



# 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:



This is the building where our meeting will be held.

Diane Nesmeyer

### We Are Going to Perryman In Harford County This Year!

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Coalition is to be held on Saturday, May 9th, 2009 at Spesutia Church, St. George's Parish, Spesutia Road, Perryman, Harford County, Maryland. According to the historical marker for Spesutia Church, the name Spesutia is derived from the Latin for Utie's Hope, the name given to Colonel Nathaniel Utie's 17<sup>th</sup> century Manorial Grant. The church building dates to 1851 and is the third building to house the church at the present location. There is a cemetery at the same location that contains the oldest burial in Harford County. When the church moved to the present location in 1718, the graves from the old cemetery were moved as well. The vestry building near the church dates to 1766. We will be meeting at a third, more recent, building on the property.

Registration and refreshments (coffee, tea, juice, pastries, bagels, and fruit) will begin at 8:30 a.m. followed by the business meeting, the election of Officers and Directors, and the announcement of the 2009 Periwinkle Award recipients. Our keynote speaker is Pamela Goffinet who will discuss mapping cemeteries. Her book *Mapping & Documenting Cemeteries*, will be available for purchase. Our

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Periwinkle Award recipients will speak about their cemetery projects. Mr. Michael Boerner, will discuss his work in Mt. Union Historic Church and Cemetery in Carroll County, Maryland and Mr. Gary Wasielewski, who was nominated by the Executive Board of the Harford County Genealogical Society, will discuss his work at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Havre de Grace, Harford County, Maryland.

Our continental breakfast and lunch will be provided by Chesapeake Food Works out of Perryville, Maryland. Our lunch fare includes Black Forest Ham, Roasted Turkey Breast, Roast Beef, Swiss & Cheddar Cheeses, cole slaw, breads and rolls, chips, veggies, salad, beverages and a cookie and brownie tray. We will also have a cooler full of bottled water to stay hydrated while in the cemetery.

Following lunch we will begin our workshops. Pamela will demonstrate the mapping process that was discussed during the morning session. Robert Mosko will be resetting a toppled stone, straightening a very "basic" leaning stone, and repair a simple tablet that was previously repaired but has since failed. Robert's work will not necessarily be done in the order that it is listed here. You will also be given a self-guided walking tour of the cemetery that was prepared by church members. In addition we will provide a list of gravestones that appeared in the 1908 book "Historic Graves of Maryland and the District of Columbia", by Helen

West. We will have a mirror available to cast shadows on unreadable stones.



St. George's Church and Spesutia Cemetery  
You should have already received your registration

form in the mail. Please note that pre-registration is required by April 25, 2009. This year we are



The Vestry

limited to only 50 participants. For questions and directions call Diane or Jeff Nesmeyer (703) 680-7724 or Amanda Becker at (301) 253-2688 or visit <http://www.cpmbs.org> and click on Annual Meeting. The cost is \$35 per person for members and \$45 per person for nonmembers and includes the workshops, programs, refreshments, and lunch. To register, make checks payable to CPMBS and mail to Gerhardt Kraske, Treasurer, 9425 Dartmouth Road, Columbia, MD 21045. If you don't have the registration form (one is available on our website) provide Gary with the names of all persons attending, a telephone number in case we have any questions or we have met the 50 person limit, and your preference for the outside workshop.

The Officers and Board are looking forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting. Don't delay, send your check today.

Diane Nesmeyer

### President's Message

"Show me the manner in which a nation cares for its dead and I will measure with mathematical exactness the tender mercies of its people, their respect for the laws of the land and their loyalty to high ideals." – Sir William Gladstone; "Show me first the graveyards of a country and



I will tell you the true character of the people." - Benjamin Franklin; "When a person is born, we rejoice. When they are married, we celebrate. When they die, we pretend nothing happened." - Margaret Mead; "Go West, young man!" - Horace Greeley (John Babson Lane Soule)

How do these sayings connect? They all speak to burial sites and society. They all speak to preserving society. The Gladstone and Franklin quote tells of how a society should treat their burial grounds. The Mead and Greeley quotes indicate how society reacts.

As a society we should respect and revere the sites where we bury our dead. In reality, today's society has evolved to the point where we pretend they have no graves and in our outward expansion, we abandon the sites of our ancestors for new or different homesteads.

Another quote that is bantered about on popular TV by the CSI crowd is that they "speak for the dead".

The question the Coalition is asking is, "Who speaks for the burial sites of the dead?" As graveyards and burial grounds and cemeteries evolve and fill up, they often become neglected, abused, lost, and forgotten.

It is up to us to care for the dead, to present the true character, to ensure we know that something happened, and, in the ever moving society, we go west and remember what we left in the east. We speak for the graves of the dead. We carry the torch to ensure the burial grounds are located, cataloged, and preserved.

We rely on individuals and groups of individuals to take up the mantle of cemetery protection. The Coalition will endeavor to provide guidance and resource assistance to those groups. Let us all join together to prevent the wholesale destruction of these valuable societal resources by developers looking to maximize the commercial aspect of the ground; the wanton destruction of grave sites and markers by vandals and hate mongers; the abandonment of care by uninterested caretakers or because the site is unprofitable. The Coalition is not able to work directly in the sites, there are too many sites and too few of us.

We can help those that want to step into the role of conservation and preservation of the sites with guidance and support we can offer. Let them be not forgotten by our actions.

Melvin Mason

### Editors' Corner

There were a couple of news articles in the last issue of the Courier regarding the work of prisoners in two local cemeteries. Using prisoners to work in cemeteries is not a new concept but the fact that there were at least two cemeteries in Maryland doing it caught our attention. Well, we found more information about this project in the July 23, 2008 minutes for the OCO Advisory Council on Cemetery Operations meeting. According to the minutes the Advisory counsel has an "obligation to propose legislation dealing with issues of abandoned and/or neglected cemeteries". Neil Woodson, Sr., Special Assistant with the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services then reported that there is a program that allows the use of inmates in the beautification of cemeteries. It seems that the inmates are able to fill a need and the OCO program helps to transition inmates from prison to work. If you are interested in reading more on this program and other minutes go to <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/license/min/cemmin.htm>.

In the last issue of the Courier we reprinted a poem by Frank Lebby Stanton entitled "The Graveyard Rabbit". We wanted to let you know that Mr. Stanton lived from 1857 until 1927 and was Georgia's first Poet Laureate. The Graveyard Rabbit was written in 1890.

Plans are moving along for the Annual Meeting in May. See the lengthy article that starts on page 1. We are both involved in the planning of this meeting and hope that many of you are able to join us in Perryman, Maryland. We are excited to be going to Harford County this year.

We have a number of people who have contributed to this issue: Melvin Mason, Brenda McNeal, Amanda Becker, Ann Horvath, Kristin Kraske, Eileen McGuckian, Gary and Barbara Kraske, Robert Mosko, and Edward Taylor, Jr. To you we offer our sincerest gratitude.

Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer

## Board Meeting Minutes For January 25, 2009

### Attendance:

### Officers:

President Melvin Mason, Vice-President Jeff Nesmeyer, Treasurer Gerhardt Kraske, and Recording Secretary Amanda Becker

### Board of Directors:

Leonard Becraft, George Horvath, Kristin Kraske, Thomas Mason, Paul Miller, and Candy Warden

### Members:

Ann P. Horvath, Diane Nesmeyer, John Wright, and Sandra Wright

### Guest:

David G. Simpson

Director Ann Bolt resigned since last meeting because of her health.

All others were excused.

On January 25, 2009, at the Miller County Library in Ellicott City, MD, The Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc. meeting was called to order by President Melvin Mason at 1:20 pm. A quorum was so noted by the President. Director Ann Bolt had resigned since the last meeting and this was so noted.

### RECORDING SECRETARY'S MINUTES:

President Mason called for the minutes to be approved as written. Director Warden made the motion and Director Miller seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Kraske stated that the ending balance as of January 25, 2009 is \$9,269.01. The Coalition had an income of \$590.00, expenses of

\$255.38, and cash in hand of \$124.18 and CD worth \$1,140.57. A donation of \$500.00 from the Miller Family Foundation was the bulk of the income for this quarter. President Mason called for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Director Miller made the motion and Director Mason seconded it. All were in favor and the motion car-

ried.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Director Kraske stated that we have 85 members, 13 of which are non-paying. Ms. Kraske took 3 non-paying members off the membership list as she could not get in touch with them. Guest David G. Simpson became a Coalition member on January 25, 2009. Diane Nesmeyer is going to compose a letter along with President Mason to send to perspective members. With this letter, the Winter 2008-2009 Courier will also be sent. Director Kraske is to send Vice-President Nesmeyer a list of organizations that we have as members.

**ANNUAL MEETING REPORT:** The Annual Meeting will be held on May 9, 2009 in Harford County, MD. Members of this committee will visit the St. George's Episcopal Church in Perryman, MD to check on this site. A lecture on mapping cemeteries and a demonstration on conserving gravestones are on the agenda as well as the general meeting and lunch. The Annual Meeting cost will be determined by our actual costs with a profit margin. The committee will come up with an estimate of reasonable expenditures and an appropriate amount to charge will be set. The Coalition does not want to lose on the event, but charge a reasonable price for a quality product.

**PERIWINKLE AWARDS:** Ann Horvath will be working on the awards as Ann Bolt is unable to. Three nominees were considered for the awards.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** The nominees needed for this year's election are Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

**LEGAL STATUS REPORT:** President Mason stated that we still need the Coalition's legal status update.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE:** Diane Nesmeyer reported that the Outreach Committee has met each month since August except in December. Each member is writing a chapter from the outline that the committee has created. The Outreach Committee hopes to have the product to be shown at the Annual Meeting in May. Anyone who would like to read what has been written and to add comments is invited to contact the Outreach Committee. Their next meeting is on February 8, 2009 at 11:00

am at the Wheaton Masonic Lodge.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President Mason welcomed guest, David G. Simpson who for more than three years has worked preserving the Rosa Bonheur Cemetery.

President Mason would like each and every member of the Coalition to think about what we can do and become more involved in the Coalition. He believes the new project the Outreach Committee is working on is one that will help define what the Coalition presents to the public.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There was no other old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:** There will be a silent auction at the Annual Meeting. Anyone that cares to donate something for the silent auction is asked to contact Recording Secretary Becker.

Director Becraft was on a television spot promoting the Coalition and this was seen in states far beyond Maryland.

Sandra Wright from Burtonsville Union Cemetery stated that the cemetery is celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

Treasurer Kraske stated that most of the member's dues go to funding the Courier and other printed material. Diane Nesmeyer suggested that we look into sending the Courier out electronically to those who wish to receive it in this form.

The issue of raising the dues was brought up. It was suggested that this matter be brought up at the Annual Meeting.

The President called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Kraske made the motion and Director Horvath seconded it. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Amanda Becker

Recording Secretary

### **Silent Auction at the Annual Meeting**

A silent auction is a very unique way to raise funds for an organization and we are planning to hold one at our Annual Meeting this year. What is a silent auction you ask? Items being auctioned are

displayed along with a bid slip. People are invited to bid on the items by writing an amount on the bid slip and then signing their name to the bid. If someone else is interested in the same item they can write in a higher bid on the slip and sign their name. This can go on and actually become a written bidding war. The winner is the person with the highest bid on an item at the conclusion of the auction. Payment is due at the end of the auction. Unclaimed or unpaid bids the items will go to the next highest bidder. Silent auctions are a lot of fun and an easy way to raise funds. The key to the success is having a variety of items available for the auction. The Coalition is hoping our members will be generous and donate items to this worth-while cause, the Coalition. The items can be cemetery-related or they can be any usable item that someone else cannot live without. Jeff and I have obtained a Green Mount Cemetery tote bag and a copy of Green Mount Cemetery One Hundredth Anniversary 1838—1938 that we plan to bring for the auction.

Diane Nesmeyer

### **Office of Cemetery Oversight**

#### **Meeting Schedule; Meetings are held from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.**

Meetings are scheduled for April 30, 2009, May 28, 2009, June 25, 2009, July 23, 2009, September 24, 2009, and October 22, 2009, at 500 N. Calvert Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference room, Baltimore, MD 21202. There is no meeting scheduled for August 2009. On December 3, 2009, the meeting will be held at Choice Hotels in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Brenda McNeal

### **Cemetery Inventory Project of the Office of Cemetery Oversight**

The minutes of the December 4, 2008 Advisory Council on Cemetery Operations meeting included a paragraph on the Cemetery Inventory Project. The Office of Cemetery Oversight is required to create an inventory of all known cemeteries located within the State. In accordance with the mandates, the OCO has created a database containing more than 5,000 cemeteries. The cemeteries included are for-profit, non-profit, religious, veterans, or gov-

ernment. The information will be made available to the public during the 2009 calendar year. We will keep you posted on this project. The minutes can be read at <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/license/min/cemmin.htm>.

Summary by Diane Nesmeyer

## Upcoming Cemetery Events

### Greenmount Cemetery Tour

May 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd, 2009

Green Mount Cemetery, Baltimore City

Greenmount Avenue and East Oliver Street

Four guided tours of Green Mount Cemetery will be held during the month of May. Tours begin at 9:30 am from the main gate located at Greenmount Avenue and East Oliver Street. The two-hour tours are led by Baltimore historian and educator Wayne R. Schaumburg. There is a cost for the tour and reservations are required. For information or to make reservations, contact Wayne at [wschaumburg@earthlink.net](mailto:wschaumburg@earthlink.net)

### AGS Conference

Each year the Association for Gravestone Studies holds their annual conference in the latter part of June. This year the conference will be held at Union College in Schenectady, New York, beginning on Wednesday, June 24 and ending after breakfast on Sunday, June 28, 2009.

All the conference activities will be under one roof except the workshops and bus tours. For more information about the conference visit <http://www.gravestonestudies.org/conferences.htm>

### Maryland Preservation and Revitalization Conference 2009

#### Cemetery Preservation Tour and Workshop

Friday afternoon, May 29, 2:15-5:30 p.m.

Beginner-Intermediate Level; Advance registration is required. For information visit:

[Http://www.preservationmaryland.org/conference](http://www.preservationmaryland.org/conference)

**Target Audience:** Cemetery and burial grounds

caretakers, counties and municipalities, churches, volunteers, concerned citizens

**Workshop format with tour of historic cemetery.** Session will go rain or shine, with transportation provided to the cemetery. Suggested limit of 25 participants. These presenters have organized cemetery preservation sessions for the last two State conferences, with high participation. The 2009 goal is to use the field session/tour format to expand on the issues.

The workshop will identify preservation issues and best practices for the preservation of historic cemeteries and burial grounds. The workshop will be held in historic Old St. Paul's Cemetery in Baltimore. The format is a tour with discussion of the learning objectives below and demonstrations of basic conservation methods.

1. Introduction to the history of the cemetery and its features by a tour guide knowledgeable about Old St. Paul's Cemetery.
2. Documentation of the site, to include survey, mapping and photography. Developing an inventory and preservation plan. Discussion of cemetery art and iconography. Working with volunteers. Coordinating with planning and zoning offices. [Eileen McGuckian and Anne Brockett]
3. Identification of materials and the processes of monument deterioration, establishing priorities and providing treatment, with hands on demonstrations. [Howard Wellman]
4. Identification and treatment of plant material in the historic landscape; putting together a horticultural preservation plan. [Frances Scully]

**Session Coordinator:** Nancy Kurtz, National Register Coordinator, Maryland Historical Trust 410-997-9415 phone/410-987-4071 fax/[nkurtz@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:nkurtz@mdp.state.md.us)

#### Presenter bios:

**Eileen McGuckian** is a founder of Peerless Rockville, a nonprofit that preserves and promotes his-

toric places in Rockville, and was its executive director for 25 years. She has authored several works on topics in Rockville history, and her definitive history, *Rockville: Portrait of a City*, was published in 2001. Someone who "brakes for old cemeteries," she is proud to have played creative roles in improving the futures of Higgins, Baptist, Haiti, Lytton, Lincoln Park, and Rockville cemeteries. Ask to see her latest callus and from which cemetery work session it came. [phileen3@verizon.net](mailto:phileen3@verizon.net)

**Anne Brockett** is an architectural historian in the Historic Preservation Office of the DC Office of Planning. After receiving an M.S. in Historic Preservation from the University of Oregon, she worked as a cultural resources specialist with URS Corporation on preservation projects nationwide and as a preservation planner for the City of Rockville, MD. Her work with cemeteries includes managing the Montgomery County Cemetery Inventory Project, a largely volunteer effort that surveyed over 250 cemeteries in Maryland; preparing a cemetery restoration guide; and drafting cemetery design guidelines. She teaches an introductory course in Historic Preservation at Montgomery College and sits on the board of Montgomery Preservation, Inc. [anne.brockett@dc.gov](mailto:anne.brockett@dc.gov)

**Howard Wellman** is a professional conservator specializing in archaeological artifacts, with additional interests in historical machinery and cemetery monuments. He has an MA in Archaeology from Boston University and a BSc in Conservation from the Institute of Archaeology, London. He has worked for archaeological missions in Egypt and Turkey, and for the State of Maryland. He is the proprietor of Howard Wellman Conservation LLC. He is a Professional Associate of the American Institute for Conservation, and a former officer of the Washington Conservation Guild. Since 2004, he has been volunteering at Historic Congressional Cemetery as part of the Conservation Plan Task Force to provide the Cemetery with a Master Plan of conservation needs, as well as leading volunteer teams in conserving HCC monuments. [wellmanconservation@comcast.net](mailto:wellmanconservation@comcast.net)

**Frances Scully** is a gardener at Ladew Topiary Gardens in Monkton, MD, and a horticultural con-

sultant for Old Saint Paul's Cemetery in Baltimore. A graduate of the Longwood Gardens Professional Gardener Training Program, she also has a B.A. in History from the University of Steubenville in Ohio. After working as a horticulturist at two different Washington D.C. area country clubs, she entered the Historic Preservation Master's program at Goucher College. While studying there she began working for the National Park Service, gardening at both Hampton National Historic Site in Towson and Fort McHenry National Shrine and Historic Monument in Baltimore. Fran graduated from Goucher in 2006 and her thesis is entitled *As The Garden Fades: Do The Current Treatment Standards and Guidelines Provide Sufficient Guidance For Successful Historic Garden Preservation?* [fcscully@verizon.net](mailto:fcscully@verizon.net)

### Nomination Committee Report

The Nominating Committee consisting of Amanda Becker has prepared the following slate of nominees and the nominees have indicated their willingness to serve, if elected. The ballot will be presented for vote by the general membership at the Annual Meeting on May 9th, 2009, to be held in Perryman, MD. Nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the vote but will be subject to the nominee accepting the nomination.

Vice President: Jeff Nesmeyer

Treasurer: Open—nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Corresponding Secretary: Open—nominations will be accepted from the floor.

#### Board of Directors: (new two-year term)

Thomas Mason	Prince George's
Paul Miller	Howard
Kristin Kraske	Howard
Sandra Wright	
Brenda McNeal	Howard
Robert Mosko	

#### Board of Directors: (one year remaining)

Candy Warden	Baltimore County
James Lanier	Baltimore County
Lu Moorman	Baltimore City

## Cemetery News

Baltimoresun.com

January 4, 2009

### A life lived among the dead

**Mike Tuite is retiring after four decades of taking care of the memories buried at Green Mount Cemetery**

**By Frederick N. Rasmussen**

[Note: Jeff and I had the opportunity to meet and work with Mike Tuite while we were involved in planning the tour of Green Mount Cemetery during the 1999 AGS Conference. Mike was very knowledgeable and helpful. His love of the cemetery was obvious as we worked out the details of the tour.]

On New Year's Eve Mike Tuite ended his stint as the superintendent of Green Mount Cemetery. After working for the cemetery for 43 years Mike had retired. He began his career as a grass cutter and in 1982 was promoted to superintendent with an intermediary step as a grounds foreman.

During the interview with the Sun's reporter, Mike gave him a tour of the cemetery stopping at various graves and discussing the life of the person buried there. Olivia Cushing Whitridge was the first burial at Green Mount in 1839, poet Sidney Lanier is there, as well as Moses Sheppard, founder of Sheppard Pratt Hospital. Moses Sheppard is the one lone grave among four lots totaling 80 graves. Alone because his will states that the 79 remaining lots cannot be sold.

Mike even stopped at the grave of William M. Black. Marking his grave is a statue of Little Red Riding Hood. Mike understood that the statue was on Mr. Black's fireplace and according to his will the statue was to be placed on his grave when he died. [Editor's Note: This grave marker is our personal favorite. We wondered about the story behind the statue.]

Mike spoke of his tenure at the cemetery. He liked working outside and "... don't think I am crazy – I enjoy my work." He mentioned having to meet the police at the cemetery at 2 or 3 a.m. while the superintendant and being more afraid of being outside the cemetery as he was of being inside during that early hour. His closing remarks were, "I just



didn't do this job for just a paycheck, I took pride in my work."

Summary by Diane Nesmeyer

### Gravestones Found on Potomac's Edge

**Rick Yarborough/ Fox 5 Producer**

### Gravestones Found Off Potomac are a Monumental Mystery

[http://www.myfoxdc.com/dpp/news/local/031109\\_grave-stones\\_found\\_off\\_potomac\\_are\\_a\\_monumental\\_mystery](http://www.myfoxdc.com/dpp/news/local/031109_grave-stones_found_off_potomac_are_a_monumental_mystery)

The Fox 5 television station visited a site on the Potomac River in King George County, Virginia, where tombstones were found along the river's edge. The site is 75 miles south of Washington, DC near the Caledon Natural Area. The tombstones dated to the early 1900s, with one carrying a date of 1893.

The staff at Fox 5 did some research using US Census records and some "guess-work" regarding old cemeteries in the area. Using the names and dates found on the tombstones all the research pointed to one place, the Columbian Harmony Cemetery, the first African-American cemetery in the District. Today the site boasts a metro stop and a shopping center on land that once contained 37,000 bodies.

The land was sold for development in 1960 because the cemetery ran out of space and money. The remains were supposed to be relocated to the National Harmony Memorial Park in Landover, MD but the tombstones were to be left behind and



buried. The owner of the land in King George County told Fox 5 that his father was given permission to haul away some of the debris during the time the cemetery was being relocated.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation will try to get assistance from state officials to determine if there is any way that the tombstones can be reconnected to the remains, many that lie in unmarked graves at the National Harmony Memorial Park.

<http://www.myfoxdc.com/generic/galleries/cemetery/cemetery> Visit this site for pictures of the tombstones found on the river's edge.

Summary by Diane Nesmeyer

### **The Washington Times**

**December 20, 2008**

### **Americans sell their cemetery plots for cash**

#### **Associated Press**

A 61-year old North Carolina resident, who has been unemployed for months, has decided to sell her burial plot in Lincoln Cemetery, Brentwood, Prince George's County to help make ends meet, a decision that will separate her from her parents in death. Instead of a traditional burial Helen Walker will be cremated when she dies.

The downturn in the economy is causing people to forgo the traditional, sometimes costly, funeral practices. Many are considering cremation instead of burial as a less costly alternative. The increase in sales of burial plots is causing a decline in the value creating a buyers' market of sorts. Others who opt for the traditional burial are opting for less formal services and putting off the purchase of gravestones.

Summary by Diane Nesmeyer

## **News From the Counties**

### **Allegany County News**

The Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization (CHCO) celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2008. Each year during the month of July CHCO honors and decorates graves of area Revolutionary War Soldiers. Many are buried under monuments erected and restored by the CHCO since its founding in 1983.



Picture at the Capt. David Lynn plaque at Allegany Street and Averitt Avenue in Cumberland are from left: Leland Taylor, CHCO President Ed Taylor, Jr., MD Delegate Leroy Myers and Simon Taylor.

In holding the tradition of honoring the area Revolutionary War Soldiers CHCO, joined by the Preservation Society of Allegany County, installed a 5 x 3 foot rose granite plaque last July to honor Rev. War. Capt. David Lynn, II and historic Rose Hill Estate built in 1801.

The 5 x 3 foot plaque contains a color tile photograph of Capt. David Lynn and was installed on one of two pillars that is all that remains of Rose Hill Estate. The plaque includes the history of the Lynn family, the background for the name of the estate, the military history of Capt. Lynn's grandsons who joined the Confederate Army, and the history of the Averitt family who purchased the estate in 1904.

The two privately funded historic organizations held an unveiling ceremony and reception. Several speakers were present including descendants of the Lynn family and Dr. Catherine Ball of the Judge Lynn chapter D.A.R., from Washington, D.C. CHCO President Ed Taylor, Jr., spoke of the great faith in God and spirit the men of the Revolution had in a speech entitled "the Spirit of 76". Preservation Society President Mary C. Miltenberger spoke of the many Cumberland area historic sites that the Preservation Society has saved since 1970.

After the event those present traveled to nearby

Rose Hill Cemetery to lay a wreath at Lynn's grave. Also the group unveiled a small monument next to Capt. Lynn's main monument. The new monument reads "The grave of Rev. War Capt. David Lynn is a designated and protected gravesite of the Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization which is a charter member of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites. May God have mercy on his soul and all souls, Amen. Monument installed July 6, A.D. 2008."

For more information on Lynn or the CHCO call (301) 722-4624; <http://www.chco-online.org>.

Edward W. Taylor, Jr., President

Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization

### Baltimore City

WBALTV.com

Posted January 4, 2009

Baltimore – Investigators believe soaring metal prices are fueling thefts from grave sites.

In Loudon Park Cemetery in Valor Hill, Michael Romeo found that a 3-pound bronze marker and other items were missing and presumed stolen from his grandmother's, brother's, and uncle's graves. Management at the cemetery told David Collins, Channel 11 News Reporter, that the theft of bronze is reaching epidemic proportions since hundreds of such items have been stolen from this cemetery and similar thefts have occurred in Cumberland.

Police say that cemetery bronze ornaments can be hammered out of shape thereby hiding their original form. Since bronze is now worth upwards of \$2 per pound this makes a lucrative proposition for the thieves.

State Senators John Astle and Ed DeGrange will be sponsoring a bill to force scrap dealers to report each sale to include the seller. A similar measure failed during last year's legislative session.

Summary by Diane Nesmeyer

### Montgomery County

Union Cemetery in Burtonsville Is Celebrating Its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

In 2009 Union Cemetery will celebrate 150 years of continuous operation. The cemetery is the responsibility of Union Cemetery Association of



Montgomery County. For more information about Union Cemetery and its milestone Anniversary visit <http://burtonsvilleunioncemetery.com>.

Diane Nesmeyer, Picture by Amanda Becker

### New Members

Members are by far the most valuable asset of any organization. This quarter we would like to welcome the following new members:

James M. Beard from Anne Arundel County

David G. Simpson from Anne Arundel County

Barbara Julianne Piczak from Montgomery County.

We hope to see you at our Annual Meeting.

Kristin Kraske, Membership Chair

### Donations to the Coalition

Over the years our members have been very generous with their time and their money. We don't always acknowledge these selfless donations and thought it would be appropriate at this time to say, "Thank you". We don't know if the donors want to remain anonymous so we won't mention any names but please know that your donations of time and money were appreciated.

**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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**2009 Publication Deadlines**

Spring	March 15, 2009
Summer	June 15, 2009
Fall	September 15, 2009
Winter	December 15, 2009

**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.

**2008-2009 Officers and Board of Directors****Officers**

President	Melvin Mason (301) 699-5836 <a href="mailto:pres@cpmbs.org">pres@cpmbs.org</a>
Vice President	Jeff Nesmeyer (703) 680-7724 <a href="mailto:vp@cpmbs.org">vp@cpmbs.org</a>
Treasurer	Gerhardt Kraske (410) 730-8278 <a href="mailto:treas@cpmbs.org">treas@cpmbs.org</a>
Recording Secretary	Amanda Becker (301) 253-2688 <a href="mailto:sec@cpmbs.org">sec@cpmbs.org</a>
Corresponding Secretary	Lora Lake (410) 643-7455
Past President	Gerhardt Kraske (410) 730-8278

**Board of Directors**

Thomas Mason	(PG County) (301) 736-4058 <a href="mailto:thomas@masonbrothers.com">thomas@masonbrothers.com</a>
George Horvath	(Carroll County) (410) 526-4878 <a href="mailto:Horvathmap@aol.com">Horvathmap@aol.com</a>
James Lanier	(Baltimore County) (443) 341-6433
Paul Miller	(Howard County) (410) 465-9158 <a href="mailto:ecpim@aol.com">ecpim@aol.com</a>
Kristin Kraske	(Howard County) (410) 772-8602 <a href="mailto:REBELKRIS@comcast.net">REBELKRIS@comcast.net</a>
Lu Moorman	(Baltimore City) (443) 386-8424 <a href="mailto:lumoorman1@msn.com">lumoorman1@msn.com</a>
Leonard Becraft	(Montgomery County) (301) 774-3616 <a href="mailto:becraft4me@msn.com">becraft4me@msn.com</a>
Candy Warden	(Baltimore County) (443) 341-6433 <a href="mailto:rosabonheursociety@juno.com">rosabonheursociety@juno.com</a>

**Standing Committees**

Archives	Awards	Courier	Events	Family Remembrance
Finance	Fund Raising		Legislative	
Outreach	Publicity		Nominating	

**Web Site**

<http://www.cpmbs.org>

**Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites  
Membership Form**

**NOTE: This is a renewal notification.  
Membership year is June 1 through May 31st**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>New</b>	<b>Annual Membership Rates:</b>	Individual.....\$ 10
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Renewal</b>		Student (grade 12 and under)...\$ 5
		Organization.....\$ 20
		Household.....\$ 15

Questions? Call Kristin Kraske,  
Membership (410) 772-8602

Make Checks Payable to: **Coalition to Protect Maryland  
Burial Sites, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1533  
Ellicott City, MD 21041-1533**

Can you help us in our various efforts? Please list occupations / skills / interest. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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