Message from the President

Welcome Spring! We finished the winter months with more maintenance projects in the Pullen Museum. The water damaged baseboard was replaced and freshly painted. The door leading to the back yard was replaced with a new steel door and the door to the handicap entrance had the knob and lock repaired. With all of the recent repair work, the Pullen Museum has been transformed into a lovely meeting space. The Board Appreciation dinner was held there in February and a good time was had by all.

I am looking forward to our upcoming events this Spring – the Colonial Dinner, Authors Night and the Home and Garden Tour. The newsletter contains details for all the events.

Our next board meeting will be April 11th at 7 pm in the Pullen building. All are welcome to attend.

As always any member that wishes to contribute to the newsletter is encouraged and should contact Patti at plrusk@msn.com, we welcome your contribution.

Polly Gardenghi
President
Mark your calendars! The next Catonsville Home and Garden Tour will be Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 10 AM to 4 PM. The tour will include a collection of some of Catonsville’s finest homes. We are once again partnering with the local Catonsville restaurants to offer you some wonderful discounts on the day of the tour. Just present your ticket/brochure to receive your discount. Tickets will be available for members only beginning April 8th for a special price of $25. Sales will be open to the general public on April 15th and at that time all tickets will be $30. Be sure to get your tickets early.

There are several ways to purchase:

- Online at our website [www.catonsvillehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.catonsvillehistoricalsociety.org)
- Objects Found, 11 Egges Lane, Catonsville 21228 Monday – Sunday 10 AM – 6 PM
- Tuesday, April 11 6 to 7 PM (prior to the Board meeting) at the Pullen Museum, 1824 Frederick Rd., Catonsville 21228
"So, just what IS Author Night?" I don't really know what to say, because it's been a little different each year. We started the event about five years ago as a way to introduce new people to the society. I envisioned the evening as sort of an informal cocktail party-type event where authors would carry on quiet discussions with small groups of visitors. But guests arrived early, before we'd finished setting up the room, and all the chairs were sitting in rows as if they were lined up for a formal presentation. People sat in those chairs, so we couldn't really move them. So the authors all moved to the front and we each took a turn introducing ourselves. Then I said, "this concludes our planned presentation" and everybody laughed. I presented it as a joke, but really I was dead serious. We had nothing planned to say at all. Fortunately, authors are good at making stuff up.

That first Author Night was packed, so we never got the chance to mingle or even refill our wine glasses. But some years since then, we've had fewer guests, so that even though we now have some pre-planned questions for our authors to discuss, we've still ended the formal panel discussion and moved onto that informal mingling that I'd originally imagined. Last year it was a full house again and we ran out of wine, so I guess it was good that the authors didn't get too much time near the refreshment table. The old stereotype about heavy-drinking writers can be all too real for some of us.

We've had different types of authors over the years. It started with romance authors because I knew a bunch of them. Then I started reaching out to some other groups. One year we had everything from poets to non-fiction writers, and we had so many that some of them never even got a chance to open their mouths. So now I'm keeping the focus on novels, but we're trying to encompass as many types as possible, from mysteries to science fiction to suspense to humor, and of course, historical tales.

This year our panel of authors includes Frances Altman, Catherine Asaro, Michelle Markey-Butler, Tom Glenn, Christie Kelley, Christina Kovac, Kathy Love, Millie Mack, Kate Poole and possibly others.

You can find photos and short biographies on the CHS website. Authors will have information and copies of their books for sale. Admission is free and so are the refreshments--as long as they last, that is. I hope you'll be able to join us for a fun evening on March 31! Spread the word!
Chris Aitken is the owner of CrossFit Catonsville, and began channeling his passion for writing into nonfiction with two FitBiz books and hundreds of blog posts on health, fitness, and business. His first novel, Darkness Ascending, is modern fantasy with a Lovecraftian tinge.

Frances Altman has just published her ninth book for young readers—Escape to Freedom. She has written again for YA and adult readers setting her characters in a historical background. Following a career in marketing and teaching she now freelances for publications such as PR News and often talks to senior groups, schools and book clubs. She is a member of Maryland Writers, Nat’l Federation of Press Woman, and League of American Pen Women.

Catherine Asaro has written over 20 novels in the hard science fiction and fantasy genres. As a Harvard-trained physicist, she is able to create speculative worlds with a plausibility and complexity that few other authors ever attain. Winner of two prestigious Nebula Awards, she frequently speaks at science fiction conventions all over the world. (http://catherineasaro.net)

Michelle Markey Butler teaches medieval literature and history at the University of Maryland. Her work explores where history and fantasy become legend, with one series set in a fictional land and another book in a recently re-discovered Irish town that had been lost for over 1000 years. She also blogs about the humorous side of parenting (http://michellemarkeybutler.com).

Kate Dolan, who also writes under the name K.D. Hays, first turned her love of history into fiction with two novels set in colonial Maryland. She has since written a number of humorous stories set in Regency England as well as a novel featuring real-life pirates, a dog-centric version of the Wizard of Oz, and a three-book contemporary mystery series set in Ellicott City (http://katedolan.com).

Tom Glenn’s 17 short stories and four novels came primarily from the 13 years he shuttled between the U.S. and Vietnam on clandestine combat support missions before escaping under fire when Saigon fell. His newest novel is Last of the Annamese. (https://www.facebook.com/authorTomGlenn)

Christie Kelley worked for years in software development before starting her first historic romance novel. Her stories set during the English Regency period are acclaimed for their unique characters and thrilling plot twists (http://christiekelley.com).

Christina Kovac worked in television news in Washington, DC, managing newsrooms and producing crime and political stories. She began her career at Fox Five’s Ten O’Clock News, and spent her last nine years at the Washington Bureau of NBC News. She left television to raise her children and write fiction. The Cutaway is her first novel. (https://www.christinakovac.com)

Kathy Love writes heart-warming, sexy, and sometimes spooky romance. Originally from Maine, she uses her small-town upbringing to color some of her tales, while her love of the macabre gives other stories a different twist. Humor is always part of the mix in the more than 20 books she’s written so far. (https://readkathylove.com)

Millie Mack was born in Philadelphia, lives near Baltimore and worked in Washington which helped her create the fictional town of Tri-City featured in her books. She continues to live in the Baltimore area where she is working on the next book in her series featuring amateur sleuths Carrie and Charles Faraday. She also writes a blog all about mysteries at https://www.milliemack.com.

Kate Poole spent years in the legal and medical professions before she channeled her love of history into historical erotic romance novels set in Scotland and the Roman Empire. All of the authors welcome questions. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a very entertaining evening on March 31. For more information, visit www.catonsvillehistoricalsociety.org or call 410-788-5849.
Issac H. Coulbourne Portrait
By David Wasmund

The damaged oil painting that used to hang over the fireplace in the Catonsville Historical Society’s living room has been returned to its home, and hopefully will be restored.

A few years ago, Barbara and Ken Beem researched the portrait of the gentleman that had been hanging in the living room for decades. No one knew anything about the portrait and questions about the portrait could only be vaguely answered, so Ken took on the task of identifying it. Ken was able to discover that the gentleman in the portrait was Issac H. Coulbourne who owned the property Pomfret Plantation on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. The portrait was painted circa 1830 by Jacob Eichholtz.

Unfortunately, after the painting was identified, it was damaged (dropped during decorating for a Christmas Open House, resulting holes being torn in it. After a few years of the portrait sitting in storage, Marty Spence and Cheryl Wasmund looked into the costs to repair the painting, as well as the painting’s value. They found that it would cost more to have the painting evaluated and restored than the portrait was worth.

Cheryl found that the Pomfret Plantation was (and still is, if you are interested) for sale- a house listed on the National Register, that was built in the early 1800s, and sits on 467 acres- for $4,900,000. At the last Historical Society board meeting, it was decided that it would be best to give the portrait to the plantation owner (or realtor, if the present owner wasn’t available), or, in lieu of that, to the Somerset Historical Society. The board’s rationale was that the portrait had little or no meaning to Catonsville or the Society and would be expensive to repair, whereas it had historic meaning to the plantation or Eastern Shore area. Cheryl contacted the plantation’s selling realtor, who had then had the plantation’s owner contact us. The owners were delighted to get the portrait, and intend to have it restored and hung in the Pomfret house. Issac Coulbourne’s grave is near the house on the estate, as are many other Coulbourne’s and relatives’ resting places.
Colonial Dinner Winners

Sarah Riley (winner) and seven of her friends and family will be gathering at the Society House on March 11, 2017 to enjoy cocktails, music and a Colonial Dinner prepared and served by the board members. Second place winner is Rita Mc Donough who will receive a copy of (the book) and the third place winner is Sidney Turner who will receive a basket of goodies.

Grant Monies Received

Catonsville Womens Giving Circle – Sarah Chad presented President Polly Gardenghi with grant monies awarded to the Historical Society. Funds will go toward purchasing new tables and chairs for the Pullen Museum.
75 years ago – Herald Argus
March 20, 1942

Mother of MacArthur Starred at Mt. de Sales
Catonsville can lay claim to bequeathing to General Douglas MacArthur some of the sterling qualities that have marked his incredible last stand in Bataan Peninsula, where he proved to be the right man for the United Nations’ command in the South Pacific.

The general’s mother received her early training at Mount de Sales Academy here! In fact, the general did not initiate the custom of receiving decoration in his family. The records at Mount de Sales indicate that Mary Pinkney Hardy, afterwards mother of America’s Philippine hero, was awarded a crown and gold medal for uniform excellence, at the time of her graduation in June, 1871. Like mother, like son!

No Cosmetic Shortage
From Dr. Emil Klarman, an authority on cosmetics, we learn that although many basic ingredients used in the manufacture of cosmetics are being commandeered for war needs there is no shortage of cosmetics. In fact, suitable substitutes are being found that don’t even affect the appearance of the cosmetics. In other words, ladies, the shiny nose will not be among the war horrors of the near future. The major portion of the cosmetic industry will remain intact for the duration of the national emergency as a morale builder if for no other reason. The ladies need not even consider giving up powder, rouge or lipstick. It’s more patriotic to look lovely.

75 Years ago - Herald Argus April 3, 1942

Air Raid Sirens To Be Tested Each Friday
Beginning at noon on Friday, April 17, and at the same time every Friday thereafter, all air raid sirens installed by the Baltimore County Civilian Defense organization will be tested for a ten-second period.

Catonsville Severely Hit By Record Snow
Last Sunday’s snowstorm disrupted normal activities and routine in Catonsville and vicinity. Residents found themselves bottled up on Monday morning, with little chance of going anywhere and a tremendous amount of shoveling to do before they could get there. Street cars on the Ellicott City line were out of service all day Monday, when about 75 trees fell across the line. Telephone and electric service were disrupted. Cellars were flooded from the thaw which lasted most of the week. Depth of the snow was twenty-six inches, the heaviest in fifty years.

St. Timothy’s Auxiliary Card Party and Tea
A card party and tea will be held at the home of Mrs. Howard R Hyle, Frederick road and Dutton avenue, on Friday, April 17, at 2 P.M. for benefit of the Woman’s Auxiliary of St. Timothy’s Church. Reservations may be made with Mrs. Hyle (Catonsville 888) or Mrs. J. Frank Schafer (Catonsville 1356).

Please visit the website for event time often for additions and updates to the calendar and programs.
Upcoming Events:
March 11, 2017 – Colonial Dinner
March 31, 2017 – Authors Night
April 11, 2017 – Board Meeting
May 4, 2017 – Home Tour

Visit the website at www.catonsvillehistoricalsociety.org for updates of upcoming events as well as the highlights of previous events and follow the blog for more articles on Catonsville’s history.

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P. O. Box 9311  
Catonsville, Maryland, 21228
Opening doors since 1976

For a visit our website

www.catonsvillehistoricalsociety.org