The 22nd Annual Meeting was held at the Fr. Rosensteel Council of the Knights of Columbus in Forest Glen, Montgomery County!

Coalition members, guests, and speakers met in Forest Glen on Saturday, April 27, 2013, for the Annual Meeting. The venue was the Fr. Rosensteel Council of the Knights of Columbus Hall. The weather cooperated and approximately 35 people attended the meeting.

The silent auction table opened early with many items available to view and place bids. Sandra Wright assisted with the gift shop while Amanda Becker moved around the silent auction tables, collecting donated items, preparing bid slips, and answering questions. Amanda’s report on the auction can be found on page 6.

At 9:15 a.m. President Eileen McGuckian opened the meeting. She welcomed all who made the trip to Silver Spring. Secretary J. Patrick Warner briefly discussed the facilities and the history of the area. The business meeting was held and the minutes for the meeting begin on page 3.

The Coalition presented two Periwinkle Awards this year. The first recipient was All Hallows Parish Cemetery Committee located in Anne Arundel County. Committee member Bridget Blake was present to receive the award. Our
second recipient was Robert Mosko. See the article beginning on page 6 that further discusses the recipients and their projects.

Our keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting was Erich March. See the article by Eileen McGuckian that follows for a summary of his presentation.

After our keynote speaker we held an Open Forum. President McGuckian asked the attendees to stand in turn and introduce themselves to the group. After the introductions the floor was open for anyone that had questions, needed guidance, or just wanted to discuss their cemetery.

There was a “Walk and Talk” program held after lunch. Joseph McPherson, a local guide discussed the rich history of the area, St. John the Evangelist 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. Burials at the cemetery date back to the 1790s, including the Carroll family and other early residents. After Mr. McPherson’s introduction, the attendees were led to the stone church where additional information was provided. Afterwards Mr. McPherson led the group into the cemetery and continued to provide background information as the group moved throughout the cemetery.

The Carroll Chapel was opened for our tour and Geraldine Bonin was present in the Chapel to answer questions.

Eileen McGuckian took the lead for the planning and execution of the Annual Meeting with assistance from Pat and Sarah Warner and Dave Mills. Job well done as it was another successful Annual Meeting.

Diane Nesmeyer

The keynote speaker for the Annual Meeting was Erich March, industry representative on the Advisory Council to the Maryland Office of Cemetery Oversight (OCO). March Funeral Homes, which began in 1957, is today one of largest African American funeral homes in the United States (serving 3,000 burials and funerals each year) and is caretaker of the largest African American cemetery in the country. Mr. March described how since the 1970s families have relied upon both funeral homes and cemeteries, and how OCO was formed in 1997.

OCO’s responsibility is for consumer protection and concerns. The office director, Marilyn Harris-Davis, relies upon administrative support and on recommendations of its Advisory Council for Cemetery Operations. OCO follows up complaints, mediates conflicts, and has legal authority to file and pursue criminal charges against cemetery operators. OCO is authorized by the MD General Assembly through 2022.

OCO has thus far catalogued more than 5,000 cemeteries in MD. Of these, it only regulates and charges fees to 72 because the law does not cover nonprofits or family and religious cemeteries. OCO also regulates 46 monument dealers and 6 nonprofits that sell burial goods. The law requires that 10% of the money received for every
burial contract be maintained in a perpetual care trust account so it can be tapped to maintain that cemetery; only interest income can be used for maintenance, roads, etc.

Many cemeteries fall through the cracks: What happens when all land is used and no income derives from lot sales and burials? What if the cemetery is abandoned? Who will administer the perpetual fund for a defunct cemetery? At the request of the General Assembly, the Advisory Council came up with a proposal to aid neglected cemeteries through the Maryland Cemetery Heritage Program. Donations and local government participation are voluntary, and the program would provide resources (funds and person-power) for abandoned and neglected cemeteries. This proposal remains on paper until private individuals, public officials, and perhaps CPMBS pick up the banner. What do you think??

Eileen McGuckian

Editors’ Corner

The Coalition’s Annual Meeting is but a memory as is the first Board Meeting for the 2013-2014 year. This issue contains a report of the Annual Meeting, the silent auction, and the Periwinkle Award recipients as well as the minutes for the Annual and the important first board meeting for the new year. Tina Simmons wrote an intriguing article about the plight of yet another cemetery too close to the shores of the Chesapeake Bay. The Outreach Committee report has returned in this issue and provides information about the last 6 months of outreach activities. The Anne Arundel Genealogical Society has set the dates for their inscription days. The information can be found on page 13. If you have some free time please consider assisting the Society to document the burials in several cemeteries in Anne Arundel County. Jeff and I will attend as many events as our schedule allows.

The angel has a pair of scissors and is in the process of cutting the blooms that are draped across her lap. In researching this marker I found information about the “Fates”. Atropos, she who cannot be turned, who at death with her shears cuts the thread of life. Druid Ridge Cemetery

The weather has been a mixed bag after a cool, wet spring. We did spend a lovely afternoon in April in the Druid Ridge Cemetery in Baltimore County after helping St. Vincent Cemetery during their spring clean up day. The trees were in bloom, the skies were blue, and the clouds offered a very nice background for the over 100 pictures that I took. Cemetery symbols are my passion and this cemetery did not disappoint. We hope you have been able to spend some time in your own or other cemetery doing what it is you love.

We would like to thank Eileen McGuckian, Patrick Warner, Dave Mills, Tina Simmons, Amanda Becker, Melvin Mason, and Candy Warden for their contributions to this issue.

Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer

Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting

Father Rosensteel Council,
Knights of Columbus
Forest Glen, Maryland
April 27, 2013

President Eileen McGuckian called the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc. (herein known as the Coalition) to order at 9:15 a.m. on April 27, 2013 at the Father Rosensteel Council #2169 of the Knights of...
Columbus in Forest Glen, Maryland. 41 members and guests were in attendance. There was a quorum. In addition to President McGuckian, the following officers were in attendance: Edward Taylor, Jr., Vice President for Legislative Affairs John E. Higgins, Jr., Secretary J. Patrick Warner, and Treasurer Gerhardt Kraske.

President McGuckian announced that Amanda Becker had organized the Silent Auction and Sandra Wright was in charge of the sale of books and gifts table.

Secretary Warner welcomed everyone to the Father Rosensteel Council of the Knights of Columbus and gave a brief history of St. John the Evangelist Cemetery and historic area.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee reports:*

**Membership Committee** - Committee Chairman Kristin Kraske reported that the number of members is 79. The number of paid members is 70.

**Outreach Committee** - Committee Chairman Diane Nesmeyer reported on the many activities of the Outreach Committee.

**Nominating Committee** - In the absence of Nominating Committee Chairman Melvin Mason, Committee Member Kristin Kraske nominated the following officers for the 2013 – 2015 term of office:

- Secretary J. Patrick Warner
- Treasurer Gerhardt Kraske

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, she also nominated the following directors to serve during the period from 2013 – 2015:

- Barbara Kraske, Kristin Kraske, Thomas Mason, Paul Miller, Robert Mosko, Sandra Wright

The slate of directors and officers was seconded by Diane Nesmeyer and approved by unanimous voice vote.

**PERIWINKLE AWARDS** – Serving on the Periwinkle Awards Committee for 2013 were Melvin Mason, Diane Nesmeyer, and Candy Warden. On behalf of the committee and the Coalition, Diane Nesmeyer presented the 2013 Periwinkle Awards to:

- Bridget Black, Joan Placido, and the *All Hallows Parish* of Anne Arundel County for protecting and preserving two cemeteries in their care. A brief video followed the award presentation.
- Robert Mosko of *Mosko Cemetery Monument Services* for sustained commitment to preserving, conserving, and rehabilitating historic cemeteries and monuments.

**OFFICE OF CEMETERY OVERSIGHT**

*Speaker* – Erich March, a member of the Advisory Council on Cemetery Operations of the *Maryland Office of Cemetery Oversight,* discussed the role of the state of Maryland’s Office of Cemetery Oversight and how the regulatory authority is functioning in the current environment.

A question and answer session followed his presentation.

**OPEN FORUM and Group Discussion**

During this one hour period, Coalition members presented their specific cemetery situations and problems and sought answers and solutions from the attendees.

The meeting was suspended for lunch.

**“WALK AND TALK” (Afternoon Session)**

Secretary Warner introduced Geraldine “Jerry” Bonin, a former docent of the historic John Carroll Chapel, and Joseph McPherson, educator and expert on the history of the Carroll Family and the graves in St. John the Evangelist Cemetery. With the two experts, the attendees toured the historic St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and the replica of the John Carroll Chapel. Both Jerry Bonin and Joe McPherson talked about the history of the structures, the cemetery, and the graves of the many notables buried in the cemetery.

During the “Walk and Talk” tour, Diane Nesmeyer noted symbolism on the tombstones and Robert Mosko responded to questions about conserving and restoring the grave markers.

President McGuckian adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Patrick Warner
Secretary  
Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc.  

__________ Approved  

DRAFT Minutes of the Board of Directors  
Quarterly Meeting, June 1, 2013  
East Columbia Branch Library, Columbia, Maryland  

President Eileen McGuckian called the quarterly meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. on January 19, 2013. Those present were: Officers: President McGuckian and Vice President for Legislative Affairs John Higgins. Directors: Kristin Kraske, James Lanier, Melvin Mason, Thomas Mason, Paul Miller, and Candy Warden. Members: Stephanie and Les Town and Dave Mills.

Treasurer’s Report and Approval of Minutes: Kristin Kraske spoke for the Treasurer with an annual meeting summary and a total estimated CPMBS worth of $14,730.33; the report was accepted. Minutes of the January 19 board and April 27 annual meetings were approved as presented.

Committee Reports:  
Outreach: Melvin Mason reported that a new tri-board is replacing one that was destroyed and requested input on content. He passed around a draft of the new rack card and noted that the Boy Scout guide is nearly complete. Citing specific items needed for the Outreach Kit, he made a motion to authorize expenditure of up to $750 for this purpose, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Periwinkle Awards: All agreed on the high quality of the 2013 awards. Candy Warden wants to ensure that all nominations include adequate back-up information by the nominators, for review by the judges. It is understood that candidates need not only be cemetery projects, but also preservation initiatives.

Membership: Kristin Kraske reported 88 members, with 2013 renewals delayed but now coming in.

Unfinished and Old Business:  
Some Coalition members have suggested reviving “Family Remembrance Week” in Maryland. Board discussion included whether coinciding with Memorial Day was wise or whether a separate date would be preferable, who would conduct follow-up, and logistics. This issue was tabled until the summer meeting, at which time the board will discuss ways to increase Coalition visibility and effectiveness. The group authorized Eileen to call for interested parties to identify graves of those who fought in the War of 1812.

New Business:  
Legislative Affairs: John Higgins summarized the proposal of the Advisory Council to the Maryland Office of Cemetery Oversight that would create the Maryland Cemetery Heritage Program. Individuals and businesses could check off an item on their State income tax return or contribute directly to a special fund that would be available for direct grants and for administrative costs for counties, municipalities, and the administering agency (Maryland State Archives). Local government participation is voluntary. The program would also provide funds for cemetery organizations, a local and statewide inventory of cemeteries, a statewide Adopt a Cemetery Program, and possibly partnerships with schools, internships, correctional services, etc.

This proposal resulted from the General Assembly’s request to study the issue of “abandoned and neglected” cemeteries and to report back. The Advisory Council’s report went to the GA as the economy slid and the Governor permitted no new initiatives. The role of MD State Archives is crucial, and MD Public Safety expressed interest. Initial discussion around the CPMBS table opened with expressions of concern re bureaucratic implications and whether the Coalition should undertake a role. This topic will be on the next meeting agenda.

Rosa Bonheur Cemetery: Candy provided background on this property and updated information on the current situation. Pet and human burials here date from the 1920s, with many more in the last quarter-century, more than 10,000 in all. This property is included in a proposed development project/rezoning, and protections offered by County listing and State law appear to be ignored.
The Coalition sent a letter in April for the public hearing. Candy and Paul Miller have met with the developer and planning staff.

**Endangered Maryland:** Eileen suggested that historic Maryland cemeteries be nominated for Preservation Maryland’s 2014 Endangered Maryland listing; nominations are due in September. Eileen will send information out to the board.

Two dates for the next quarterly meeting – summer 2013 – were suggested. Kristin will check on interest and availability of September 7 and August 31.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Mills, CPMBS member

**Silent Auction**

Another successful Coalition Silent Auction was held at the Annual Meeting. With thirty-four wonderful donations the silent auction raised $374.85 for the Coalition’s treasury. Books, Longaberger baskets, prints and cemetery-related items were placed in a separate silent auction room. President Eileen McGuckian gave a certificate for a tour of Rockville cemeteries – a very creative way to visit more Maryland cemeteries. Barb and Gary Kraske gave a pretty glass Bonsai tree created in San Francisco’s Chinatown. Bridget Blake gave DVD’s covering three seasons of Downton Abbey. Special thanks to the silent auction donors Bridget Blake, Barbara and Gary Kraske, Eileen McGuckian, Brenda McNeal, Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer, Sandra Wright, Dave Mills, Amanda Becker and a mystery person! Quiet bidding occurred and winners took home some great items for a great cause.

Amanda Becker

**Periwinkle Award Recipients**

**All Hallows Parish Cemetery Committee**

Our first recipient for the 2013 Periwinkle Award was the All Hallows Parish Cemetery Committee located in Anne Arundel County. Committee members include Bridget Blake and Joan Placido.

The Cemetery Committee is charged with protecting two parish cemeteries. Some statistics for the cemeteries: the earliest known burial at the All Hallows Brick Church Cemetery is 1730 and the earliest at the Chapel Cemetery is 1860. There are approximately 750 interments in the two cemeteries with an estimated 450 monuments plus footstones and family plot markers.

The Parish Cemetery Committee began their caretaking work in the cemeteries shortly after a condition assessment was made in 2009. Some of their activities since 2009 include: protecting the stones by planting periwinkle around the base of the markers to prevent damage from mowers and trimmers; securing funds to reset 65 markers and for other preservation work; being vigilant in ensuring the trees are in good condition, the bushes are maintained, and the gingko fruit is removed; protecting the records by purchasing a fireproof safe; and working with an Eagle Scout candidate and mapmaker to map the Brick Church Cemetery.
If not for their dedication and hard work their cemeteries would look vastly different than they do today. A cemetery that has an air of neglect or abandonment about it is a magnet for vandals and thieves. Their perseverance and commitment are instrumental in helping to keep their two cemeteries from "neglect, desecration, or other illegal activities". They are an inspiration and support the concept that being attentive to the needs of a cemetery can be more important than having to jump in after benign neglect or calamity. Bridget Blake was present and received the award on behalf of the Committee. Unfortunately, Joan Placido was unable attend the meeting due to illness.

A DVD for All Hallow’s Cemetery, created by Bridget Blake’s son was played for the attendees.

Diane Nesmeyer

Our second recipient for the 2013 Periwinkle Award was Robert Mosko. For over 10 years Robert has been an active, contributing member of the Coalition.

His contribution list is long but some highlights include:
- He has written many articles for the Courier over the years.
- His tenure on the Board of Directors began in 2009 and continues to the present.
- He was instrumental in obtaining space to hold our 2009 meeting in Perryman and the 2011 meeting in Thurmont.

Robert Mosko

- He has served on the Nominating Committee.
- He is currently an active member of the Outreach Committee. In that capacity he attends Outreach meetings and makes appearances on behalf of the Coalition.
- Robert is always ready, willing, and able to conduct Cemetery Preservation workshops and presentations and has done so many times for the Coalition.

Candy Warden

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<th>Officers and Board of Directors</th>
<th>For 2013-2014</th>
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Outreach Committee

Report for the first and second quarters, 2013.

An article about the Trotten family graves appeared in The Dundalk Eagle on January 16, 2013. Melvin and Tom Mason reported on the Committee’s visit to this cemetery in the Winter 2012-2013 issue of the Courier. Melvin and Tom’s report begins on page 5 of that issue. Nicole Rodman while researching for her article discovered Melvin and Tom’s pictures of the cemetery that had been posted to Flickr. Ms. Rodman contacted Melvin and Tom and used the pictures in her article and also mentioned the Outreach Committee. Ms. Rodman provided a very detailed history of the Trotten family and her full article can be found online at http://dundalkeagle.com/home/2-slideshow/43925-historic-cemetery-occupies-space-on-steel-mill-site.

On February 17th, Troop 264 of Brookeville gathered for their Eagle Scout Award Court. Coalition members present to support Justin Stine, one of the recipients of the 2012 Periwinkle Award were Amanda Becker, Robert Mosko, Leonard Be- craft, Jeff and Diane Nesmeyer. The Court is steeped in tradition and during the ceremony Robert Mosko was made an honorary member of Justin’s troop for his assistance when the subject of Justin’s Eagle Scout project was vandalized. [Editors’ Note: Previous articles appear in the Summer 2012 issue beginning on page 9, and the Winter 2012-2013 also beginning on page 9.]

The Committee met on March 10th and again on April 21st at the East Columbia Library. We discussed making a few changes and adding new information to the Coalition’s Guide to Burial Site Stewardship. The changes will be made at such time when we are ready to order another printing. The changes will be reported in a future Outreach Committee Report.

The Committee has reviewed and made changes to the 2013 Periwinkle Award Guidelines to be used by the 2014 Committee. We also created a Periwinkle Award timeline to assist the Committee in completing the task of searching for and selecting recipients for the award each year.

We finalized the list of items to be included in an Outreach Kit. The Kit will contain items that members will need when they appear at events on the Coalition’s behalf. Such items include membership flyers, a copy of the Guide and sale flyers for the Guide, and the tri-fold board.

The Committee will send letters to 52 historical and genealogical societies in the state offering one complimentary copy of the Guide for their organization.

The Committee prepared a draft outline for the Boy Scout Guide for Community Service Projects in Cemeteries and we have begun filling in the outline.

We recently sent a complimentary copy of the Guide to the Talbot County Free Library. A note was received by the Coalition that reads: “Thank you very much for your group’s donation of “The Coalition’s Guide to Burial Site Stewardship,” to the Maryland Room of the Talbot County Free Library. This work will be catalogued and added to our collection for patron’s use. It is greatly appreciated.

Yes, we are very pleased to be in our brand new Maryland Room. If you get to the Eastern Shore, please visit us. Of course there are many...
old cemeteries in Talbot Co, and some are in good shape. Others need work. Thank you again, Best Regards, Becky Riti.”

Jeff and I volunteered at the spring clean up at St. Vincents Cemetery in Baltimore City. There was a large group in attendance. Several people with chainsaws cut down the invasive trees and others gathered and/or hauled the branches to the top of the hill for disposal.

Someone contacted the Governor’s Office in regard to a cemetery in Bladensburg. The Governor’s Office contacted Marilyn Harris-Davis of the Office of Cemetery Oversight who in turn contacted the Coalition. The subject of the communication was Evergreen Cemetery. Melvin Mason of the Outreach Committee was familiar with the cemetery and suggested that the parties involved contact the Town of Bladensburg. The Mayor of Bladensburg reported to Ms. Harris-Davis that the Department of Environmental Services cuts the grass at this cemetery four times per year and would take care of it.

Diane Nesmeyer

I am hauling branches up the hill at St. Vincent Cemetery

Please welcome the our new members:
Joan Placido          Anne Arundel County
Glenn Wallace         Montgomery County
Preservation Trust of Wicomico, Inc. c/o Thomas J. Lawton Wicomico County
Thomas Frederick Conlon, Allegany County
Denise E. Coughlin   Montgomery County
Collaborative Law Group Howard County
David Conway          Howard County

Anne Arundel County
The story of a small family cemetery
By Tina Simmons

In recording cemetery locations in Anne Arundel County I collect records of burials from a number of sources. In my files, I had a copy of inscriptions for a small cemetery completed by the Peggy Stewart Tea Party Chapter of the D.A.R. done around 1941. In 1993, I was contacted by the former owner of the property and shown a small family cemetery close to the Chesapeake Bay. It was located in a deep thicket and quite close to the water. He was interested in having the cemetery’s connection to the property researched for himself as well as for the new owner. I recorded the information from the stones, found a reference for a Maryland Historical Trust nomination for a farmhouse on the property and its Anne Arundel County file number. That record made no mention of a cemetery. The 1878 Hopkins map shows the farmhouse’s location. I was unable to find any information about the individuals buried there. In 2008 I went on a “St. Margaret’s History Tour” and the accompanying notes by Mack Ridout listed the farmhouse and mentioned a small cemetery “just south of the house on the very edge of the Bay”.

Several years later I was asked by the Cultural Resources Planner in the Anne Arundel County Planning and Zoning office if I knew of any cemeteries that were endangered by the rising water table. This cemetery was among the ones I mentioned to them. I share all my cemetery locations with the county and they, in turn, flag their records and maps for further investigation if any development is planned in the immediate area.

In February of 2012 I was contacted by the county again. They had received a call from a hunter about a badly eroding site and cast iron casket in the water. A lidless coffin was found submerged in the water with only the skull remaining. Another coffin was on the beach and a 6’x 4’ tombstone was hanging two feet over the edge of the bluff. I was asked for my information about the cemetery and if I could attempt to find any descendants. Although there were only four known burials, they included three different surnames, a one-year old child, and death dates ranging from 1841
to 1858 so limited records were available. I was able to determine that two of the individuals were husband and wife and the infant was probably a child of their married granddaughter. Caste iron caskets were popular during the early to mid-1800s and popular since they were sturdy, retained odors, and preserved the body. During the Civil War they were effective for transporting bodies over long distances from battlefields. While pine coffins in the 1850s would have cost around $2, a Fisk coffin could command a price upwards of $100. Nonetheless, the metallic coffins were highly desirable by more affluent individuals and families for their ability to deter grave robbers.

I managed to find several people with the same surnames. Some of them were interested in hearing about a possible re-burial project but none were predisposed to assist financially. One couple was interested in possibly having the individuals taken to Calvert County where their surname was quite common. I contacted the closest church, an historic Episcopal church with a cemetery, to see if they might be willing to take in the occupants from the site. Several other cemeteries in the county contained the same surnames but they were far from the current cemetery’s site and no direct relationships could be found. A deed search did not show any evidence of the cemetery.

I contacted the former owner of a monument company about what was needed to have graves moved. I was told: 1) get a local funeral director since permits were required for exhumations and announcements had to be published in local newspapers; 2) next of kin could give preference as to where a re-burial was desired; 3) exhumations could be done quickly for “safety” reasons with funeral homes holding the bodies until logistics could be worked out; 4) cost considerations should include exhumation, transportation, purchasing grave plot, digging the grave, and costs for liner/vault and burial (estimating $20,000 for 4 graves); 5) iron caskets might be easier to move than rotted wood ones; and 6) reburials may require concrete liners or vaults depending on cemetery requirements.

The current owner of the property, an environmental foundation, put together a contract but, according to the county, wanted the county to assume full responsibility for moving the graves and the foundation was not willing to offer any financial assistance for the project. At about that time relations between the foundation and the county deteriorated and the county did not participate further.

I spoke to a local archeologist representing the foundation. He indicated that the Smithsonian was interested in the remains but not their coffins. He said one of the coffins, an adult’s molded expensive coffin had broken open and that the skull “was in safekeeping”. A child’s coffin was found about 25 feet out in the water and was covered during high tides. He said he’d gotten approval from the foundation and the county to move those two caskets (only) to higher ground. He said a footstone was close to the bluff’s edge.

Time went by and I heard nothing further. I was told that several of the graves had been moved inland but nearby. I asked if I could visit the site with several members of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites. After several failed attempts, this past February Dennis Green, Winger West, a member of our local genealogy society and I were able to meet up with the foundation’s caretaker who showed us the site. He had been present for the re-burials of the two caskets and one tombstone. He also showed us a cast iron casket foot found after the reburials. We viewed the site of the reburials and, although we were not permitted to do any clearing, we were able to take rubbings and photos, something not done on my initial visit. We located all the stones recorded twenty years earlier. Two stones were located very close to the bluff’s edge, one being only about a foot from the edge. I expect that our group might be the last to view these stones.

In March I met a young local archeologist who worked for the firm involved with the reburials. He sent me copies of several unique photos from that day.

In closing, I learned a considerable amount about the politics involved in any situation such as this one, about exhumations, the genealogy of working forward to track families, and how so many diverse groups each offering their own area
of expertise, become involved with such a project. Some of these graves will probably slip into the bay in the not too distant future while others have been rescued for the time being but their information will be preserved for future generations.

Tina Simmons

Photograph Notes: Headstone and footstone for John Weedon have been moved inland (west) about 20 feet from the others. The second grave is unmarked and is "of a juvenile" according to Andrew Wood, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation representative. There has been more erosion since he had last been there and Martha Weedon and Martha V. Nicholson are closest to the edge. Near the brick building at the end of the driveway is a foot from one of the caskets that was found after the re-burial of the caskets.

News from the Counties

Anne Arundel

Crownsville church finds unmarked graves, seeks answers

By E. B. Furgurson, III, Staff Writer

St. Paul’s Chapel in Crownsville conducted a survey to determine how much space was available for future burials. A company came in with ground-penetrating radar and swept the grounds. Little white flags were eventually placed at the locations of the previously unknown unmarked graves.

The congregants are determined to identify those buried in the graveyard. Using lists of graves that were compiled years ago volunteer Sharon Beard has found names for about 25 of the 76 unmarked graves. Research to identify the rest of the unmarked graves continues.

Ms. Beard asks anyone that has documents or other evidence of burials at St. Paul’s can contact Fred Blair (410) 923-0293.

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

Carroll County (by way of Baltimore City)

Back Story: City’s historic black cemetery was moved to Carroll but thousands of remains were sealed under parking lot and store built on the site

By Frederick N. Rasmussen, The Baltimore Sun February 21, 2013

The Laurel Cemetery Co. was incorporated in 1852. The cemetery was at one time the premier resting place for Baltimore’s African-American community and would eventually contain an estimated 5000 burials. Even the Federal Government used part of the land as a national cemetery for the burial of 230 black veterans. Those Civil War veterans were reinterred at Loudon Park Cemetery when road projects required their removal in 1886 and 1911.
By the 1930s, the lands had become an overgrown ruin and nearby residents were using it as their dumping ground. In 1951 The Sun reported the land was a playground for local children and an “eyesore”. Laurel Cemetery Co. declared bankruptcy in 1952.

Gov. Theodore R. McKeldin signed a bill dissolving the cemetery and the property was sold to McKamer Realty Corp who subsequently sold it to Vornado Corp. Many Baltimoreans will remember this site as being the Two Guys retail store across from Clifton Park.

Approximately 300 remains were removed and reinterred in a 3-acre site in Johnsville, Carroll County, also called Laurel. Alma Moore told The Sun in a 2000 interview that “it is safe to assume that thousands of remains were sealed beneath the parking lot and store that were eventually constructed on the site.”

The 300 remains fared no better in their new location. The site became overgrown and neglected. In 2000, Boy Scouts and several Liberty High School students worked with George Murphy, an educator and environmentalist, to restore the cemetery.

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

Howard County

June 14, 2013
Re: Amendment No. 37.003 -- Opposed to Rezoning

Dear Howard County Council Members:

The Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc., (CPMBS) urges your consideration of the past and the future of Rosa Bonheur Memorial Park, 7239 Washington Blvd., in Elkridge. CPMBS is a state-wide nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the preservation and protection of the burial sites, cemeteries, and graveyards in Maryland. Our organization was founded in Howard County in 1991 and remains based here.

This 7.8-acre parcel has served as a sacred burying ground for almost 80 years. For half of that period, the cemetery was well managed, but in recent decades, it has been neglected, the subject of criminal and civil litigation, and vandalized. Despite these obstacles, for many years a feisty group of volunteers has contributed considerable time and energy to reviving Rosa Bonheur Cemetery. They have made considerable progress, despite the lack of encouragement from recent owners.

The proposed rezoning of the entire block would jeopardize the cemetery's future. Although on paper Rosa Bonheur Memorial Park is protected by the Cemetery Preservation Act of 1993 and State of Maryland laws, as a practical matter rezoning of the large block that contains the cemetery would endanger the property's continuation as a burial ground. Without your recognition and protection of this important historic property, it can be destroyed by inappropriate development.

Our Coalition requests that you enable Rose Bonheur Memorial Park to continue to improve its appearance, its usefulness, and its place in Howard County’s history. Please reject the proposed rezoning as presented.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Eileen McGuckian, president
Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc.

Washington County

Pa. man found guilty of Md. Cemetery vase thefts

March 22, 2013, The Herald-Mail of Hagerstown, Md.

Bryan Lynn Fishack, 27, from Pennsylvania has been found guilty of stealing almost 300 bronze vases valued at over $40,000 from Rest Haven Cemetery in Hagerstown. The vases were stolen in October and given to at least two women to sell to scrap metal companies. One woman contacted the Washington County Sheriff’s Department and the other admitted to selling the vases. Mr. Fishack will be the guest of the State of Maryland for four years.

Summarized by Diane Nesmeyer

[Note: This story sounded very familiar. There is another case in Frederick County involving Resthaven Memorial Gardens. Two different men have been charged in that case. Reported in the Winter 2012-2013 issue of the Courier.]
Maryland burial sites of War of 1812 veterans and citizens

I’m sure you know that not only is this the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, but also that our Fair State played a major role in the second war for American independence. For 18 months of this conflict, the British Royal Navy terrorized towns and villages on the Chesapeake Bay. One of the war’s defining victories -- the battle of Baltimore, during which the Star Spangled Banner was written -- took place in Maryland, as did one of America’s worst defeats -- the Battle of Bladensburg, after which Washington, D.C. was burned. From February 1813 through August 1814, Maryland soldiers, sailors, and civilians protected their lives and properties from far-superior British warships. Some lost their lives, while others survived to rebuild their lives in Maryland.

Are any War of 1812 Veterans buried in your cemetery? Consider this a challenge to identify War of 1812-related burial sites in your cemetery and in your County! Please send your list (and brief explanations and photos) of burials and cemeteries to me at pres@cpmbs.org and we’ll publish them in an upcoming issue of the Coalition Courier. Questions and comments go to the same address.

Cheers, Eileen McGuckian, president, CPMBS

Upcoming Cemetery Events

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: Crownsville Military Veterans Cemetery, Crownsville
When: Saturday, August 3, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Location: 1080 Sunrise Beach Road, Crownsville, MD 21032
Directions: From the west: Take Rt. 3 to the Veterans Hwy which runs parallel to Rt. 3 just below Severna Park. Take General’s Hwy. (Rt. 178) east to Sunrise Beach Rd. Just past Evergreen Road, the cemetery will be on your left.
From Annapolis: take General’s Hwy. (Rt. 178) west. Turn right onto Old General’s Hwy. (Rt. 178) at the traffic light. Turn right onto Sunrise Beach Rd. Just past Evergreen Road, the cemetery will be on your left.
Questions/raindate: Tina Simmons at 410-978-7167
Where: Hillcrest Cemetery, Annapolis
When: Saturday, October 12, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Location: 1911 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401
Directions: From the west: From Solomons Island Road (Rt. 2) go east on Forest Drive. The cemetery will be on your right.
From the east: Take Forest Drive to Chiqupin Round Road. Go left onto Forest Drive. The cemetery will be on your left.
Questions/raindate: Tina Simmons at 410-978-7167

National Pet Memorial Day

The International Association of Pet Cemeteries and Crematories established more than 40 years ago "National Pet Memorial Day", which is observed annually on the Second Sunday in September.

The International Association of Pet Cemeteries and Crematories

4991 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, GA 30341
Ph. 1-800-952-5541

Posted to our Website

Comments:

I noted your efforts to maintain this site while reading the Spring Vol. 21-1 2013 of CPMBS and was impelled to comment professional appearance and clarity of this site backing up the excellent information of the organization's excellent printed record of its work and plans.
My interest in Historic Preservation began while serving in the Maryland House at Annapolis during the mid-fifties when State and Federal laws on the subject were new and rather controversial. William Paca house was a rundown lodging and the garden was filled in and buried under blacktop for parking. Much has been achieved but the fight to respect and preserve our physical historic sites will never end.

Thomas F Conlon US Army retired Cumberland MD 21502-2038

Additional Photographs from the Annual Meeting

Dennis Green, Tina Simmons, and Dave Mills

Jeff Nesmeyer and Amanda Becker

Members visiting St. John the Evangelist Church

Tour of the cemetery

All photographs in this issue by Diane Nesmeyer unless noted otherwise.

Next Quarterly Board Meeting
Saturday September 21, 2013
from 2:45 p.m. until 4:45 p.m.

Miller Branch of the Howard County Library
9421 Frederick Road, Avalon Room
Ellicott City, MD 21042
Phone: (410) 313-1950

Check the library website at http://www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=20 for direc-
The Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites is a non-profit organization that advocates for the protection and preservation of burial sites, cemeteries, and graveyards in Maryland. Its mission is to promote the protection and preservation of burial sites regardless of their age, cultural affiliation or condition. The Coalition aims to raise funds for statewide public education programs that focus on burial sites and the serious threats to them.

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.

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 burial sites, cemeteries, and graveyards 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.
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Editors
Diane and Jeff Nesmeyer, de_nesmeyer@yahoo.com
14326 Springbrook Ct., Woodbridge, VA 22193-3421

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.

2013-2014 Officers and Board of Directors

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<td>John Wright (2013-2014)</td>
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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 ____________________________________________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________________________________
City ________________________ County ________________________ State __________ ZIP ____________
Phone ________________________ E-mail ________________________ Date ________________________

_____ New Membership Rates:
_____ Renewal

Annual Membership Rates: Individual………………………$ 10
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 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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