason made a motion for this to occur. Vice-President Mason seconded this. All at the meeting were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Amanda Becker

## HELP!!!

**Help** is needed particularly for information and the preservation of historical burial sites that are in jeopardy within WASHINGTON County!!

Dana D. Eilers, (attorney and author) residing in North Chatham, Massachusetts sent a distressed letter to the Coalition in June 2007 asking for needed assistance in saving the burial site in Marsh Head, Washington County. The Agreed in Peace land tract contains the graves of the Rowland and Funk families who are ascendants of hers as well as others.

Through her research of the catalog of historic cemeteries created in the 1930's by Washington County, the Agreed in Peace land contract (where the Rowland and Funk families are buried) does not list the above mentioned families.

Individuals who have direct knowledge of the "lost" gravesite as well as others who have visited the area have informed Ms. Eilers of the impending dangers to these burials.

The concerns are:

1. Cows and horses have been allowed to trample the graveyard
2. The property is either still for sale or has already been sold
3. The historic burials are actually going to be lost

Ms. Eilers has provided the following link to a forum post for the Agreed in Peace land tract by which to communicate information if registered to post on this forum; if not, then use the e-mail address below

[www.genforum.genealogy.com/cgi-](http://www.genforum.genealogy.com/cgi-bin/pageload.cgi?Marsh,Head::md::11322.html)

[bin/pageload.cgi?Marsh,Head::md::11322.html](http://www.genforum.genealogy.com/cgi-bin/pageload.cgi?Marsh,Head::md::11322.html)

If any help in this matter can be extended, **please e-mail:** [revdana@mindspring.com](mailto:revdana@mindspring.com)

Summarized by B. Kraske

## Newsworthy Items

### Historic Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Source: AGS Quarterly - Summer 2007

Article by Richard F. Welch

Summary: Barbara Manger Kraske

Being the historian and an ardent enthusiast of Manhattan, N. Y., this article intrigued me, for it dates back to the original Dutch settlement of New York City. In 1609 Henry Hudson, an Englishman, but sailing for the Netherlands, founded the Hudson River area and New York City (New Amsterdam) environs (known as New Netherland) for the Dutch. However, these Dutch tended to control the river valleys of the Hudson, Connecticut and Delaware rivers. Any Dutch expansion threatened New England and Middle colonies. In 1664 an English fleet, in fear of this expansion, overwhelmed the Netherland's forces. Thus the New York area became English.

Unfortunately, many of the earliest burial sites were destroyed over the years through the immense growth of population and extensive urban expansion of Manhattan and its close boroughs. However, a rather small number have been saved due to the removal of some burials to other cemeteries such as the Green-Wood. Green-Wood contains markers from both the Dutch Reformed Church and St. Anne's Episcopal Church (colonial English) originally located in Brooklyn.

Having been dated back to 1662 the Dutch Reformed Church on Fulton St. has been considered the oldest churchyard in Brooklyn. Until 1849, when a Brooklyn ordinance forbade further interments, burials definitely continued. In 1860 this Reformed church bought a part of Green-Wood Cemetery. Ancestors or friends of the buried could remove the remains to that destination. Otherwise, the church would complete the work. Due to the same 1849 ordinance, St Ann's burials were also removed to Green-Wood.

Presently Green-Wood records list 181 individuals and 905 unnamed bodies from the Dutch Reformed Church. However, only 76 gravestones are visible. Markers from St. Ann's number 97.

John Zuricher, the historically prominent monument artist, has quite a few markers here. Some include 2 Dutch inscriptions, one in English and one even in Latin. Thomas Brown, an English immigrant and gravestone cutter of the mid-1700's, is also represented here.

So much history and artistry certainly entices many to visit this exceptional cemetery. Let's get out our walking shoes!

## News from the Counties

### Baltimore City

#### Update and Progress at Mt. Auburn

Submitted and Written by LuAnn Moorman

With our consistent and continued advocacy for restoring and preserving Mt. Auburn we have succeeded in:

1. Having Preservation Maryland place Mt. Auburn Cemetery on it's seminar list of events at their Conference at the University of MD in Hagerstown on May 31 at 4pm. All attendance support is encouraged. Morgan University (the church's ally) is hosting this discussion but, we will be voicing our concerns in this open forum environment.

2. Baltimore City, Baltimore Heritage Area and CHAP (Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation) has met with Sharp Street Church concerning the conditions at Mt. Auburn based on the pressure they have received from Preservation Alliance. Sharp Street has been promised monies to create a board and come up with Master Plan. All of which has been assigned to them, unsuccessfully, many times in the past! We are continuing to argue against the church's well documented mis- management of money and oversight

3. We have received a commitment from the City of Baltimore that they will remove all trash and debris from the cemetery

4. With the help of Bill Spoon, Forbes Consulting are finally able to access, for a price, the cemetery records of burial and schematic held at the Schomberg Center for African American History in the New York Public Library. This is a major victory!

Preservation Alliance has begun to:

1. institute a letter writing campaign to the Mayor's Office, the Health Department and the Baltimore Heritage Area to keep Mt. Auburn's recovery in their focus.

2. meet with the families of those interred at the cemetery. We are forming one cohesive, unified, strong voice so that this time they will finally have input on what is occurring at the cemetery and its perpetual care.

We are still strongly advocating Robert Mosko's company as the most experienced contractor to do the 34 acre restoration and preservation of this, the most historic African American cemetery in Baltimore. Robert's team can handle its unique circumstances properly and legally.

### Frederick County

On March 6th, 2008, I was successful in reaching Elizabeth Winters, the new owner of the 54 acre farm in Frederick County on Lime Plant Rd. containing the Peter Becraft Farm of 1747. Mrs. Elizabeth Winters allowed me to visit the Cemetery where Peter Becraft was buried in 1788. His family is also buried there. Amazingly, her husband gave me a key to the front gate. I hope to weedwack the Cemetery of 42 gravesites in the near future.

Quoted & Submitted by Leonard Becraft

### Montgomery County

#### Historic Graveyard to be Part of a Park

Gaithersburg Gazette - Wednesday, September 12, 2007

by Patricia Murret (Staff Writer)

Submitted by Dr. Alvin Bennett Cole, Sr.

The concept of a graveyard being transformed into a more park-like setting is growing. Through heresay and eventual research, unearthed graves have been discovered at a site north of Gaithersburg in Darnestown at Route 28 and Seneca Road in Montgomery County, MD. Darnestown was settled in the mid-1700's. Civil War soldiers and possibly even Darne family members are buried there.

Montgomery County Planning Board agreed in September 2007 to budget \$829,600 for a memorial park for this small cemetery. Designing first this half-acre space (part of a 10 acre area) is Heidi Sussman, a county architect. She is planning a "pedestrian-friendly" garden

memorial park. Featured will be three seating areas, artwork, and several plaques describing the town's history and its role in the Civil War.

In 1995, Darnestown Limited Partnership, a developer, donated the parkland to the county. A study in 1994 by this developer verified the existence of the graveyard. State archeologists with help from a team of Montgomery College students confirmed that this was an eighteenth century burial ground. They believed they had unearthed at least 30 Civil War soldier remains as well as those of William Darne's (town founder) family.

Using manual tools (trowels etc.) as well as backhoes, the state archeologist, Jim Sorensen, with the team was able to indicate the outline of the burial site. They definitely discovered an 1895 coffin and a Civil War 69 caliber smooth bore musket shell.

Union troops might not have actually battled here but it provided a natural occupation and defense spot for them on their way to the battles of Ball's Bluff, Antietam, and Gettysburg. A Civil War author and historian, Greg Clemmer, (also a resident of Darnestown since 1986) was able to document 13 Union regiments camping in this area. Amazingly, Clemmer's research at the National Archives discovered the burial of 15 soldiers belonging to the 27<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry with their name, rank, age, and description. He hopes to have a sandstone monument commemorating by listing all soldiers who died in Darnestown.

Darnestown Heritage Park, the formal name of this spot, aspires to preserve the area for the town's 'gathering spot' and host of events such as the annual Christmas tree lighting. A garden club (Darne Bloomers) has promised to maintain the park's seasonal garden. Sussman prophesizes that this memorial park will generate general improvements in the rest of the 10-acre site.

Summarized by Barbara Kraske

## Up- Coming Events

### **REMEMBER !!! ANNUAL MEETING**

**Sandy Spring Museum  
Old Frederick Road Sandy  
Spring, MD  
Saturday April 26, 2008  
Starting at 8:30 A.M.  
Deadline is April 12, 2008**

**A full day of meetings, speakers and events are planned. Come and enjoy!**

### **Whipps Cemetery**

**St. Johns Lane**

**Daffodil Days**

**Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

**Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> Noon to 4:00 PM**

**Free continuous shuttle from Isacc Log Cabin on Main St. Ellicott City, MD**

### **Whipps Cemetery**

**Annual Plant Sale & Horticultural**

**Education**

**3909 Hawthorn Rd. Ellicott City, MD**

**Saturday May 17, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Sunday May 18, 8:00AM to 4:00 PM**

### **Holy Trinity Cemetery**

**Annual Spring Cleanup**

**Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**rain date is April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**Starts at 10:00 AM and work til Noon**

**Bring rakes and gloves!**

**Light refreshment will be provided.**

**Library Dedication at the Skyesville**

**Gatehouse Museum on Sunday April**

**6<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM to honor Thelma**

**Winner the museum's founder and the**

**library will be named the Purman**

**Memorial reseach Library in honor of**

**Jim Purman**

**Strawberry Festival and Art in the Park**

**Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> 10 AM to 4 PM**

**Enjoy fresh strawberries and work of local artists**

### **New Members This Quarter**

NONE

### **Haunting Humor**

When our beloved minister announced that he was retiring, I couldn't hide my disappointment. "I was planning on Fred burying me." I groaned to a friend.

She replied, "Better hurry up."

--Patricia Livingston Reader's Digest



# 17th Annual Meeting: April 26, 2008

**Where:** Sandy Spring Museum  
 17901 Bentley Road (MD 108)  
 Sandy Spring, Maryland                      Montgomery County  
 Telephone 301-774-0022

**When: Saturday April 26, 2008 (Dr. Bird Room)**

- 8:30 - 9:00 AM refreshments & registration
- 9:00 - 10:15 Business Meeting
- 10:15 - 10:30 Coffee Break
- 10:30 - 11:00 Open Forum
- 11:00 - 12:00 Speaker
- 12:00 - 12:30 Periwinkle Awards & Open Forum
- 12:30 - 1:30 Lunch (on premises)
- 1:30 - 4:30 Field Trip

Open Forum - General Discussions, Open Season on Cemetery Protection/Preservation Topics

**Speakers –**

LuAnn Moorman on Conditions and Status of Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Baltimore

Elizabeth Beth Garretson with her husband Lorne on the Quaker history in Sandy Spring, Quaker Cemetery and Sandy Spring Meeting House- "1832". About 45 minute talk and slide show

School bus tour of slave cemetery, slave museum, Quaker cemetery and meeting house. **Cost:** \$28.00 per person - Includes morning coffee & tea refreshments, noontime buffet lunch

: Business Mtg. - Old Bus., New Bus., Approval of Revised By-Laws, etc.; Election of Officers

**Field Trip:** Tour of Local Cemeteries and Sandy Spring Slave Museum

**Pre-Registration Required!**

Questions? See [www.cpmbs.org](http://www.cpmbs.org)  
Contacts: Gerhardt Kraske at (410) 730-8278

**Deadline April 12, 2007**

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**Yes, sign me up for the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites' Annual Meeting on April 26, 2008!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Send check for \$28.00 per person, payable to CPMBS. Mail check with this form to:**

Mrs. Barbara Kraske, Treasurer  
9425 Dartmouth Road  
Columbia, MD 21045

\*\*\*\*\***Deadline: April 12, 2008**\*\*\*\*\*