

# Ile of Kent - 1631

To Discover, Identify, Restore and Preserve the Heritage of Kent Island

NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

WINTER 2015

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Frank Frohn

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Harold Wilson

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Gordon Seward 77-79

Julius Grollman 79-81

Mary White 81-82

Walter T. Denny 83-84

Eva C. White 85-86

C. Gilbert Dunn 87-89

Audrey Hawkins 90-92

Charles Koegel 93-94

Hugo Gemignani 95-98

Nancy M. Cook 99-08



## President's Message

An old boss use to say to me "I love it when a good plan comes together!" Well, it's nice to be able to share some recent successes for the KIHS. We've had an active and successful year. We sponsored a fascinating program in March on "Rosie the Riveter" by historical actress Mary Ann Jung—and were honored with some real "Rosies" in the audience. Then in May we hosted our signature annual event in Historic Stevensville and enjoyed the best Kent Island Day ever. In

June we celebrated our 40th Anniversary with a memorable Chester River Cruise out of Kent Narrows aboard the *Chester River Packet*. During the summer open sites season we experienced a large number of visitors during each of our first Saturday open house events.

Also during the summer months we completed several major maintenance goals at the Kirwan House. The house is now smiling with a complete new coat of paint and a new front porch. Then we gathered for our annual Fall Heritage Picnic on Sept. 23—a warm and friendly family event celebrating the best of Kent Island. It was capped off again this year with homemade ice cream and our own fresh pressed apple cider. Our friend, local author, Mark Lidinski, came by to present a check to the Heritage Society from the profits of his third local adventure novel, *Calinectus Sapides*. The Kirwan House and some of our board members figure prominently in his latest story. We really appreciate Mark's generosity and his constant efforts to spin interesting tales around Kent Island's heritage, with special appeal to young readers. Thank you, Mark! We hope you enjoy the pictures of our fall picnic.

A real life adventure unfolded at the Kirwan House this fall when our Kirwan curator, Linda Collier, coordinated with a metal detecting group, The Maryland Free State Treasure Club, to do an extensive survey of the Kirwan Farm around the farm house in search of special artifacts. The elusive Kirwan pickers' token has been part of the local island lore for generations, but we had never seen or found one. Guess what? Check out our story and pictures to see what happened!

Also this fall, we participated in support of QA County, in hosting the "Fire Ball Run," an East Coast based fundraising effort for missing kids. We hosted a number of racing teams as they made stops at our sites in Stevensville. In October, we participated in

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## DOCENTS

Nancy M. Cook,  
Coordinator

## Historic Stevensville

Anne Marie Bouchal  
Michael Bouchal  
Josh Bouchal  
Butch Collier  
Cassy Defin  
Carl Gerg  
Joanne Gerg  
Jay Gibson  
Toni Gibson  
Chris Killian  
Lynnda Kratovil  
Sally Lewis  
Rawle Mannix  
Barbara Marmion  
Fran Peters  
Hanna Wall  
Marilyn Wilson

## Historic Christ Church

Fr. Mark Delcuze  
Gary Haigley

## Kirwan Museum - Chester

Linda Collier  
Cameron Sewell  
Taylor Harmon

## COMMITTEES

### Caboose Restoration

Tom Willey  
T. Humphries  
Nancy Cook

### Cemetery Preservation

Jamie Sasse

### Picnic

Butch Collier  
Jay Gibson  
Hanna Wall  
Carole Frederick  
Linda Collier  
Toni Gibson

### Annual Dinner

Toni Gibson  
Linda Collier  
Carole Frederick

### Historic Records

Myrtle Bruscap  
Development  
Hal Wilson

### Kent Island Day

Jack Broderick  
Earl Chambers  
Nancy Cook, Chair  
Carl Gerg  
Toni Gibson  
Alex Johnson  
Jamie Sasse  
Gary Walters

### Oral History

TBA

### Membership

Carole Frederick  
Nancy Cook

### Website

Carole Frederick  
Amanda Jenkins

### Newsletter Editor

Carole Frederick

### Newsletter Publisher

Martha Lostrom

*Continued from page 1*

the first Queen Anne's County History Summit. Our Heritage Society Vice President, Nancy Cook, presented a well-received review of Kent Island's unique heritage and the work of the Heritage Society. We look forward to joining in similar events in the future.

In November we hosted a well-attended book signing reception and presentation for first-time author, our friend, Jack Shaum, at the QA County Heritage and Visitor Center at Kent Narrows. Jack has followed his lifelong passion for steamboats by publishing a fascinating 100 year history, *Lost Chester River Steamboats*. We were honored to host the event, at his request, as his work sheds a whole new light on this important part of our local maritime heritage. We were grateful for the outstanding assistance and support from the QA County Office of Tourism in coordinating the event.

In December each year we hold our annual election meeting and brunch at Fisherman's Inn. The announcement for the meeting and the slate of officers is sent out by separate mailing. This year we said thank you to departing Board Members Joyce Woodford and Hannah Wall. We offer special thanks to Joyce who has handled the challenging job of coordinating Kent Island Day for many years and to Hannah who has been our lead docent and coordinator for the Cray House for many years. We welcomed new Board Members John Conley, Sally Lewis, and Robert Lowe. We also welcomed new Vice President Frank Frohn. Long serving Board Member Nancy Cook will shift from Vice President to the board coordinator of Kent Island Day. Also, we are welcomed and instated Lynnda Kratovil for another three years as a director.

A sincere note of thanks goes out to outgoing QAC Tourism Manager, Debbie Birch, who has been tireless in support of the Kent Island Heritage Society and wish her success in her new position as Administrator in the QAC Dept. of Public Works. And we welcome the new QAC Tourism Manager, Laney Solomon. She is off to a great start and we look forward to working together.

Thanks to all members for your support in 2015. We look forward to an active and successful 2016.

*Happy Holidays!*  
*Jack Broderick*

## Calendar 2016

**JANUARY 20**  
BOARD MEETING

**FEBRUARY 17**  
BOARD MEETING

**MARCH 16**  
GENERAL MEETING  
TBA

**APRIL 20**  
BOARD MEETING

**MAY 18**  
BOARD MEETING

**MAY 21**  
KENT ISLAND DAY

**JUNE 15**  
GENERAL MEETING  
TBA

**JULY 20**  
BOARD MEETING

**AUGUST 17**  
BOARD MEETING  
IF NEEDED

**SEPTEMBER 21**  
BOARD MEETING

**SEPTEMBER 25**  
ANNUAL PICNIC  
@ KIRWAN HOUSE  
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**OCTOBER 19**  
BOARD MEETING

**NOVEMBER 16**  
BOARD MEETING

**DECEMBER 11**  
ANNUAL MEETING/  
ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
FISHERMAN'S INN  
12:30 PM - 4:00 PM

# Buried Treasure

*By Linda Collier*

Several months ago, Mr. William Gise was installing gutters in Marling Farms. When returning on Dominion Road, he happened to see the Kent Island Heritage Society Headquarters sign in front of the Kirwan House. A car was in the driveway, so he circled back and found Linda Elias from the Kent Island Garden Club working in the butterfly garden. He told her he was a member of the Maryland Free State Treasure Club and was wondering if there had ever been any metal detecting done on the property. She referred him to me.

Shortly thereafter I received a call from Steve Cunningham, the treasurer of that club based in Essex, Maryland. We chatted on the phone and agreed that he would pay us a visit, tour the grounds and get some history before they made a formal request.

I told Steve that the property had been detected many times during my tenure at Kirwan's and that I would imagine Catherine had allowed our local treasure hunters to scavenge it during her lifetime. He was not discouraged.

We generally allow folks to metal detect, but, since these guys were unknown to us we did a little research. This is a large club, out of our area, so I ran it by our officers. After checking out their website and discussing a liability waiver, we agreed to give them the go-a-head.

Senator Kirwan's great granddaughter was spending some time at her home across the street, so I sweetened the pot by getting the club permission to detect over there also. The Kirwans had a small house and store on that property until 1879 when the present house was built. In 1889 he built the new, bigger, better and present store onto that house.

When the Kirwan Store Museum opened in 2006, we had older, local visitors tell us



about picking tomatoes, peaches or whatever and being paid in tokens. These tokens would be brought into the store to be redeemed for their pay. The old roll top desk in front of the safe and in the back left corner of the store would be where these transactions took place. Of course, to access this desk you had to pass the tobacco and candy counter and all sorts of appealing goods along the way.

We had no idea what these tokens looked like as there appears to be none left anywhere and now there is no one left who can tell us. You would have thought there would be a can or bucket full of them somewhere on the property as most likely they were all cashed in. I doubt if too many workers left the store with all of their pay in their pockets.

The way tokens worked was that a truck or wagon would be out in the field and the workers brought their baskets, buckets or containers to the wagon and someone there would give them the appropriate token. At the end of the day they could redeem all of them at the store for money. A lot of farms worked on this system back in the day and many people today have a hobby of collecting these tokens. Some were not made of metal, but of wood and, if dropped, disintegrated. We have thought this may have been the case here. Every time permission has been granted to scour the property, either Nancy Cook or I would say, "Don't forget, we're looking for a token."

On October 17, 15 members of the club arrived from various places around Baltimore. They immediately branched out and began their hunt with the latest and greatest in metal detecting equipment. They ranged in age from 13 to 75. One fellow brought his two young children as helpers to put the dirt back in the holes they had dug. They were all very professional and when they left, you would have never known they were here.

No great treasure was found that day, but, some very interesting artifacts were recovered. A copper wedding band, an eagle rimmed medallion, a

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# Treasure

## Hunt *Continued from page 3*

cuff link with an anchor and many coins, past and present were among the loot. The deal is that everyone brings their items to a central table for all to see and if we think something has historical value to our property, they will leave it. From all the belt buckles, horse shoes, hub caps, etc., I chose to keep the medallion, the wedding band and a stirrup and horse-shoe from a pony.

Not having found any priceless artifacts, I was surprised when they asked if they could come again in November and do a different area. So, on November 14, 17 members made the trip and surprisingly some worked the same area again.

As usual, I sent them out and said, "Bring me a token" and Steve said, "They will."

About noon, Steve came and got me and said, "I think you're



going to be very happy". Boy, was I ever! Nicholas Franz came over to me beaming as he held out his hand that held a copper token bearing the stamped initials of James Edward Kirwan and the number 4.

How excited everyone was! The token has very little monetary value, but, it was a missing piece of Kent Island history. Steve told me he was beginning to doubt there ever were any Kirwan tokens and I said, "Me too, because if these guys couldn't find one, nobody can."

Most of the hunters then went to the vicinity of the find and within an hour Brad Johns had found two more tokens, this time with scalloped edges and the number 6 on them. I was so impressed by the members of this club because at the end of the day, they were as happy as I was and want to come again in the spring. I say "Come on down, Maryland Free State Treasure Club, you are always welcome, and thanks again for a fabulous find."

Now that you know what we're looking for, all our members need to check Dad's coffee can full of change and Granny's button tin to see if we can find some more of these wonderful little items. It takes a lot of help to discover, identify, restore and preserve all these little pieces that make up our Kent Island history.

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## A Good Day for Dinner ... Our Island Home, Part III by Alex Johnson

Where is the Angler when we need it,  
or Holly's out on Fifty?

The island once had a Tastee Freeze  
and Baker's delicious deli.

Fred's Grapevine is gone,  
no Beano's to awake you.  
Sayonara R's, and Circle,  
goodbye White House, Lighthouse II.

Luckily there's Fisherman's,  
Annie's, and Red Eyes,  
Rustico, and Ram's Head.  
The Narrows is a prize.

We have a Subway and a donut shop  
where old men shoot the breeze,  
the Jetty, and a Hardee's.  
But do we need two Mickey D's?

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## The Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc. 2016 Slate of Nominees for Officers and Directors

The election of officers and directors who will lead The Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc. in 2016 was held at the Annual Meeting at Fisherman's Inn on Sunday, December 13, 2015. The Nominating Committee of Nancy Cook, Dr. Earl Chambers and Butch Collier, recommended the following slate which was approved as presented:

President	John E. Broderick
Vice President	Frank W. Frohn
Recording Secretary	Donna M. Frohn
Corresponding Secretary	Carole P. Frederick
Treasurer	Lynne Riley-Coleman
Director	Nancy M. Cook
Director	John L. Conley
Director	Lynnda Kratovil
Director	Sally E. Lewis
Director	Robert C. Lowe

Officers are elected for a one-year-term and directors serve for three years.

## Taking a Steamboat Trip to Baltimore - By Frank Frohn

It was going to be an exciting day. The trip to Baltimore had been planned for months. A buggy ride from Stevensville to Love Point was a short trip compared to the long wait for the steamboat to come into view, as it passed Hail Point on its trip from Chestertown down the Chester River. The excitement could not be contained as the flume of black smoke appeared off in the distance behind Eastern Neck Island. In a few minutes, which seemed like hours, a large white structure was appearing from around the turn. At three to four hundred feet long and towering four decks high, the steamboats were the largest boat anyone had seen on the River. As it got closer the large paddle wheels slowed, and just as the noise from the engines was subsiding, the captain reached up and pulled the cord which caused the steam whistle to let out a loud shrill which caused everyone on the pier to jump. As the boat nudged the pier, thoughts, turned to the sumptuous breakfast of soft crabs, piles of eggs, ham, sausage and fresh fruit, served on board by stewards, impeccably dressed in white jackets. This was a time before paved roads and automobiles, and even trains, when people, freight and livestock would be carried up and down the Chester River to Rock Hall and Baltimore. It was an exciting time and Jack Shaum brings it back to life in his new book, *Lost Chester River Steamboats*.

The members of the Kent Island Heritage Society hosted a wine and cheese reception for the premier and book signing at the Chesapeake Heritage and Visitor Center, overlooking the Chester River at Kent Narrows on Veterans Day, November 11, 2015. Jack thrilled the packed house with a slide presentation that took us back to the bygone days of

steamboat travel. The presentation was preceded by a short introduction by Jack Broderick, our President, and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in Honor of Our Veterans. Members and guests toured the Heritage Center which featured a model workboat display provided by Mr. Tom Willey. Members and guests had an extraordinary opportunity to relive this lost part of our heritage with Jack and acquire a signed copy of his new book.

For those of you that don't know Jack, he is a veteran journalist who is a reporter for *The Bay Times* and *Record Observer* in Queen Anne's County. He began his journalism career at *The News American* in Baltimore and then became press aide to the late First District Representative William O. Mills.

Following that was a nearly 30-year career as news anchor and reporter for news-talk radio station WBAL in Baltimore. He retired from that position in 2002 and moved to the Eastern Shore and lives just outside of Chestertown with his wife Martha. He has been fascinated by Chesapeake Bay steamboats and other ships from a very early age, and is co-author of *Majesty at Sea*, a history of the four-funneled passenger liners of the early 20th Century. He is also co-editor and co-ghost writer of *Night Boat on the Potomac: A History of the Norfolk and Washington Steamboat Company*.

You can continue the steamboat trip to Baltimore with Jack's book, *Lost Chester River Steamboats*, as he takes you on a trip to Baltimore on the steamboat, B.S. Ford, on steamboats and trains to ocean resorts and much more as we relive this exciting time in Eastern Shore History.

### Holiday Song by Toni Gibson

... sung at the December Brunch

The Problem with Kent Island (to be sung to the tune of "Frosty the Snowman")

*Refrain:* Here on Kent Island,  
a near-perfect Paradise

We love our Bay and our island way,  
but the traffic – not so nice.

Here on Kent Island, everybody is a friend  
There's a smiling face, mostly every place 'cept  
when traffic has no end.

*Verse 1:* You're headed for the Safeway store on  
a summer day so fine

You'll risk you neck, and you might say,  
"Heck!" when you see that endless line.

Ohhhhh *Refrain:*

*Verse 2:* To cross the road at the overpass, it's  
like you're in a trance. Oh, that car's so slow, will  
he ever go? And now you've missed your  
chance. Ohhhhhh *Refrain:*

*Verse 3:* Coming up Route 8, now, you have to  
wait: on the bridge, an accident!

The traffic's stuck, and you're out of luck. Call  
your boss to hear him vent! Ohhhhh... *Refrain*

*Verse 4:* To fix this mess in the way that's best on  
the 50 "parking lot"

Give your cars away and buy a sleigh like the  
one that Santa's got! Ohhhhh...

*Refrain:* Now on Kent Island,  
it's a PERFECT Paradise!

All the cars are banned, so we walk the land.  
Yes, it's slow, but oh, so nice!!

## THIS CHANGING ISLAND

By Nick Hoxter

Published by the author, Copyright 2015

*Reviewed by Alex Johnson*

Kent Island does have a treasure, after all. No, not pirate gold or War of 1812 booty, but it's our own native son and good friend, Nick Hoxter. Nick's latest book, fourth in his list of titles describing our island's storied history, is *This Changing Island*.

Some of his latest reminiscences take the reader back to the American Store in Stevensville, Matapeake ferry rides on the "puddle jumper," meeting Johnny Unitas, the Love Point lighthouse, and so much more.

The front cover alone is worth the price of the book. Nick and his family and childhood friends could not believe that no one had a photo of his great-grandfather's blacksmith shop in Stevensville. William Henry Clay Hoxter ran the shop, making oyster tongs, carriage wheels, and buckboard parts. They asked local artist Will Hemsley to paint a picture of the shop from the collective memories of friends and neighbors. "It's a good likeness," says Nick.

The book is dedicated to his wife of many years, Sharon Carole Pierson Hoxter, who passed recently. Nowhere will you find a more loving tribute. Finally, running through this book, like silver thread, is the relationship of childhood friends and adult buddies, Nick, Bill Denny, and the late Melvin Clark. Kent Island, changing though it may be, is still, then and now, our island home.

## Recreation on the Farms

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# The Sport of Goose Hunting

### *Ginger Wild Goose*

1 wild goose  
1 c. white wine  
1 onion, chopped  
1/2 c. sugar  
1 c. soy sauce  
1 c. water  
1 tsp. ground ginger  
celery, apple or carrot

**DAY BEFORE:** Put goose in roasting pan, breast side up, with celery, apple or carrot in cavity. Combine soy sauce, water, wine, sugar and ginger. Pour over goose; cover pan. Roast 1 hour @ 350°. Uncover and turn breast side down. Re-cover; roast 2 hours @ 250°. Cool; remove from pan; save sauce; refrigerate goose and sauce separately.

**NEXT DAY:** Slice goose meat from carcass. Remove layer of fat from top of sauce. Combine sliced goose and sauce in casserole dish. Heat covered, 1/2 hour @ 300°. Serve with rice or hominy, using sauce as gravy.

Emily also sent the following recipe to me and said it is a very good one - from a wild game cookbook, printed in 1968 by Remington Arms Co.

### *Holiday Christmas Goose*

1 wild goose  
Tart apples, peeled,  
cored, sliced  
1 onion  
Celery tops  
3 T. butter  
1 tsp. paprika  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1/8 tsp. pepper  
1/8 tsp. parsley  
1/2 pint dry red wine

Clean goose well. Wipe with salt and pepper. Fill cavity with raw tart apples, onion and celery tops. Place in pan and add melted butter, paprika, salt, pepper, thyme, parsley and wine. Completely cover with foil. Roast in 350° oven for 1 1/2 hours. When done, remove foil from top and brown.

Remove stuffing from cavity, discard, and serve.

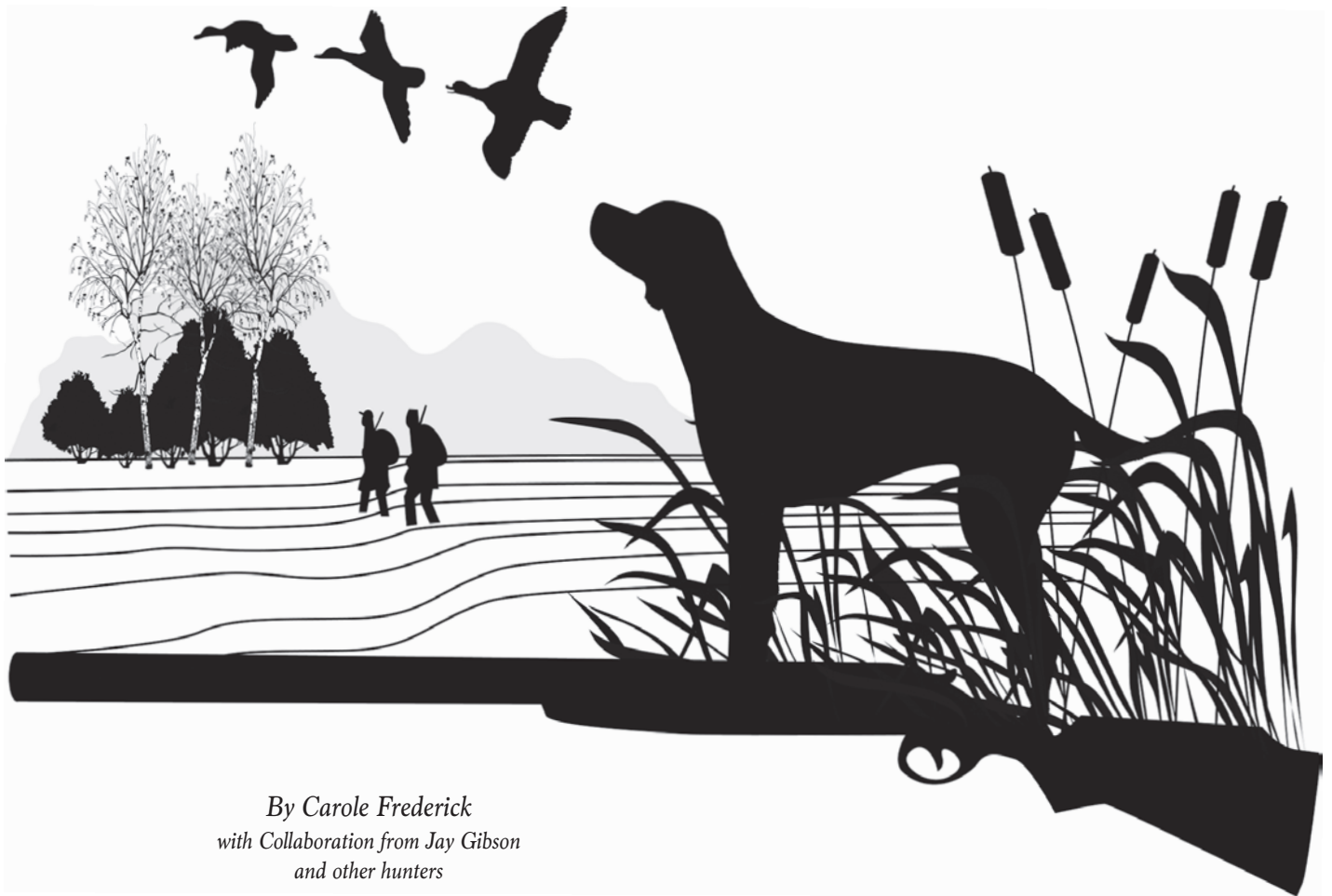
Goose hunting on Kent Island farms has been a very popular sport. At first, pits were dug in fields and camouflaged with brush from fence rows and woodland areas. Hunters would get down in the pits and shoot geese from there. The pits would be wet and muddy, so the pits have evolved to something called "stand-a-ones" or "A-frames." Again the perimeter of this goose blind is camouflaged with corn stalks or other growth that is available.

Hunters like to be in corn fields or soy bean fields as the grain that falls to the ground after harvesting draws the geese. Decoys that were placed in the field were called silhouettes or full-bodied decoys on stakes.

I called on a dear friend, Emily Russell, for a wild goose recipe that she had given to my mother years ago. She's a Snowhill sister and a fabulous cook. Her husband, Bill, was an avid hunter so she had plenty of experience cooking wild game. She said she got this recipe from a neighbor on Bennett's Point Road named Maggie Parks. It was one of the favorites in our family.







*By Carole Frederick  
with Collaboration from Jay Gibson  
and other hunters*

The hunters and their families whom I have known, have always used their wild game for family meals. Sometimes they supplied the meat course for our Lenten service dinners at the Episcopal Church. Another fabulous cook with lots of experience with wild game is my Aunt Clara Davidson. She said she cooked her geese the same way she roasted a turkey - with stuffing - because her family loved it that way! One hunter told me the apple and the onion "pulled out the wild" from the game. Many times, at dinner there would be a bonus in the meat, buckshot!

Duck hunting took place on the waterways around Kent Island. Hunters would gather materials for building duck blinds away from the shore. They had to drive pilings to hold the frame and the sides were garnished with white pine from our woods. This required boats for getting there and dogs to retrieve the bounty. The Chesapeake Retriever (our state dog) was a good dog for this as his coat was very oily and kept the cold water out and warmth in. Set-up was always in the dark, as the hunters would be in the blinds at least an hour before sunup. Decoys, which oftentimes had been locally carved in the offseason, had to be placed in the water and were tied together (a distance apart) so as not to go floating away. The hunters used calls (either their hands and mouth or store-bought calls) to lure the geese and ducks in. Hunting was done in all kinds of weather; sometimes the nastier the weather, the better the hunt.

Roasting ducks is about the same as geese for Aunt Clara and Emily Russell. Put an onion or apple in the cavity and roast like you would other poultry. (Not as long as geese as they are so much smaller.) Emily said some people like to roast them on 500° for about a half hour but that makes them very rare!

There is a water fowl festival held every year in a neighboring town (Easton) where there are contests and prizes for those who can imitate the sound most like the bird. We know winter is upon us when we hear the honking of the geese flying above in their "V" formation.



## Recreation on the Farms of Kent Island

By Carole Frederick

**A-hunting we will go,  
a-hunting we will go,  
We'll catch a little fox  
and put him in a box,  
And then we'll let him go!**



*"A-Hunting We Will Go" is a British song written by Thomas Arne. It was written for the 1777 production of John Gay's The Beggar's Opera at Covent Garden in London and later became a popular folk song and nursery rhyme.*

Fox Hunting was a popular sport on Kent Island when I was growing up in the 40s and 50s. On a crisp, cool fall morning we would hear the lyrical sound of the fox hound, off in the distance tracing the scent of the wily red fox. If we were lucky and if he were far enough ahead of the hounds we would see the fox running across our farm. At that time, Kent Island was one farm after another from Love Point to Kent Point.

The fox hunters would drive their pickup trucks with fox hounds in cages to Love Point where they would let them out and the hounds would start sniffing for the scent of the fox. As one hound found the scent he would start to howl and the rest would join in the chorus. At times they would lose the scent and there would be silence; then one of them would pick up the scent again and they would all sing the happy news.

There would usually be about eight to 10 trucks of hunters who would follow the dogs from Love Point, through Stevensville, and southward. Of course, the fox and dogs didn't

run through Stevensville because the farms were continuous behind the town. There was no bypass then so going through Stevensville was the only way the hunters could drive south. Whether or not the hunters had a look-out posted below Stevensville, I do not know, but I do know they didn't want to lose any dogs so they might have.

My cousin, John Davidson, told me that Claudie Lowery got him and Frankie Clark to drag a dead fox around Cloverfields (when it was still a farm) so that he could train his dogs. He came running out to them saying, "Stop, stop! You're going to run my dogs to death!" They had taken him at his word and



covered a large area!

We had lots of discussion in our family about what would happen when the dogs caught the fox and how the hunters would corral their dogs back to the cages when the hunt was over. As children, we were always concerned that the "lone fox" would get hurt so I'm sure our parents sugar-coated the outcome.

One year the hounds tore into to a flock of my grand father's sheep and killed several. Restitution was made and shortly thereafter Grandfather sold the flock.

That was a relief because sheep are so defenseless, and we couldn't stand thinking how scared they must have been.



## Membership Form

I/We wish to be a member of The Kent Island Heritage Society.  
Enclosed is a check to cover dues of membership  
for one calendar year:

- \$15 Single Membership
- \$25 Family Membership
- \$25 Organization
- \$250 Life Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: The Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc.  
PO Box 321, Stevensville, MD 21666

*Dues and contributions are deductible on your income tax.*

*Membership period is January 1 to December 31.*

### Welcome New Members

Cyndi and Carl Bower  
 Bridget Heekin  
 Tracy and Mark Lepine  
 Martha M. Lostrom  
 Patricia and Herb Poe  
 Elizabeth and Stan Ruddle  
 Dana Smith and Family  
 Claudia Stewart  
 Gigi Windley  
 Ann and Jim Ziegler

Held at the Kerwin house and farm at 541 Dominion Road ... the day was a beautiful, sunny and windy fall day ... Just right for picnicking!

Jack Broderick and Jamie Sasse had seen to it that the trails were cut for the hayrides and Claudie Lowery supplied the equipment and expertise at doing so. He also supplied the straw bales for the wagon, the wagon itself, the bales for the pyramid and the giant pumpkin (for "Guess the weight"). Alex Frederick supplied the tractor and his hayride driving skills.

I hope you can get the visual as I describe how the day started.

As I pulled into the driveway at about 9:40 a.m., John Patrick and Gary Walters are already toting tables to their assigned places—food tables, drink tables, display tables and tables for seating guests. (These are not just any tables, they are about 50-years old, wooden and weigh a ton). Then they moved the 100 lb. pumpkin and corn-sheller to their spots. Before I could turn around they had the pyramid built and were ready to go home for their showers! Jamie Sasse had a hand in all of this heaving too. And I must say they were equally efficient at clean-up time!!

Linda Collier prepares the venue as if the President of the United States were coming. She tells me that Rena and Roger Dye gave her a hand at the landscaping as well as bringing and returning the hotdog cooker (which always seems to fall to them).

As soon as the tables were arranged, Toni and Jay Gibson, Butch Collier, and Monique Thomas began tying table clothes on and securing centerpieces. Michael Thomas was testing the sound system he had set up. Hanna Wall arrived and started making the drinks – iced tea, lemonade and hot coffee. The place was buzzing. Karen and Ron Pavlik arrived with beautiful T-Shirts from Frank Frohn that we are selling and Jane and Earl Chambers were the T-shirt hucksters. Lynnda Kratovil arrived to greet our guests.

Marilyn Wilson is handling the registration that Toni had prepared as she

and Jay accepted the RSVPs. Then we smell the fried chicken and know that Lynne Riley-Coleman has arrived! Lynne also handles the 50/50 drawing that included two of Mark Lidinsky's new books. Not only did he donate the books, but he donated \$500 from the sale of his books! Also, Karen Pavlik won the 50/50 and donated most of it back to the society.

Ron Frederick built a wire chicken cage and Anna Foxx supplied the chickens. Phillip Edwards came tripping across the yard with four chickens in a plastic container and dumped them in the cage. You never heard such squawking! However, they became very happy as corn was shelled and the little ones threw the kernels into the cage.

Toni, Linda, and I met earlier in the week to take inventory and then Toni and Jay went shopping for everything we needed.

Everyone who is there to help just does whatever comes in his/her path. I saw Jay putting trash can liners in trash cans and distributing them. I saw Jack loading his truck with trash to haul away. Others were scrubbing the table cloths so they could be used again next year. How can a picnic go wrong when there is this kind of help and devotion from and to the society?

The grand finale is when those remaining have a glass of champagne and chit chat. Such camaraderie is hard to find these days.

# Picnic

By Carole Frederick

## Kent Island Heritage Society Annual Old Fashioned Picnic

This is the kind of village that it takes to produce a successful picnic, year after year ... One that is safe where children can play and their parents can socialize ... One where old friends can meet and reminisce about "back in the day" ... One where young folks can experience the ways in which their ancestors recreated and a rejuvenation of activities for the not-so-young folks ... One where there is an abundance of good food, made from scratch by each family and shared with the group ... One where the tools of the past can be used and/or displayed ... One where there is a curator who cares so much that everything is spic 'n span and ready for a party ... One where little ones can feed the chickens corn off the cob!!

Many thanks to all who helped make this day so special to the members of our society.

*Carole Frederick, Picnic Chairman*

### Steering Committee

The Colliers  
Linda and Butch  
The Gibsons  
Toni and Jay  
Hanna Wall

### The Board Helpers

Jack Broderick  
Lynne Riley-Coleman  
Jane and Earl Chambers  
Frank Frohn  
Jamie Sasse  
Lynnda Kratovil

### Member at Large Helpers

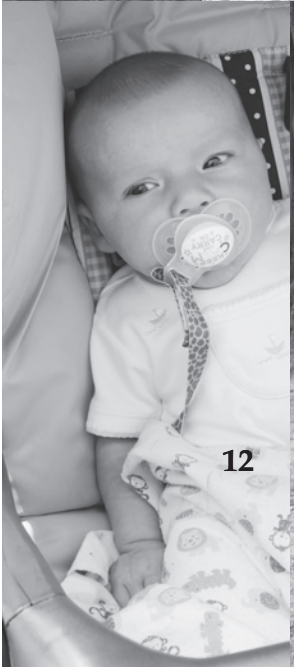
Marilyn Wilson  
Rena and Roger Dye  
Monique and Michael Thomas  
Karen and Ronald Pavlik  
Sandy, Ron, Zachary, Alex Frederick  
Gary Walters  
John Patrick  
Claude Lowery, Jr.  
Mark Lidinsky

### Neighbor Helpers

Anna Foxx  
Harmony on the Bay









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## KIHS TRAIN STATION DOCENTS



The 1902 Stevensville Train Depot is fortunate to have the Bouchal family serve as docents during the First Saturday of the months of April through November. Anne Marie, Josh and Mike live in Greensboro, Maryland.

Anne Marie is a native Kent Islander of multigenerations. Mike grew up in Greensboro, as did Josh, their son. Mike is employed at Verizon and Anne Marie works at North Caroline High School where Josh is a junior. Mike enjoys hunting, fishing and blacksmithing. He will, hopefully, be a docent for the Kent Island Heritage Society at the future blacksmith shop that will be located in Chester on the Kirwan property that houses the Kirwan Store and House Museum. Anne Marie's hobbies include kayaking, knitting and going to the beach. Josh is an aspiring historian and author with interests in graphic novels and historical weaponry.