

Coalition Courier

*"To build the future,
we do not have to destroy the past"*



Volume 25, Number 1, Spring 2018

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COALITION CALENDAR

Statewide Cemetery Conference & Annual Meeting

- May 5, 2018
Towson

Whipps Annual Plant Sale

- May 11, 2018
Ellicott City
www.whippsgardencemetery.org

Board of Directors Meeting

- June 16, 2018
See website for details

Next Trader Foundation grant application deadline

- July 1, 2018

27th Statewide Conference and Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 5, 2018

Join cemetery caregivers, volunteers, and advocates for a day of education, fun, and collegiality! Morning sessions feature Maryland experts eager to share their knowledge and experiences, and to engage with the audience. First, a panel of local government preservation planners and archaeologists will showcase ways in which their Maryland counties have chosen to identify, protect, and preserve burial grounds in their jurisdictions ...and not. What laws are in place, and how are they practiced? How do they handle situations involving burial grounds? How do they keep track of cemeteries? How do volunteers and advocates get involved?

Then, Glenn Wallace, advocate and project coordinator for a county cemetery survey currently in progress, will speak about documenting and mapping historic Maryland burial grounds. His experience with up-to-date technology shows how everyone can do this and then make information accessible to all.

Opportunities to present issues and discuss concerns at Open Forum are a regular feature of this gathering, as are a short business meeting, a delicious hot lunch, and a tombstone dessert. Our silent auction and gift shop will be open for business. Deserving volunteers will be honored with the coveted Periwinkle Award. The day will conclude with a special tour of nearby historic Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Sheppard Pratt Conference Center is located in Baltimore County. The facility is lovely, with plenty of parking. Cost for the day is \$50 per person for Coalition members, \$55 for non-members. Please reserve your space by April 30.

Pass this information along to colleagues, friends, and other Marylanders!



2018 Maryland Burial Sites Legislation

In a session where major issues of gun control, school safety and funding, climate change and medical coverage captured the headlines, the General Assembly took time to protect Maryland's history and sacred burial sites. The effort required 2 bold sponsors, a core group of resolute advocates, 5 House and Senate committees, and hundreds of emails and calls to pass the first burial sites legislation since the 1990s. Gov. Hogan's signature is still required.

While half of our proposed changes did not survive in committees, CPMBS is happy to report that starting on June 1, 2018, descendants and caretakers will gain easier access, owners will be required to consult with the Maryland Historical Trust about conservation treatment, and counties and towns are now authorized to provide a property tax credit related to burial sites.

Appreciation goes to bill sponsors Del. Tony Knotts and Sen. Joan Carter Conway, to the Maryland Association of Counties, David Zinner, Funeral Consumers Alliance, The War of 1812 Society in Maryland, and to all Marylanders who urged legislators to improve state law for the benefit of abandoned and neglected cemeteries. See www.cpmbs.org for details.

Major Actions of the CPMBS Board of Directors Spring, Summer, and Fall 2017 and Winter 2018 Meetings

The Board met on APRIL 1, 2017 in Columbia, JULY 15 and NOVEMBER 18, 2018 in Savage, and on FEBRUARY 3, 2018 at Glenwood Library. Quorums and guests were present at all meetings. Draft minutes were approved and Treasurer's reports accepted.

Trader Foundation to Preserve Maryland Burial Sites:

During this year the new nonprofit conducted two more grant cycles, approving awards to six worthy applicants. Work accomplished by early grantees confirms the need for and wisdom of this funding source.

Six to Fix project: CPMBS entered into a partnership with Preservation Maryland, the state's nonprofit. Work items included recording a podcast, co-sponsoring a session at the Montgomery County History Conference, assisting with a legislative initiative, recording parts of our conference, and conducting a hands-on documentation and work session in Charles County. After this one-year program concluded in November 2017, the parties agreed to continue cooperating.

CPMBS Annual Meeting: The 2017 statewide conference was held on April 29 at St. James Episcopal Church in Lothian,

Anne Arundel County. Elections were held, By-Laws were amended, and presentations on "Reclaiming the Forgotten in Institutional Cemeteries" and "What is Happening Now in Cemetery Conservation?" by Dennis Montagna, Tina Simmons, and Robert Mosko were well received. Gary Meyers, author of *A Pigeon Named Pete*, donated sales, the Open Forum was animated, and Raven's Roost sales and the Silent Auction went well. James Hinds of Anne Arundel County received the 2017 Periwinkle Award, and all enjoyed the walk around historic St. James church and cemetery.

Initiatives: The Board agreed to partner with cemetery advocates and other interests to develop strategies for introducing burial site legislation in the 2018 General Assembly session. It also considered a proposed joint venture between OCO, MD Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, and CPMBS to train prisoners to restore and maintain cemeteries. Coalition members volunteered for these efforts.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Carson, secretary

News From The Counties

Anne Arundel Genealogical Society activities in 2017

2017 was busy for the AAGS cemetery group. Activities included inscription days, educational programs, tours, advocacy, reuniting descendants with ancestors, research and documentation, problem-solving on behalf of burial sites, and conducting work sessions.

During this year, cemetery chair Tina Simmons was able to verify information and add four new burial sites to her list of known Anne Arundel cemeteries. She spoke to interested groups and led two Inscription Days at large commercial cemeteries.

The group extends its interests beyond the county line. In April Dennis Green, Bridget Blake, and Tina Simmons helped to mount the Coalition conference in Lothian, where Tina spoke and Mt. Calvary cemetery in Brooklyn Park was recognized with a Periwinkle Award. In October, Dennis and Tina worked with the Six to Fix project in Charles County. They assisted Mt. Hope Missionary Baptist Church and a nearby family cemetery by finding 75 years of death certificates, published genealogy and historical society inscriptions, and a former church trustee's ledger. They added 330 individuals to the 250 tombstones

in the cemetery and gathered oral histories from long-time church members. Field trips to area cemeteries continued, as did Dennis' tour for refuge volunteers at Patuxent Research Refuge.

In addition to society members, 2017 participants included Latter Day Saints missionaries, students, descendants of families buried in Anne Arundel cemeteries, and neighbors from the areas in which the group was working. Rewards for these hardy volunteers came in different forms. Tina brought together the descendant of a slave and the descendant of the owner's family at a church where that slave's family had given land to found the church and cemetery. A college student learned about types of grave markers at an African American cemetery, then cleared off and cleaned a few of



Tina Simmons at St. Anne's in Annapolis

them. The society assisted with clean-up work and conservation recommendations, in one case resolving a situation before it became a problem. The group intervened to protect an orphan cemetery that had been the neighborhood dumping ground for decades. Although discouraged by heavy equipment being used in the cemetery, they are prepared to return to clean up.



2018 CEMETERY CONFERENCE

Where: Sheppard Pratt Conference Center, 6501 N. Charles Street, Towson, MD

When: Saturday, May 5, 2018

Registration, morning refreshments, and silent auction open at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting starts at 9:15 a.m. Day ends at 3:30 p.m.

Registration: Coalition member: \$ 50 Non-member: \$ 55

Non-members: Join the Coalition by adding your dues to the member registration fee.

Dues are \$5 students, \$10 individuals, \$15 for households, \$20 organization.

Registration includes: Continental breakfast, speakers, Open Forum, hot lunch, afternoon snack, and guided walk through historic Prospect Hill Cemetery

Questions: Kristin Kraske rebelkris@comcast.net

coalitionpmbs@gmail

Silent auction donations: Sandra Wright swrightplace@msn.com 301-520-9557

*Please pass this information along to colleagues, friends,
and other interested Marylanders !*



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Deadline for Advance Registration is April 30, 2018

Name(s) : _____

Organization
if applicable: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

I have enclosed the registration fee for _____ members _____ non-member. \$ _____

Yes, I want to become a member and have added
dues of \$5 students, \$10 individuals, \$15 for households, \$20 organization..... \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please mail your check, payable to CPMBS, with this form to:
Dave Mills, Treasurer, 210 South Walnut Street, Milford, DE 19963

Registration fee may be paid on line at www.cpmbs.org



May we interest you in serving on the CPMBS Board of Directors?

- Rewards are:
- meet 5 times a year with like-minded volunteers from around Maryland
 - create opportunities to assist cemetery caregivers and advocates
 - reach out to needy burial sites
 - recognize and celebrate great projects and people
- Contact Eileen McGuckian at phileen3@verizon.net



Coalition Courier
 P. O. Box 1533
 Ellicott City, MD 21041-1533

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**Statewide Cemetery Conference
 & Annual Meeting • May 5, 2018**
Good news from the Maryland General Assembly



Silent Auction Donation
for May 5, 2018 annual meeting

1. Item(s): _____

2. Detailed Description Of Item Or Service: _____

3. Estimated Value:..... \$ _____

4. Suggested Minimum Bid:..... \$ _____

5. Would you like to have a reserve option... your choice to withdraw item if not sold above this amount? Yes / No

6. Delivery: How will item reach CPMBS by May 5?

7. Additional Details or Arrangements Needed:

Donor Information

8. Name: _____

9. Address: _____

10. Email: _____

11. Phone: (_____) _____

Questions: **Sandra Wright** 301-520-9557
 Email information to: swrightplace@msn.com