



# Coalition Courier

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

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Protect Maryland  
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## 22nd Annual Coalition Meeting to be held in Silver Spring on April 27th!



St. John the Evangelist Cemetery looking in the direction of the Knights of Columbus Hall

Photograph by Sarah Warner

The Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites is pleased to announce that our 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting will convene in Forest Glen, Silver Spring, in Montgomery County, on Saturday, April 27, 2013. The day – from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. -- is planned to be educational, interesting, fun, and full of collegiality!

Our meeting opens at Fr. Rosensteel Council of the Knights of Columbus Hall, 9707 Rosensteel Avenue. It features three sessions, a silent auction and gift shop, presentation of 2013 Periwinkle Awards, good food, and lots of opportunities to hear and talk with others who care about historic cemeteries in Maryland. A speaker from the Maryland Office of Cemetery Oversight will describe OCO re-

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sponsibilities and share ideas and experiences. The second session is an Open Forum -- always energizing and popular -- where attendees raise concerns, describe problems, suggest strategies, and share the highs and lows of preserving historic burial grounds. All topics are welcome!

During the "Walk and Talk" program after lunch, you will learn from local guides about the rich history of the area, St. John's cemetery, the historic 1894 Baldwin-designed Gothic Revival stone church, and the replica of the original Carroll Family Chapel that stood on their large estate. We've heard that Daniel Carroll, a signer of the Articles of Confederation and U.S. Constitution, may join us. As we walk through the cemetery, experts will point out grave marker styles and symbolism, conservation issues and solutions, burials of notable families, and whatever else comes to mind. Burials here date back to the 1790s, including the Carroll family and other early residents.

Deserving volunteers will be honored with the coveted Periwinkle Award, and there will be a short business meeting and election of officers and Board members. Throughout the morning, the popular silent auction and gift shop will offer a variety of items. The day ends about 3 p.m.

St. John the Evangelist cemetery and Knights of Columbus hall are located at 9707 Rosensteel Ave. in Silver Spring (just north of Capitol Beltway, Rte 495). Go North on Georgia Ave. (Rte 97), turn left onto Forest Glen Road, then right onto Rosensteel Avenue; park behind the Knights Hall. Plenty of on-site parking, and Forest Glen Metro station (Red Line) is about ½ mile away.

COST PER PERSON: \$45 Coalition members, \$55 non-members

PRE-REGISTRATION is required!

Deadline: April 20, 2013

REGISTRATION FORM AT <http://www.cpmbs.org>

QUESTIONS: 410-730-8278

Eileen McGuckian and the

Annual Meeting Committee

### **Editors' Corner**

The Committee is busy making preparations for the Annual Meeting that will be held on April 27, 2013, at the Fr. Rosensteel Council of the Knights of Columbus in Silver Spring, MD 20910. J. Patrick Warner and David Mills are helping Eileen McGuckian plan the event. It is good to see new faces stepping forward to help out the Coalition. See the article beginning on page 1 for more information about the Annual Meeting.

We would like to thank Eileen McGuckian, Melvin and Tom Mason, Barbara Sieg, J. Patrick and Sarah Warner, Aleta Gravelle, Tina Simmons, Amanda Becker, Robert Mosko, Edward Taylor, Jr., Stephanie Town, and John Higgins for their contributions to this issue. This issue was truly a Coalition effort. The contributions were very much appreciated and forced me to pull the Outreach Committee Report because I ran out of room. A first!

Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer

**DRAFT**

**Approved: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc.**

**Board of Directors - Quarterly Meeting**

**January 19, 2013**

The President called the quarterly meeting of the *Coalition* to order at 1:15 p.m. on January 19, 2013 at the Miller Library in Ellicott City, Maryland.

Those present at the meeting were:

Officers: President Eileen McGuckian, Vice President (nominee) for Legislative Affairs John Higgins, Secretary (nominee) Patrick Warner, and Treasurer Gary Kraske

Directors: The officer/directors named above plus Barbara Kraske, Kristin Kraske, James Lanier, Melvin Mason, Thomas Mason, Paul Miller, Robert Mosko, Candy Warden, and Sandra Wright

Members and Guests: Amanda Becker, Leonard Becraft, Dave Mills, and John Wright

Excused: Vice President Edward Taylor

**Secretary's Report:** No report. The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of October 2012 were approved prior to this meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Gary Kraske presented the current financial report and it was approved and will be filed for audit. He reported that all necessary governmental documents and forms have been submitted. He also reported that a gift in the amount of \$50.00 had been received and the Board agreed to use this gift to establish a fund for approved emergency cemetery restorations. The fund will be titled "Emergency Restoration Response Fund". The Board confirmed by resolution to appointment of Gerhard P. Kraske as *Resident Agent* for the *Coalition* in Maryland and the change of the principal office address to 9425 Dartmouth Road, Columbia, MD 21045.

**Nominations and Nominating Committee:** The following officers were elected:

John E. Higgins, *Vice President for Legislative Affairs*

J. Patrick Warner, *Secretary*.

President McGuckian appointed Kristin Kraske, Melvin Mason, and Patrick Warner to serve on

the Nominating Committee for the 2013 election to be held at the annual meeting:

**Committee Reports:**

Outreach:

- Amanda Becker reported on the *Coalition's* recent and future activities in Maryland cemeteries.
- James Lanier commented on the excellent work of Diane Nesmeyer on the *Coalition Courier* and the *Coalition's* website. The directors expressed their appreciation to Diane Nesmeyer for her splendid efforts. It was agreed to assist Diane financially if she wants to upgrade her computer software to facilitate the preparation of the newsletter and website.
- Robert Mosko instructed those present on the danger of vandalism when there is over-restoration of unprotected cemeteries. Director Mosko will prepare written instructions that can be distributed to organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America and used in *Coalition* publications.
- Melvin Mason reported that "*The Coalition's Guide to Burial Site Stewardship*" is available and continues to be distributed at no charge to libraries in Maryland.

Membership: Kristin Kraske reported that, as of this meeting, the *Coalition* has 90 members.

Periwinkle Award: Candy Warden reported that form to nominate a person for the award has been revised. She requested that it be posted on the website.

Legislative Affairs: John Higgins reported that he contacted the *Maryland Office of Cemetery Oversight* to determine the plans for cemetery related legislation during the current session in Annapolis.

He reported on the pending legislation and will monitor the introduction of any new bills. He will also provide status reports of any pertinent future legislation to the Board.

**2013 Annual Meeting:** Patrick Warner proposed using the facilities of the Father Rosensteel Council of the Knights of Columbus in Silver Spring as the venue for 2013 Annual Meeting and touring the historic St. John the Evangelist cemetery that is located nearby. President McGuckian and Dave Mills reported on the results of their recent site visit. The proposal was unanimously approved.

**New Business:**

- President McGuckian reported that the inactive *Howard County's Committee for Cemetery Oversight* has been activated and will act in an advisory capacity to the Howard County Government.
- President McGuckian plans to identify the graves of those who fought in the *War of 1812* in Montgomery County and urged members to identify the graves in their respective counties.
- Robert Mosko addressed a question regarding insurance coverage for cemeteries. However, it was agreed that situations differ so widely that it's a matter of determining what is needed at each site.

**Mission Statement:**

Patrick Warner proposed the mission statement of the *Coalition* be adopted as follows:

*"The mission of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites is to promote the preservation and protection of the burial sites, cemeteries, and grave yards in Maryland."*

The mission statement was adopted unanimously.

The next quarterly Board of Directors meeting will be held on June 1, 2013. Members are always welcome to attend the meetings.

President McGuckian adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Patrick Warner

Secretary



Atwood S. Barwick,  
1934-2012

A Eulogy,

by Barbara Sieg

Photograph provided  
by Virginia Barwick  
Dildine.

Twenty-two years ago, a historic cemetery preservation conference was convened by the Maryland Historical Trust. The Annapolis event brought together people from a number of Maryland counties – historians, genealogists, archaeologists, and preservation activists – whose common goal was to take action to stop the steady loss of Maryland's irreplaceable heritage through the lack of protection and respect for our historic cemeteries. Causes of this problem were legion – lack of public awareness, presence of apathy and greed, and inadequate protective laws, poorly enforced.

At the time of the conference, I was working with the Whipps family and a few volunteers to restore the Whipps graveyard in Ellicott City. This one-acre site had been in a state of disrepair and neglect for years, and was then threatened by im-

pending development. Among the wonderful people that I met at the conference were Atwood Barwick, an oceanographer and archaeologist from Somerset County; Audrey Bagby, a genealogist from Anne Arundel County; and Edward Taylor, Jr., from Alleghany County, founder of the Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization. We soon realized the need to form a statewide organization to provide continuing action to build upon and advance the results of the conference.

So began the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc., founded in the summer of 1991 in Elicott City.

A charter member, Atwood was active in the Coalition for many years. He drafted much of our legislation proposed to strengthen cemetery protection in Maryland, starting by making it a criminal offense to buy and sell funerary objects and grave goods and Native American relics, including human skulls. His background in archaeology gave him a unique appreciation and knowledge of the value of our cultural resources.

Atwood's sharp thinking extended to expressing his thoughts in both the written and spoken word. He was an effective advocate for our bills in Annapolis. He also wrote many of our publications, including a mission statement and numerous booklets and pamphlets describing the plight of historic cemeteries in Maryland – all designed to raise public awareness of the problem.

Possibly At's most important contribution to the work of the Coalition was his idea for Family Remembrance Week – an annual state observance during the last week of May ending in Memorial Day. During this week, Marylanders are encour-

aged to celebrate their family heritage, achievements, and traditions through events such as picnics and family reunions and to visit their family cemeteries to provide care and upkeep as needed. Gov. William Donald Schaefer signed the first Family Remembrance Week proclamation in 1993. Successive Maryland governors signed the proclamation and presented it to the Coalition to encourage observance.

The best way we can express our appreciation for the many contributions of Atwood Barwick in advancing the mission of CPMBS is to make sure that we request, every year, the issuance of the Family Remembrance Week proclamation by our governor and do all that we can to see that this special week is observed statewide.

Thank you, Atwood, for all that you did. You are greatly missed and will always be remembered.

[Editors' Note: Atwood Barwick's online obituary can be found at: [http://www.myeasternshoremd.com/obituaries/article\\_cad9c680-7a57-5ddd-b02f-09b23f91dfbb.html](http://www.myeasternshoremd.com/obituaries/article_cad9c680-7a57-5ddd-b02f-09b23f91dfbb.html)]

### Upcoming Cemetery Events

#### Friends of St. Vincent Spring 2013 Clean-Up Event

Friends of St. Vincent's Cemetery will hold a spring cleanup at the cemetery on Saturday, April 20, 2013 from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. The cemetery is located at 2301 N. Rose Street in Baltimore City. They need YOUR help to pull weeds and gather debris. You are requested to wear appropriate work clothes and shoes (no sandals or flip flops!) and to bring a shovel or rake. They will supply water and light snacks.

For more information contact Stephanie Town at Rakeleafs@yahoo.com.

### **Green Mount Cemetery Walking Tours**

Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Opened in 1839 as the city's first urban-rural cemetery, Green Mount is the final resting place of Johns Hopkins, Enoch Pratt, William and Henry Walters, Mary Elizabeth Garrett, Theodore McKeldin, John Wilkes Booth, Betsy Patterson, Walter Lord, and other famous Marylanders. Tours begin at 9:30 a.m. from the main gate located at Greenmount Avenue and East Oliver Street, and are led by Baltimore historian and educator Wayne R. Schaumburg. Reservations are required. For information, call (410) 256-2180, or email: wayne.schaumburg@gmail.com.

### **Anne Arundel Genealogical Society**

#### **Cemetery Inscription Days**

Who: YOU and your friends

What: Help the Society to transcribed information from very old tombstones for use by genealogy researchers.

Where: Cedar Bluff Cemetery, Annapolis

When: Saturday, June 8, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Directions: Rt. 50 to Rowe Blvd. Go through 2 traffic lights then bear right to Calvert Street. Go right on Clay Street and right again on Washington St. Park along Northwest Street. Note that Northwest Street is a one way street. Enter the cemetery through the chain link fence - cemetery is on the left side if facing the creek (St. Anne's cemetery is on the right)

Questions/raindate : Tina Simmons at (410) 978-7167

### **Howard County**

Whipps Garden Cemetery Whipps will welcome the coming of spring with its sixth Daffodil Day, a mini-fundraiser. on Saturday, March 30 from 10 to 3 at 3651 St. John's Lane (Approx. 2 blocks south of Frederick Rd on left side of street), We plan to continue again with the sale of spring potted plants, daffodils, tulips, hyacinths and the addition of hellebores, Virginia bluebells, Easter lilies and hydrangeas. Event will include guided walks through the cemetery, refreshments, raffles and presentations. Parking is available along St. John's Lane, Waycross and Valley Rds.

Our annual plant sale fundraiser will be held on Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11 at the First Lutheran Church (corners of Frederick and Chatham Roads). This sale will include many natives and other hard-to-find perennials for both shade and sun gardens. The added attraction this year will be a donation of over 60 registered day lilies, donated by Fred Briscoe, the Ellicott City day lily grower. We will also be sharing some of the cuttings of hydrangea oakleaf, hosta, and acuba from our Whipps' gardens. This is a new feature we want to share with the public. We also invite you to share any extra garden perennials and small shrubs you are dividing with us for the sale. All plants will be happily bought by other gardeners at reasonable prices. The money will be used to maintain and keep the gardens growing and glowing. For more information, contact Aleta Gravelle (410) 465-2398 or (410) 274-7795 or agravelle@verizon.net.

Aleta Gravelle

## Legislative Matters

### New Cemetery Protection Law for Maryland

During the recent session of the Maryland legislature amendments were made to the law relating to cemetery permit and registration as well as to the perpetual care and preneed trusting law.

The amendments increase the penalties for operating a cemetery without a license from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and add potential fines of \$10,000 and \$15,000 for second and third violations respectively. The current penalty of imprisonment not to exceed one year for the first violation remains the same and second and third year conviction provide for imprisonment possibilities of two to three years respectively.

Misappropriation or intentional fraud in connection with preneed trust funds will now make those convicted subject to a fine not to exceed \$25,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed ten years.

This new legislation was submitted with the support of the Office of Cemetery Oversight. Coalition President Eileen McGuckian submitted a letter in support of these increased efforts to protect Maryland cemeteries.

John E. Higgins, Jr.

Vice President Legislative Matters

### Silent Auction Items Needed

This year we will be holding our 5<sup>th</sup> silent auction during the Annual Meeting. The key to a successful silent auction is having a variety of items available for attendees to bid on. Last year our generous members donated over 40 items for the auction that netted the Coalition \$723. It is a great activity and all proceeds go to the Coalition to help Maryland cemeteries.

If you have any new or gently used items such as candles, cemetery-related items, plates, quilts, trains, seashells, picnic baskets, etc. that you no longer need or use please consider passing the item along for use in our silent auction. Please bring your items to the annual meeting or contact me at [acedgehill@hotmail.com](mailto:acedgehill@hotmail.com) or (301) 253-2688 for more information or for the items to be taken off your hands!

Amanda Becker

### Tombstone Tales

This is a new column titled, "Tombstone Tales". It will focus on the life stories of those that are buried in certain Maryland grave sites and interesting notes about the style of tombstone used. When writing, one is to write what you know and so to this end I will start writing about a tombstone tale in my family cemetery. I have investigated and researched on Ancestry.com and various family history books and family stories and here is what I have found.

Nicholas Griffith, my fourth great grandfather was the first person buried in our family cemetery on our farm, Edgehill, near Unity and Laytonsville in Montgomery County. He was born on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1771. Nicholas was the youngest child of parents Sarah Warfield and Henry Griffith. His siblings were Henry, Allen, Elizabeth, Henrietta (who died in infancy) and a half-brother Thomas. Young Nicholas was baptized at Christ Church, Queen Caroline Parish, Howard, Maryland in what is now called Christ Episcopal Church, Columbia, Maryland (incidentally - where last year's 2012 Annual Meeting was held.) He most likely was baptized in the earliest log chapel of ease on the grounds of Christ Episcopal Church where the Old

Brick chapel is now. He married Anne or Nancy Anne Ridgely Griffith on December 16, 1791, in a church in Anne Arundel County. According to a written history, Anne and Nicholas, "Came on horseback to Edgehill after the wedding, the bride riding on a side saddle carrying her precious

'dispatch box,' and also a mulberry switch." We still have mulberry on the farm and we also have the dis-



patch box. The box is painted red with leather accents and a small key.

Nicholas and Anne or Nancy Anne had Sarah Ridgely, Nicholas Griffith, Jr. (who died in infancy), Henrietta, Charles Henry (also died in infancy), Mary Ann, Harriet, Nicholas Griffith, Jr. (2<sup>nd</sup> use of name), and Thomas. Thomas was my third great-grandfather and was born on September 15, 1803, a little more than a month after his father had died. Nicholas was a farmer and had eighteen slaves according to the Census of 1800.

Family oral history shares that Nicholas chose his stone from the fields of Edgehill. This stone is a fieldstone that shows markings of feldspar, mica,



schist and slate. A fieldstone footstone is also placed on his gravesite. The simple carving on the stone is slanted with N. GRIFFITH,

DIED AUG 5<sup>th</sup> 1803, IN THE 32 YEAR, OF AGE. The letters are all uppercase.

Nicholas died August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1803, when he was 31 years old although the gravestone says otherwise. Nancy Anne lived at Edgehill until her death in 1861 – fifty-eight years after Nicholas had died. Nancy Anne is buried next to Nicholas on the cemetery hill overlooking the farm landscape.

Amanda Becker

## Cemetery Conservation

### Cemeteries in the spring

The thought of a spring cleanup can be overwhelming to anyone and cemeteries are no exception. Regardless of the size, any cemetery requires some attention on any level.

It is during this time that one can witness first hand the effects of freeze-thaw cycles, poor drainage, and developing problems that have occurred during the winter months.

The most obvious aspect of cemeteries one may think of is the landscape or softscape as it is sometimes referenced. Tree limbs that have fallen, areas that are extremely wet compared to other areas, and then there is of course the unintended vegetation that one may have contended with all last season. This time of year is the best to identify many of the causes to the problems that you have been struggling with as well as dealing with intrusive vegetation such as poison ivy and other growth that can overwhelm a burial site.

Though the landscape may be the easiest aspect of your cemetery project (you do not always need a landscape architect or historical horticulturist in dealing with your landscape), the hardscape may not be so simple. While everyone seems to emphasize addressing the condition, I have met very few who attempt to identify and treat the cause. Often enough it is common sense and experience.

The biggest mistake one can make is to misprioritize their scope of work. In doing so, more costly damage can result and a considerable amount of money can be wasted. To aid in this, a good conservation and preservation plan would go a long way in assisting to explain what should be a priority and what can wait. It can also identify the cost to address each condition and what you can do to even save the project money by doing some of the work yourself. Most assessments or reports are often valid for two years and can be provided by an experienced cemetery specialist for minimal cost.

It would be extremely foolish to undertake any cemetery project without a solid plan even if the goal is short term. Depending on how short, it may be best to clear the limbs, assure access to the appropriate people, and leave well enough alone until a good plan and budget can be obtained.

So remember:

- Spring is the perfect time to access a cemetery.
- Regardless of how small, every little task can contribute to the wellbeing of a cemetery.
- Do not undertake a major project unless you have a long-term plan.
- The project does not have to be expensive when employing consultants.

Robert Mosko

## News From the Counties

### Allegheny County News

Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization

The Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization was sad to announce the death of one of their

members, Rennice D. Pollock, on January 20, 2013. Pollock was a descendent of two of Cumberland's famous Confederate heroes, James Pollock, Confederate soldier and his sister Sallie Pollock, Confederate spy. The two are buried in the small Pollock family cemetery on private land located a hundred feet from the C&O Canal path in the Mexico Farms area just south of Cumberland. The organization adopted and restored this site in 2001. Over the years the group erected two monuments to the two Confederate heroes. It is one of Allegheny County's most historic cemeteries and the CHCO maintains a path so hikers and bikers on the Canal can stop and visit the cemetery. Our dearly beloved Rennice was buried in the cemetery and it is the first time a grave has been dug in the cemetery since 1929. Rennice's grave was marked by a CHCO monument. On Saturday April 6 at 2 PM the CHCO will hold a memorial service at the Pollock Cemetery in honor of Confederate History Month. For details of Pollock history, consult our website [www.chco-online.org](http://www.chco-online.org).

Edward Taylor, Jr.



Photograph: Members of the CHCO honoring Confederate hero James Pollock. Monument built by the organization in 2001. CHCO members honoring Pollock during April Confederate History Month are from the left: Linda Burgess recording secretary,

Rennice Pollock, Chester (Dale) Burgess Sr. maintenance officer. Photo taken April 2008.

### **Anne Arundel County**

Pasadena man charged in theft of Glen Burnie cemetery markers

Police looking for relatives of people named on grave markers

February 12, 2013, By Andrea F. Siegel, Baltimore Sun

Dustin Landon Grogan, 42, has been charged with stealing bronze grave markers from Glen Haven Memorial Park in Glen Burnie. Police recovered four makers from the cemetery as well as metal pieces. Some of the markers were for World War II veterans.

Police are unsure when these markers were removed. Last summer about 75 metal urns and other objects were reported taken from cemeteries in the northern part of the county. That investigation is continuing.

Anyone with information should call Detective Kenneth Edmonds, Anne Arundel County Police, at (410) 222-6018.

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

### **Baltimore City**

Friends of St. Vincent Cemetery meeting minutes for 23 Feb 2013

Fran Lane recommended that the group consider using Paypal for online donations to FoSVC. A Paypal hyperlink button could be inserted into the FoSVC website. All agreed, and Joann Wheeler said she would set up a separate Paypal account for FoSVC and insert the hyperlink button into the website. Joann will consult with Al Hannan about setting up the Paypal account for FoSVC.

Officers:

Stephanie Town – President

Fran Lane – Vice President

Richard Messick – Assistant Vice President

Joyce Stevens – Secretary

Al Hannan, JD / CPA – Treasurer

Committees:

Jackie Perry – Event Volunteer Coordinator

Joann Wheeler – Webmaster

Charles Gugliotta – Social Committee

Bob Venanzi – Corporate Giving

Bonnie Mitchell – Advise of Status of FoSVC on Parks and People Foundation – Grant Application for Spring 2013

Stephanie Town stated that she submitted a grant application on behalf of FoSVC to Parks and People Foundation on January 25, 2013, for a Neighborhood Greening Grant of \$450.00 to help pay for advertising to recruit volunteers and supplies for a clean-up event to be held in the spring of 2013. [The Foundation announced on March 15<sup>th</sup> that Friends of St. Vincent Cemetery was awarded the \$450 Neighborhood Greening Grant. Congratulations!]

Joyce Stevens has been researching historical documents pertaining to St. Vincent Cemetery at Enoch Pratt Library and online. Joyce shared a thesis found online: Invisible in the “Elysian Fields”: An Argument for the Inclusion of Archaeological Resources in Clifton Park’s Master Plan. It was noted that there were interesting references to St. Vincent Cemetery on pages 60 thru 63 and also page 87. FoSVC members can view this document online.

<http://drum.lib.umd.edu/bitstream/1903/11069/1/L.Schiszik%20final%20paper%20for%20DRUM.pdf>

Stephanie Town

Email: Rakeleafs@yahoo.com

### **Baltimore County**

Grassroots effort to restore Reisterstown  
Community Cemetery begins

Graveyard dates back to 1764; Reister and  
soldiers from three wars buried there

By Barbara Pash

December 12, 2012, baltimoresun.com

The Reisterstown Community Cemetery [We learned that the cemetery is actually called the Lutheran Community Cemetery.] is located on Cockeys Mill Road next to a branch of the Baltimore County Public Library. The cemetery dates to 1764 when John Reister deeded the land to the "People of Reisterstown". Over the years it has become rundown. Chris Larkins and Linda Percy of the Reisterstown Improvement Association are co-chairing a project to restore the cemetery and its disintegrating brick wall.

The Association received an estimate of \$7,500 for a certified conservator to provide an assessment for the cost of the repairs to the cemetery and the brick wall. The Committee has already raised \$2,500 and decided to use that money to order an assessment of the brick wall. Percy reminded the reporter that the \$2,500 is only for the assessment. Once the assessment is completed it will be sent to Baltimore County for approval and the group will need to raise funds for the repairs. Since the cemetery has an historical designation they can only use historic masons to assess the damages to the brick wall and report on their findings.

If you are interested in making a donation your check should be made payable to the Reisterstown Improvement Association with The Cemetery Fund in the Memo area and mailed to the Reisterstown Improvement Association, P.O. Box 856, Reisterstown, MD 21136.

[Editors' Note: A list of internments can be found at <http://reisterstowncemetery.blogspot.com/p/blog-page.html>; A blogspot for the cemetery can be found at <http://reisterstowncemetery.blogspot.com/>].

Another article appeared in the Owings Mills-Reisterstown Patch on January 23, 201, by Marc Shapiro:

### **Residents Trying to Restore Historic Reisterstown Cemetery**

Members of the Reisterstown Improvement Association are working to restore the cemetery on Cockeys Mill Road, which was built in the 1700s.

A Guest Column posted at the Owings Mills-Reisterstown Patch November 29, 2012 by Linda Percy: Reisterstown Community Cemetery Project

The Reisterstown Improvement Association is raising money to restore the historic cemetery on Cockeys Mill Road

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

Timonium cemetery adds Garden of Tranquility

Asian amenities compliment

long-standing tradition

October 22, 2012 by Mary Gail Hare, The Baltimore Sun

Dulaney Valley Memorial Park located in Cockeysville dedicated their Garden of Tranquility in the fall of 2012. The garden was designed for the

increasing number of Asian clients who were looking for a burial ground that was in keeping with their heritage. Dulaney Valley is the first Maryland cemetery that contains a labyrinth for contemplation. It is a 436 foot path that is calming in an urban landscape. In addition to the path, there are topiary animals from Tennessee, a pagoda built in Minnesota, carved granite benches, and an altar for offerings and incense.

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

**Baltimore County Council approves  
pet cemetery legislation**

October 1, 2012, by Alison Knezevich, The Baltimore Sun

The Baltimore County Council approved legislation that requires owners of pet cemeteries to publish a notice of their plans to sell or develop their cemetery for any other purpose other than a pet cemetery. The owners are also required to give written notice to all the owners of plots in the cemetery. The plot owners are entitled to reimbursement for the cost of the burial and if the plot hasn't been used then the cost of the plot.

[Editors' Note: An article appeared in the Fall 2012 issue of the Courier, beginning on page 5, about the Oakleigh Pet Cemetery that prompted the legislation to be introduced by Councilman David Marks.]

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

**Frederick County**

Burial Grounds of the Bush Creek Meeting of the  
Society of Friends

Have you ever heard of a "semi-lost" cemetery? The author feels that this accurately describes the old Bush Creek Quaker Cemetery in Monrovia,

Maryland. Relatively few residents in the area are aware of its existence and many of those who do know the location of the cemetery do not care about the rich history of the site.

Monrovia, Maryland, is a now just a pass-through group of buildings located on Green Valley Road (Route 75) one mile south of the antique center of New Market in southeast Frederick County. If it was not for an S-curve running through the center of the area, vehicle traffic would not slow when passing through it. However, during most of the two hundred years prior to 1950, the town played a major commercial role in the thriving surrounding agricultural and farming area. At present, much of the farm land has been or is in the process of being converted to housing developments. The old Monrovia boasted a general store with post office, farm machinery dealer, feed mill, corn canning factory, and a train station on the main line of the B & O Railroad from Cumberland to Baltimore. It was where a farmer could buy supplies and equipment, send and receive produce by train, sell his corn crop, and get mail; and the farm ladies could visit and share the local news. The town had a close connection with nearby New Market that is located just a mile away on the National Road from Baltimore to Cumberland. New Market was a residential hub and Monrovia was the business and commercial center during most of the past two centuries.

Evidently, there was a road connecting the two towns that was abandoned when a new modern road was built approximately 100 years ago. In March 1768, the Bush Creek Meeting of the Society of Friends acquired a four acre tract of land on the road approximately 600 yards from the center of Monrovia. The B & O Railroad later built a rail-

road line between Baltimore and Cumberland near the site as it passed through Monrovia. The Quaker community erected a wooden meeting house/church which served the thriving Quaker community for over 100 years until it was destroyed by fire set from cinders from a passing steam locomotive in the early Twentieth Century. According to local lore, the meeting house was an important stop on the Underground Railroad prior to the Civil War.

As soon as the meeting house became active, a cemetery was established on the plot of land and was actively used as a burial ground until around 1950. Unfortunately, the isolated location of the cemetery and the declining membership in the religion caused the burial grounds to become neglected and overgrown. At one time, a local farmer allowed his dairy herd to graze there, local hunters had deer blinds in it, and ATV riders had an obstacle course through the remaining tomb stones. However, the Frederick Meeting of the Society of Friends recently took control of the cemetery and is working to protect and restore it. The cemetery is located one-third of a mile down a dirt road that intersects Green Valley Road at the old abandoned two-story country store. A visitor must walk across the CSX Railroad track at the place where the dirt road has a sharp curve and go into the dense area that adjoins the tracks on the northeast side. There is a very limited parking just before the CSX tracks and clothing for rough terrain is advisable. The GPS coordinates are 39° 22' 21.1512" N, 77° 16' 27.8364" W.

I find the best time to visit the area is before the growing season so that I can more easily see the old graves. Unfortunately, most of the graves are unmarked because the wooden markers have de-

teriorated or the stones are missing. Even when I visit it on a hot summer day, the temperature in the cemetery seems to be 10 to 20 degrees cooler than the temperature in the surrounding area. It is hallowed ground and, in my opinion, in danger of being lost to the housing development craze in the area.

The semi-lost cemetery was the subject of a site visit and study in 2010 by the Outreach Committee of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc. As a result, several valuable suggestions were outlined in the report that followed the visit and this report is available to interested members of the CPMBS.

Patrick Warner

Silver Spring, Maryland

McDaniel students research  
African-American cemetery

By Julie Scharper, The Baltimore Sun

Rick Smith teaches a genealogy class at McDaniel College during the January term. His class combines genealogical research methods with actual documentation efforts of African-American cemeteries in Frederick County.

The students in his class enjoy tracing their own family trees. They also enjoy reconstructing the lives of the people buried in the small cemetery the group is documenting this term. The information that they gather will be posted on Dr. Smith's website, frederickroots.com. The website's mission is to "To document and preserve the history of the African-American communities of Frederick County, Maryland."

Documenting a common history

African-American cemeteries tell unique story

Originally published February 10, 2013

By Karen Gardner, Frederick News-Post Staff

Rick Smith is documenting the cemeteries of the small African-American churches in Frederick County. He is currently working in John Wesley Methodist Cemetery in Libertytown. Dr. Smith estimates that there are 130 known graves sites in the cemetery but there could be as many as two or three times more because some markers have disappeared or the graves were never marked.

The students and Smith are painstakingly documenting the cemeteries. If a stone is illegible the students will dust the surface with flour to help read the letters. [Editors' Note: Not a method condoned by the Association for Gravestone Studies. See <https://www.gravestonestudies.org/preservation.htm> for more information.] The students are enjoying the time researching their family roots as well as working in the cemeteries. Some have even organized cleanups for the cemeteries they have documented.

At the John Wesley Methodist Cemetery the last burial was in August 2004 and the first burial is believed to be Mary Rollins in 1855.

Dr. Smith has found that yucca plants seem to be a traditional planting in Frederick County burial grounds. Honeysuckle and bramble briars have grown over many of the stones. The church membership who could have been the potential caretakers, have moved away. Dr. Smith is hoping by documenting the cemetery he can bring life back to the cemetery.

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

### Montgomery County

Vandalism at Rockville Cemetery

Rockville Cemetery Association Newsletter

Page 2, December 2012

Vandalism is not new to Rockville Cemetery and vandalism has once again appeared in this tranquil setting. Vandals have pushed over grave-stones and in some cases the momentum of falling has caused the stone to break. Neighbors, lot owners, and friends of the cemetery are asked to be vigilant and report any vandalism to the Rockville Police at their non-emergency number (240) 314-8900 or in an emergency, 911.

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

### Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee is in the process of preparing a slate of nominees for this year's election. The ballot will be presented for vote by the general membership at the Annual Meeting on April 27, 2013, to be held in Silver Spring, Montgomery County, MD. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the vote but will be subject to the nominee accepting the nomination.

Melvin Mason

Nominating Committee



Photograph by Sarah Warner: The Carroll Chapel and part of St. John the Evangelist Cemetery where the Coalition will hold the "Walk and Talk" program during our Annual Meeting.

**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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**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites is to promote the preservation and protection of the burial sites, cemeteries, and grave yards in Maryland.

**Coalition Objectives**

The Coalition, through its members in each county, hopes 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**

Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer, [de\\_nesmeyer@yahoo.com](mailto:de_nesmeyer@yahoo.com)  
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**2013 Publication Deadlines**

Spring	March 15, 2013
Summer	June 15, 2013
Fall	September 15, 2013
Winter	December 15, 2013

**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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Melvin Mason (2012-2014)	(Prince Georges) (301) 325-1248 <a href="mailto:Melvin.mason@gmail.com">Melvin.mason@gmail.com</a>

**Standing Committees**

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

**Web Site**

<http://www.cpmbs.org>

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

**NOTE: This is NOT a renewal notification; it is provided for convenience only.  
Membership year is June 1 through May 31st**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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<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) 461-6313

Make Checks Payable to: **Coalition to Protect Maryland  
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Can you help us in our various efforts? Please list occupations / skills / interest. \_\_\_\_\_  
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