



Coalition Courier

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

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15th Annual Meeting, April 22, 2006
at Ocean City.



Captain William Carhart's Gravestone located on Indian Knoll Road and Windy Lane in West Ocean City and the members visiting his gravesite.



The Annual Meeting



Barbara Sieg awarding Jim Trader
his Periwinkle Award

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Paul Miller receiving his award.



Your 2006-2007 Board Members.

From left front row: Amy Majors, Barbara Kraske, Ann Bolt, and Barbara Sieg. Back row from left: George Horvath, Jim Trader, Gary Kraske, and Kristin Kraske.

Minutes of the 15th Annual Meeting of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites

April 22nd, 2006 at the Holiday Inn on 67th Street, Ocean City, Maryland the Coalition hosted their 15th annual meeting. At 9:30 am President James Trader made opening remarks of "returning to our roots on the Eastern Shore". (The 2nd annual meeting was held in Ocean City in 1993.) President Trader welcomed the 27 members and guests to the day's activities. President Trader called the meeting to order and by a show of hands asked board members to announce their attendance. Seven board members made up the quorum: President James Trader; Vice-President Paul Miller; Treasurer Gerhardt Kraske; Secretary Amanda Becker; board members Ann Bolt; George Horvath; and Barbara Sieg. Excused absences were Robert Lyons, Melvin Mason, Thomas Ma-

son, and Edward Taylor.

MINUTES: The minutes of the January 2006 Quarterly Board Meeting we approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND PROPOSED BUDGET: Treasurer Kraske was asked by the President to present the **TREASURE'S REPORT OF 15TH JANUARY 2006, ANNUAL REPORT, AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2006-2007**. Treasurer Kraske stated that the bank balance as of April 21st, 2006 was \$7,936.85. **ANNUAL REPORT** - postage had increased and mailing expenses in turn have risen. He also reported that the Bank of America account was adding charges for check fees and their representatives were "uncooperative" in helping to delete these charges. The treasurer suggested selling items at more events and to be aware to charge the five percent tax at said events. Averages of the last three years were expenses \$2,582.83 and income \$3,116.36. Donations and sales from previous January meeting were \$212.00 and \$130.00. Annual meeting income was \$600.00. **PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2006-2007** is expenses -\$2,500 and income of \$3,350.00. Treasurer Kraske gave a power point presentation and paper handouts of reports. President Trader thanked Treasurer Kraske for his work as treasurer.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT was then given by Kristin Kraske who handed out membership lists. She stated that we have 104 members with 88 being paying members. Gained 6 members this quarter and gained 16 members this past year. Ms. Kraske phoned members who had not renewed to invite them back, and will contact former members from the past to rejoin. Events helpful in obtaining new members have been Montgomery County Happy Birthday Celebration and St. Mary's POW Day. Members suggested new events to attend such as Kent Island Days and Burtonsville Days. Barbara Sieg suggested that members watch for local events in which to share Coalition information. Ms. Kraske stated that the events which have no set up fee would be helpful to the Coalition. (Such as conferences, historic events, school fairs, and genealogical events.) All members need to contribute to this endeavor to ensure the Coalition's message is disseminated to the public and to obtain

new members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ARCHIVES - Ann Horvath stated that the Coalition needs a room to keep materials, items to sell, tables, displays, file cabinets, etc. Vice-President Miller offered office space which the Coalition accepted.

COURIER/WEBSITE COMMITTEE - Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer. Diane requested members help write summaries for the Courier about articles on cemeteries. Copyright laws do not allow printing of entire articles in Courier. Ann Horvath and Barbara Kraske offered to help. Every member is encouraged to help provide articles and other cemetery-related information. Barbara Sieg suggested that a member from each county or area be in charge of article searches.

FAMILY REMEMBRANCE WEEK - Barbara Kraske is working on receiving proclamation from Governor Erhlich's office. Barbara Sieg suggested having the Governor sign it on a television spot to promote this event.

FUNDRAISING/INVENTORY COMMITTEE - Kistin Kraske stated our sales have been slim and last years annual meeting had the most item sales of the year. We have depleted our inventory of "*Iconography of Death*" books and first run of tote bags. We are hoping to sell the modern tote bags and the updated pages for the Coalition kits which Barbara Sieg is working on.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. President Trader reported on the FLIN-GARNER CEMETERY-CARROLL COUNTY. Owner, Mrs. Freeman, did not want to pursue the court case. This has caused the Coalition to lose an important precedent setting piece.

2. INTERCOUNTY CONNECTOR-MONTGOMERY/PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTIES. President Trader wrote to state highway and sent copy to Governor's office. No response until an offer from our attorney to begin an injunction to stop work was made. Received six page letter by state highway administrator. They are aware of the Coalition's concerns.

3. SNOWDEN FAMILY CEME-

TERY/PATUXENT RESEARCH CENTER-ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY. There are nine cemeteries at this research center, Snowden being one of them. Jim Trader wrote the Manager of the Patuxent Research Refuge, sent copies to Congressman Wayne Gilchrest, and Secretary of Interior -no responses. Coalition lawyer is being instructed to petition the court on this matter.

4. BOY SCOUT CEMETERY HANDBOOK/GUIDELINES PROJECT-Barbara Sieg suggested to the Baltimore Area Council that the Coalition help to establish a handbook to aid the boy scouts in learning about, restoring, etc. cemeteries. This would help scouts gain valuable knowledge for their Boy Scout badges/projects. She will write letter and send Coalition Kits to Maryland and National Councils to share the Coalition's message. This project should also be shared with the Girl Scouts.

5. ROSA BONHEUR CEMETERY/ELKRIDGE-Received two emails asking for help to fix this cemetery. Barbara called the Howard County zoning and until something terrible happens to the cemetery they will not do anything. The owner does not care and would like to sell it.

6. PORTABLE DISPLAY UNIT UPDATE-Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer willing to update it (want to add pocket for brochures) and share it at the Association for Gravestone Studies conference in June.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. PROPOSED BY-LAWS AMENDMENT, ARTICLE V, ITEM C, OFFICERS, ELECTION/TERM IN OFFICE. Revisions of this action were sent by the President to officers and board members. Discussions were held at length and President Trader called for action as the way by-laws are written we could not vote in officers this year. Barbara Sieg, board member, made a motion to amend Article V, Item C that officers shall be held to no more than four consecutive terms. Treasurer Gerhardt Kraske seconded. Seven officers and board members agreed, none opposed, motion carried.

2. NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2006-2007: Committee for this were Ann Horvath, Kristin Kraske and Jim Trader.

Nominations for Officers:

President-Barbara Sieg, Howard

Vice President-Gerhardt Kraske, Howard

Secretary-Amy Majors, Howard

Treasurer-Barbara Kraske, Howard

Board Members:

Ann Bolt, Montgomery; George Horvath, Carroll; Kristin Kraske, Howard; Robert Lyons, Baltimore; Thomas Mason, Prince George's; Melvin Mason, Prince George's; Paul Miller, Howard; Edward Taylor, Allegany; and James Trader, Wicomico.

Gerhardt Kraske made motion for approval of nominations and George Horvath seconded it. All were in favor, no opposed, motion carried. Gerhardt Kraske made motion for approval of election of slate of officers, George Horvath seconded it, all were in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

3. Future meeting dates: July 15, 2006; October 14, 2006; January 13, 2007, and April 28, 2007, the Annual Meeting.

All meetings to be held at 1:00pm at Miller Library with the exception of the April 28, 2007, being the annual meeting. If a necessary change occurs for the above meeting dates it will be added to the Courier and the Website and Officers and Board Members will be notified.

OTHER ITEMS:

1. Adding records of Montgomery County inventory on website.

2. Make sure planning and zoning assessments and taxation forms for cemeteries be given to each Maryland county.

3. Share copy of Cemetery Laws and have letter written by our lawyer as plan of help for cemeteries in danger.

4. Coalition has had an effect on Inter-County Connector officials, but action should be watched closely as with all the other pressing cemetery issues.

5. Barbara Sieg presented idea for members to think about present plaques for cemeteries - worded example- (The preservation of this Mary-

land cemetery (name), (circa) enhances the purpose of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc., est. 1991)

PERIWINKLE AWARDS-

Framed certificates and blooming periwinkle plants were given out by Barbara Sieg, from the Periwinkle award committee, to:

1. JAMES TRADER who has worked immensely on finding and documenting Eastern Shore cemeteries with exhaustive deed searches and information given to officials.

2. PAUL MILLER who has quietly worked on the St. John's Cemetery in Elliott City and who has given time and energy to Coalition causes.

3. AUDREY BAGBY (unable to attend) She was the FIRST Coalition Courier newsletter editor which has enabled the Courier to continue fourteen volumes later!

4. ATWOOD BARWICK (unable to attend) He worked behind the scenes in Coalition projects, wrote the green membership forms which have promoted the Coalition, and battled in Annapolis for cemetery law changes.

5. IONA AND RONALD BRADLEY (unable to attend) Allowed use of their water, electricity and watchful eyes for the Whipps Cemetery which is located next door to their house.

President Trader thanked everyone for attending and participating this past year. The annual Meeting was adjourned at 11:35am.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Becker, Secretary

The annual meeting was followed by program speakers, Barbara Sieg (Rehabilitating An Historic Cemetery), and James Trader (Methods to Record Burial Sites). A nice lunch was followed at the Sterling Grill at the Holiday Inn. After lunch a field trip was made to West Ocean City. Although it was a rainy weekend, the skies rested as we visited Captain William Carhart's grave.

President's Message

I read Jim Trader's "farewell" President's Message in the Spring Courier with gratitude and full appreciation of what he meant in his suggested personal

epitaph, "He Tried". Certainly, ours is not always a popular "cause", and the road is not easy. But I think we would all say of Jim, "He Tried and He Accomplished". What better goal could we have for ourselves as the Coalition begins a new year of striving and achievement!

I am honored to be serving as your president once again. I was the Coalition's first president, back in 1991 -- a long time ago -- and I am confident I will not be the last. I feel confident that our mission is right, and necessary, and will prevail.

For the year ahead, I have two main priorities: 1) Set definite, realistic goals and accomplish them, and 2) Draw closer together as a group of dedicated groups and individuals throughout our State. We need better communication between our members and greater involvement, however small, of each one of us in the Coalition's activities.

We have some big issues to deal with: 1) Do we push for legislation to remove the double standard in the law for re-locating burial sites? 2) Do we draft and promote the passage of legislation to protect burial sites in cemeteries interring both people and pets? 3) Do we involve our organization in legislation to insure the over-sight and on-going maintenance of active burial sites? (The mandate set for the Office of Cemetery Oversight is due to expire shortly.) And, of course, there are many other important programs to continue: the establishment, county by county, of cemetery inventories and cemetery preservation boards. So we have a lot of work to do!

In closing, let me express the Coalition's gratitude to Board member Paul Miller for providing an office in Ellicott City for us to store our archives and records. We will be "moving in" over the next few months. This step lends a sense of permanence to the Coalition as a meaningful historic preservation organization in Maryland.

Now, members everywhere—remember: We need your input and involvement. Call or write me with your ideas!

Barbara Sieg

Editors' Corner

We mentioned in the last issue about the unpredictable weather. Well, the last gasp of winter sure

brought some gorgeous spring weather. We spent many weekends working in the garden enjoying the temperatures and sunshine. We sure wish we had could have spent those days in a cemetery though. The yard looks nice now, just as the heat has moved in to claim the summer months. We enjoy cemeteries but we sure have to pause before deciding to go trekking in one during the heat and humidity of the summer. We will have a nice cemetery experience to tell in our next article.

The Association for Gravestone Studies Conference is now history. This was the sixth conference we have attended (29th for the AGS) and it was the best yet, at least for us. Each year the AGS is able to outperform the conference of the year before. There were 135 people in attendance with a record number of "first timers". I believe the first timers numbered 41 or 42. I heard from Melvin Mason that the demographics of AGS membership are shifting away from New England. In fact the Mid-Atlantic region now has the highest number of members. As a result of this shift we may see more conferences outside of the New England area. Other members of the Coalition in attendance were Melvin and Thomas Mason and Ann Brockett. Ann made a presentation about the Montgomery County Cemetery Inventory Project at the late night session. Way to go Ann!

Ann hopes to be able to write an article for an upcoming issue of the *Courier* about the AGS conference. We hope to include some pictures of Laurel Hill and West Laurel Hill Cemeteries (Philadelphia) in a future issue, as well as our experiences during the conference.

We want to thank Barbara Sieg, Melvin Mason, Ann Horvath, Barbara Kraske, Kristin Campbell, Scott Lawrence, and Amanda Becker for their contributions to this issue.

Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer

Massey Graveyard, Worcester County Update

Several years ago former member Lance Dorsey brought to my attention that the land most famously known as Glen Riddle Farms in Worcester County was being developed for houses and possibly a golf course. He was concerned because his

ancestors had been slaves on the old 18th-19th century plantation that originally enclosed the area, and he knew there was a family graveyard on the property.

The family included the Masseys. Glen Riddle Farms, developed from Massey land in the early 20th century, was famous for being a yearling training center for the racehorses of Samuel Riddle, most notably his legendary Man O'War. Trainers and riders from the farm recalled a graveyard within the training track; few knew much about it, and some assumed it was for horses or some people from Glen Riddle. However, the graveyard was older than that, including Masseys up to the 1860s.

There was much concern from both gravesite and horse-racing enthusiasts (I am part of the latter, as well) that important features of Glen Riddle Farms would be preserved. As it happened I accidentally got in contact with the famous racing photographer, Barbara Livingston, who had just happened to be taking pictures of the old farm before it was developed. She told of the graveyard as well, and said she was quite certain it wasn't for horses or anyone from Glen Riddle. Indeed, it was in the infield of the track.

When returning from this year's 15th Annual Meeting in Ocean City, my family and I decided to see what was happening at Glen Riddle. It is now officially a new housing and golf course development called Glen Riddle Farms. Many houses are up and a golf course is up and running. Some of the training stables are incorporated into the country clubs and other community amenities. We noticed that an oval road exists which obviously navigates the old training track (called Maid at Arms Lane – for a daughter of Man O'War). The golf course covers part of this area, but new houses are being put up around the "track". Shortly after the latest houses, we spotted the graveyard. Now it is out in the open – you can't miss it! It is only about 100 yards from the road. The only trees remaining in the area are in the graveyard. We found that most of the marked graves are of Masseys and direct relatives, maybe 15 spots in all. However, the site must be much larger, as the developers put an iron fence around a sizeable piece of ground and

the marked graves were on one side. The fence is obviously new, and we applaud the developers for putting a nice new delineator in place for the site. It seems the old graveyard is in good standing after all.

Kristin Kraske, 6/13/06

Unique Method to Defray Costs of Burial

Summary of Article in the Baltimore Examiner on 4/24/06 by David Dishneau

Various organizations have been formed to lower burial costs for family/friends' survivors. Usually these associations collect minimal annual membership dues to disperse to heirs upon a loved one's burial. In turn, the survivors are requested to donate \$1.00 or more to replenish the fund for others. This extension of money can be utilized for either funeral or monument expenses.

This interesting mode of an inexpensive insurance program began in the United States in the late 1800's mostly through the efforts of blue-collar workers in the NorthEast and African American communities in the South. Presently, there are a declining number of such associations in Maryland, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. The Hub City Burial Association, located in Hagerstown, MD, was initiated in 1945 by employees of the former Western Maryland Railroad. Unfortunately, the Hub City Association has also lost more than one-half of its membership.

Perhaps more publicity will arouse much interest in families, companies, communities, etc. to organize new or sustain existing programs. Such privately sponsored avenues offer creative simplistic insurance to so many Americans who could use a little more financial security and peace of mind when they have to face the inevitable financial expense.

Submitted by Barbara Kraske

Correspondence from Atwood Barwick

Atwood Barwick was one of the recipients of the 2006 Periwinkle Awards. The following note was received from him and forwarded for inclusion in this newsletter:

To the Members and Officials of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites:

I wish to thank you for honoring me with your

Periwinkle Award. Although it has been a number of years since I was actively involved with the Coalition, I still recall the adventures we shared in pursuit of our ambitious goals. We may have aimed a bit too high, but in doing so we made visible many aspects of burial site practices and problems in Maryland that might have remained unnoticed. Hopefully, the cause which you have pioneered will continue in many of these and other directions in the future.

I regret that I was unable to accept my award in person, but time takes its toll. The honor was appreciated.

Sincerely,
Atwood S. Barwick

CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

Melvin and Thomas Mason and Jeff and I would like to determine the interest of the members in attending a conservation workshop this fall. We don't have a date or a cemetery location at this time however, if there is a sufficient number of members interested in attending then we will plan to hold the workshop sometime after the temperatures cool off.

Please contact us at nesmeyer@erols.com or masonbrothers@masonbrothers.com not later than August 1, 2006 to let us know that you are interested in attending a workshop. Please include a telephone number in your e-mail.

News From the Counties

Allegany County News

During May and June members of the Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization have been very busy taking care of their nine affiliated cemeteries. Members have placed flowers, wreaths, and historic flags at nearly seven hundred other gravesites located in other cemeteries. Many of these gravesites are marked with monuments that have been restored and erected since 1983 by the organization.

The organization has held several memorial services and tours of historic cemeteries, during Memorial Day Week and Cumberland's annual historic festival "Heritage Days".

CHCO President Edward W. Taylor, Jr. noted that

through our tours we can point out to the public why these important religious and historic landmarks need to be preserved. They are landmarks to our American Western Culture. Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization contact: 301-722-4624 or website www.chco-online.org

Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization member Dr. Paul Snow assisted by members Simon and Leland Taylor placed flowers on the grave of nine year old Gary Snow. Gary is the son of Dr. Paul and Mrs. Faye Snow. The grave is located in the small Hinkle-Snow Cemetery adopted by the CHCO in 1989. The cemetery is located on Hinkle Road east of the City of Cumberland.

Edward W. Taylor, Jr.

Dr. Paul Snow with Simon and Leland Taylor



Carroll County News

Some wonderful events and some sad ones.

Memorial Day was celebrated in Westminster with the annual parade, followed by a ceremony at the Westminster Cemetery.

After these events, members of the Pipe Creek Civil War Round Table group held a ceremony at the recently erected tombstone of Pvt. Earnest Kohler. In our last newsletter, we told the story of this man for whom a marker had never been placed at his grave. Members of the above group collected money for a tombstone and erected it there a few weeks ago. At the ceremony, the story of his life was repeated, flowers were placed at the grave and the program completed with a 21 gun salute. Members of the Pipe Creek Civil War Round Table

group attended in period costume.



Another interesting story involves the Carroll County Genealogy Society and resulted in an article and photograph in the *Westminster Eagle* and the *Eldersburg Eagle*.

Ann Horvath, President of the Carroll County Genealogical Society received a call a few weeks ago from a Mr. Jack Andrews who stated he had left a tombstone at the Westminster Library for the society. This tombstone had been at Frostburg University for a couple of years and someone there did some research that indicated that it belonged in Carroll County. Mr. Andrews brought the stone with him to Carroll County while visiting family members in the area.

It was a small tombstone that had marked the grave of a Hilda Stoner who died July 25, 1886 at the age of 5 months and 6 days. A Genealogical Society member checked the Cemetery books (books published by the society of the cemeteries copied in Carroll County) and quickly found that this stone came from Stone Chapel Cemetery near New Windsor.

The treasurer of the Stone Chapel cemetery, Mildred Harmon was contacted. She felt that the stone had probably been removed at the time of some other vandalism about 2 years ago.

The stone has since been returned to the church, but will have to wait for funds and repair expertise before it can be returned to the graveyard. It had been pulled off the metal rods attaching it to the base and parts of the corners are missing.

(We all know how much of a struggle it can be to maintain cemeteries. Vandalism makes it a more difficult problem, but we appreciate the return of the stone.)

After 2 nice events, it is sad to report that a house has been put up on the Flinn Garner cemetery in Finksburg:

Submitted by Ann Parry Horvath



Howard County

Barbara Sieg is working with two Boy Scouts in doing cemetery clean-up/preservation projects for their Eagle award. They are Mike Suydam with Troop 1197 who is working at the Gary Memorial Methodist Church cemetery in Ellicott City and John Balon with Troop 649 who is working at the Cooke Family Cemetery in Oakland Mills in Columbia. Way to go, boys! (Incidentally, both boys have found our Cemetery Preservation Kit very helpful.)

Barbara Sieg

Kent County News

Founding member Atwood Barwick sends us a clipping from Millington about the clean-up of an historic Quaker burial ground that dates from 1789. The work was done by area Quakers from Kent County, Easton and Camden, Delaware, along with non-Quaker volunteers from Millington. The organizers of the clean-up recently asked the Millington Town Council if the town would be interested in taking over the property to use as a park.

[The following is an article concerning the same site.]

Quaker Graveyard Could Become Park

Summary of Article, April 30, 2006 in the *Kent News*, by Kevin Hemstock

An old Quaker burial ground has been poorly maintained. Millington in Kent Co. MD had a history of a rather large Quaker population probably in the 1700's through the middle 1800's. In fact, the town was originally called Gilpinton after a Thomas Gilpin (member of the Society of Friends) who came originally from Philadelphia. He owned most of the land within the village border and died in 1778. It would not be surprising that he and his family moved away from Pennsylvania during the pre-Revolutionary era. That state had a large number of Quakers who probably found it quite uncomfortable to be involved in this pre-Revolutionary era. Their beliefs ran counter to the expectations of their colony. They refused to take oaths to assume public office and declined to enlist in the militia.

Joanne Scott and Tom Truitt, representing the Chester River Meeting, assumed responsibility for enlisting other volunteers to clean this small cemetery. They also approached the Town Council to possibly assist them. Councilman George Mitchell enthused that "there are a half dozen of us who would like to clean it up and keep it that way. Even Mayor Dennis Hager offered his pick-up truck to haul vegetative debris to the dump.

To provide more constant maintenance, a suggestion was made to the town that the Society of Friends might be interested in transferring the site to the town. Councilwoman Massey replied that the town would consider such an offer. When presented to the Quaker group, it indicated it would like to have a historical marker on the property. Thus exists a strong possibility of the town establishing the area as a park.

Submitted by Barbara Kraske

St. Mary's County

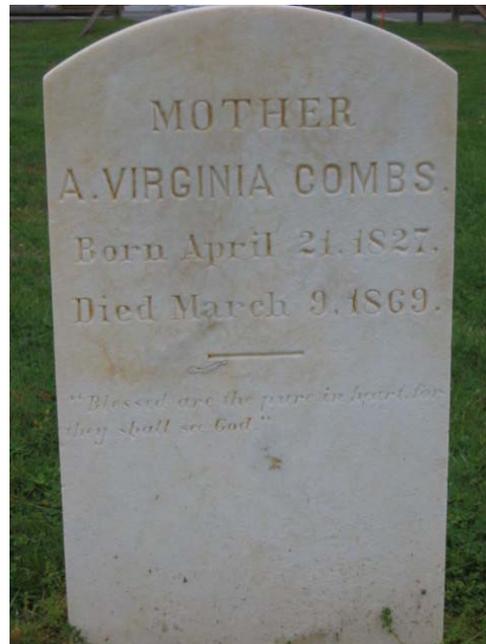
(From April 16, 2006) Just a quick update...St. Nicholas now has 53 stones repaired and re-erected. Partnering with Kory Smith of Orchard Excavations, the largest stone found to date has been recovered and re-erected.

Scott Lawrence

Home: 301-863-5907

graveconcerns@gmpexpress.net

[Ed. Note: Scott sent along the following pictures of the great work he and Kory Smith are doing at St. Nicholas. Jeff and I had hoped to visit the cemetery before the AGS Conference but work and other commitments got in the way. We should be able to visit before the fall.]



Seen on a tee-shirt at the recent AGS Conference: An angel flying and blowing a horn with the words: "I told you I was sick".



[Ed. Note: Now we can see what marble stones look like when they are first installed. The Beal marker to the left is in pristine shape except for the staining from the clay soil.]

Wicomico County

A Potter's Field in Salisbury MD?

Summary of Article by Brice Stump, a Daily Times Staff Writer on 4/23/06

Hard to believe? This is not a tale from the "Old West". Yes, the City of Salisbury actually owns this Salisbury Public Cemetery also known as Potter's Field.

James Trader, through his tireless efforts, (past president of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites CPMBS) has researched the history of this "forgotten" cemetery and has awakened the city to meet their obligations to maintain this site properly. For too many years the public could only conjecture as to the ownership of this property.

The earliest record appears to be an 1841 Worcester county deed transferring three acres to the trustees of the Salisbury Public Cemetery by Sarah Huston (widow of Dr. John Huston), one-time

Park Service Investigating Grave Robbery in Maryland

June 11, 2006 Prince William Extra to the Washington Post

By Linda Wheeler

In 1875 when Mary Ohr passed away, her husband Charles purchased an expensive coffin that contained a glass viewing window. In April 2006 someone, more than likely a group of someones [sic], dug through the clay soil, heaved the coffin out of the five-foot hole they had dug and over a three-foot iron fence, and then carried it out of the isolated area. The crime was committed within the boundaries of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park near Hancock, in a cemetery located on land that contains the ruins of the Thomas Brent estate. One can only get to this site on foot after maneuvering through high grass and avoiding bramble briars.

A couple of mushroom hunters came upon the scene and contacted the National Park Service. The several piles of earth around the grave were freshly dug so the perpetrators had just recently committed the theft, may be with the idea that no one would come upon the isolated scene for some-time.

The Park Service is unsure what was taken from the grave so they don't know what they should be looking for on eBay and other places where such artifacts can be sold.

NPS archaeologists have searched the site and documented the damage. Some buttons and bone, wood, and glass fragments have been recovered. Other investigators have found holes near the ruins of the Brent estate that are consistent with the use of metal detectors.

"The Park Service is asking the public for help in identifying those responsible for robbing Mary Ohr's grave. A reward of \$1,000 is offered for assistance in the arrest and conviction of the responsible person or people.

The agency is also appealing for help in finding any descendants of Ohr. Her parents were David and Ann Blackwell of Prince William County, and her husband was Charles H. Ohr, who died in 1903 and was buried with Masonic honors in Rose

Hill Cemetery in Cumberland.

The Park Service's 24-hour, toll-free tip number is 866-677-6677, or call Peabody, the acting chief ranger, at 301-714-2222."

Summary by Diane Nesmeyer

Maryland Historical Trust Announces Friends Burial Ground, Baltimore City added to the National Register for Historic Places

Fall 2005 Issue of *The Phoenix* and www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net/

On January 1, 2005 the Friends Burial Ground was listed on the National Register for Historic Places.

The earliest cemetery in Baltimore City is the Friends Burial Ground found on Harford Road located in what is now the eastern section of the city. [Ed. Note: We checked maps and believe it is across the street from Clifton Park Golf Course near St. Lo Drive.] The cemetery was established in 1713 and remains in use today. There are approximately 1900 grave markers on the 2.8 acres of land.

"The burial ground is significant for its design and the rows of low, simple grave markers that are typical of the Quaker cemeteries of the 18th and 19th centuries. The burial ground also derives additional significance for its association with the Quaker community whose members played a disproportionately influential role in the early economic and cultural development of Baltimore."

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

Epitaphs Wanted:

Many times we end up with a small space such as this that needs to be filled. Since a picture does not usually fit we thought an epitaph would be appropriate. If you have any interesting, funny, or moving epitaph or epitaphs please submit to the Editors so we can draw from this collection as the need arises.

Your Editors

The Courier

The Coalition Courier is published quarterly by the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc., P. O. Box 1533, Ellicott City, Maryland 21041, (410) 772-8602. Members of the Coalition receive the Courier as part of their membership which runs from June 1 through May 31st of each year. Individual memberships are \$10.00, household memberships are \$15, student memberships (grade 12 and under) are \$5, and organizational memberships are \$20.00 per year. Dues should be mailed to the Membership Chairperson at the address listed above.

The President, Board of Directors, and the Courier editors encourage all members to submit articles to the Courier. They further invite members to write to the Courier with questions or comments about any topic that pertains to burial sites. The topics can include preservation, protection, restoration and maintenance, historical and cultural significance, and documentation. They are also looking for questions or comments you may have about the Coalition. The questions, answers, and comments will be printed in future editions of the Courier. This is an opportunity for you to learn more about your Coalition and to have questions answered that you may have regarding burial sites.

All articles, questions, items of interest may be sent directly to the Coalition at the address listed above or e-mailed to the editors at their address listed below.

Reprint Policy

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Coalition's Objectives

The Coalition, through its members in each county, hope to reach out to all areas of the state to:

Facilitate the exchange of information among individuals and organizations concerned about the protection of Maryland burial sites.

Increase public awareness of the historic and cultural significance of burial sites and the serious threats to them.

Draft and gain passage of new laws to more effectively deal with criminal acts against burial sites and to establish effective and uniform procedures for the protection and preservation of burial sites regardless of their age, cultural affiliation or condition.

Organize support for stronger laws in Maryland to protect burial sites--Native American burials as well as traditional cemeteries.

Raise funds for statewide public education programs, focused on burial site protection, and to provide information and guidance to any government agency, group, organization or individual interested in preserving human burial sites.

Editors

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2005 Publication Deadlines

Spring	March 15, 2006
Summer	June 15, 2006
Fall	September 15, 2006
Winter	December 15, 2006

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held quarterly and scheduled by the President. Meetings are first posted on the Coalition's Web Site and announced in the issue of the Courier published just prior to the meeting.

The Annual Meeting is held during the board meeting in April of each year. Election of new officers and Board members takes place as well as presentation of the annual reports, adoption of the budget for the coming year, and presentation of the Periwinkle Awards.

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- Finance Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Legislative Committee
- Awards Committee
- Family Remembrance Week Committee
- Archives Committee
- Fund Raising Committee
- Coalition Courier Committee

Web Site

<http://www.cpmbs.org>

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