

# Isle of Kent - 1631

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NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ISLAND  
HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

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FALL 1982

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DEAR Friends:

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the officers, directors, committee chairmen and the entire membership for the support I have received as president of the Kent Island Heritage Society. It is very gratifying to know that, working together, we have completed some old projects, begun some new ones and looked into some exciting possibilities for the future.

I hope that projects such as this Newsletter, the Essay Contest, Christmas Decorating Contest, the accumulation of old records and the search for Claiborne's first settlement will continue, and that, in 1984, the Society will be involved in some way with another 350th Celebration - the settlement at St. Mary's in 1634.

I extend best wishes to the new officers, and once again, my sincere thanks to everyone..

Mary J. White, President

OF HISTORY AND HOUSES-A KENT ISLAND  
HERITAGE by Mildred Cook Schoch

Mrs. Schoch has graciously consented to autograph copies of her

book at the dinner meeting on Dec. 9, 1982 at the Kent Island Yacht Club. Bring your book that evening. There will also be a limited number of books on sale at that time.

## TAX EXEMPT STATUS

After many months of delay during which time numerous phone calls, letters and appeals were exchanged with IRS, we have finally been rewarded for our persistence. We have just received official notification that our tax exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code is effective June 19, 1981. Therefore, contributions to the Society are deductible by donors on their Federal Income Tax returns as of that date.

Ray Baker, Finance Chairman

## HOME CHRISTMAS DECORATION CONTEST

The Kent Island Heritage Society, in cooperation with the Island Garden Club will sponsor a Home Decoration Contest for the residents of Kent Island. The theme will be "The Williamsburg Era". Judging will be held on Dec. 27th for the two categories - Daytime Appeal and Nighttime Appeal. Watch the local papers for additional details.

KINGSLEY METHODIST EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH AND CEMETERY

As promised in our last Newsletter, we are pleased to print the names and dates found on the gravestones in the Kingsley Methodist Episcopal Church Cemetery on Route 552 in Chester. It is a tranquil spot, approximately 1½ acres in size, enhanced by the presence of four majestic oaks and one hickory tree, all over 100 years old.

Our thanks to Miss Catherine Kirwan and Mr. Walter Coppage who were kind enough to brave last summer's heat to record the information. In addition, we are pleased to print the exact text from a newspaper clipping saved by Miss Kirwan's grandfather, the late Senator James E. Kirwan, of the dedication of the Kingsley Church as it appeared in the Centreville paper at that time. It appeared as follows:

"CHURCH DEDICATION ON KENT ISLAND 1886

*The dedication of Kingsley Methodist Episcopal Church took place on Sunday, November 28th. Rev. J. B. Quigg of Smyrna, preached at 10:30 A.M., Rev. J. A. Arters at 3 P.M. and Rev. Mr. Quigg again at night. The church was filled to its utmost capacity at all three of the services. Rev. Mr. Quigg managed the finances assisted by Mr. Arters, J. B. Bright, J. E. Kirwan, and the pastor. Seven hundred and thirty five dollars were needed to cover the indebtedness of the church and \$745 was realized in cash and subscriptions. The church was dedicated at the close of the night service by Rev. Mr. Quigg assisted by Rev. Arters and Rev. A. D. Dick of the M. P. Church and the pastor. The choir of the Stevensville M. E. Church with Miss Ella Quinn, organist, had charge of the music. We had a good day, good congregations, good preaching, good singing, and good giving and as a result the occasion was a grand success. The people of Crab Alley Neck now have the most commodious and as attractive a church as is to be found on the Island, costing less than \$2,000. Many thanks to the friends of the other churches of the Island for their financial assistance."*

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KINGSLEY CEMETERY

Frances E. Morgan, wife of Thomas H. Harris, Sept. 1827 - Feb. 1870

Thomas H. Harris

May 28, 1895 - Age 64 years

Lizzie A. wife of Carrow M. Harris  
March 1, 1870 - March 16, 1889

Eva G. daughter of Thomas L. and  
Susie C. Harris  
Aug. 4, 1881 - July 25, 1886

Elmer Alonzo, son of Thomas and  
Susie Harris  
Dec. 8, 1882(?) - Dec. 3, 1888

Juenemann-Beulah 1930  
George 1923-1971

Hiram Gardner - 1824 - 1877

Fannie Gardner - 1844 - 1880

Walter M. Gardner - 1863 - 1939

Ella L. Livingston and Children  
July 4, 1872 - Feb. 25, 1904  
Beloved wife of Alfred C. Jones

Jones Sarah E. 1869 - 1957  
John W. 1868 - 1933

John W. Jones  
March 6, 1837 - Oct. 18, 1894

James H. Benton (Father)  
Dec. 25, 1849 - Sept. 15, 1917

Mary Elizabeth Benton (Mother)  
Nov. 2, 1855 - Mar. 8, 1956

James Henry, son of  
James and Mary E. Benton  
Sept. 14, 1897 - July 24, 1902

Annie E. Sept. 4, 1887  
At 4 years and 11 months

Elmer H.  
July 31, 1885 - Aug. 19, 1888

Annie Elizabeth Benton  
May 30, 1892 - June 20, 1967

Benjamin F. Shawn  
PFC U.S. Army, World War II  
April 7, 1922 - June 1, 1976

Mary Ethel Beloved Daughter of  
McBride

Oct. 18, 1895 - June 21, 1900

H. Randolph Kelley  
Sept. 2, 1867 - Sept. 5, 1936

Rowena Taylor, Devoted Wife of  
H. Randolph Kelley  
July 29, 1871 - May 18, 1958

Herman Henry Kelley, Maryland  
TEC 5 Co. K. 222 Infantry, World War II  
Sept. 28, 1908 - April 28, 1972

Richard F. Dadds  
Mar. 16, 1861 - Mar. 29, 1917

Ella T. Dadds  
Aug. 9, 1861 - Feb. 15, 1942

Herbert M. Dadds  
Mar. 19, 1890 - Oct. 9, 1907

Rowie B. Palmer  
June 17, 1892 - Feb. 21, 1917

Gardner  
Lula - Jan. 28, 1885 - May 15, 1959  
Joseph - Sept. 21, 1890 - Feb. 14, 1952

Howard Edward Gardner, Maryland  
Pvt. 12735 V Comd Unit World War II  
Dec. 5, 1925 - Aug. 4, 1948

H. M. Gardner, Maryland  
PVT Trans Corps World War II  
Sept. 12, 1913 - Jan. 23, 1968

Brown (no dates)  
Mother Father Grandchild  
Magnolia Samuel Elizabeth

Josephine A. Price - 1841 - 1898  
Thomas F. Price - 1839 - 1913

James A. Son of George & Cora Tull  
Nov. 28, 1896 - July 21, 1907

Hester A. Lawrence  
April 6, 1818(?) - Dec. 29, 1903

W. Lawrence  
Dec. 9, 1817 - Sept. 10, 1915

3 sets of stones 1 to 1½ ft., no  
names or dates

Walters  
Ellsworth - Oct. 25, 1893 - Dec. 10, 1894  
Medford - Feb. 12, 1908 - July 27, 1908  
Chester - Sept. 14, 1903 - Dec. 2, 1904  
Henry - Jan. 31, 1910 - Feb. 6, 1910

Sarah A. Jones, wife of Samuel W. Jones  
Died Aug. 28, 1886 in the 50th year

James H. Jones  
June 30, 1874 - Dec. 4, 1951

Charles William Cox - 1909 - 1980  
Charles Russel Cox - 1940 - 1970

Our Darling, Courtney Beth Comegys  
Aug. 9 - Aug. 11, 1976  
Rock A Bye Baby in the Tree Top

Our Son  
Thomas William Phillips  
Dec. 16 - 21, 1977

William C. Timms  
Sept. 12, 1839 - Sept. 2, 1912  
E. Amanda His Wife  
Feb. 6, 1842 - Dec. 27, 1915

Wm. W. Thompson  
Dec. 21, 1862 - Mar. 7, 1901  
Annie C. Thompson & Infant 1873-1924

Romeo B. Nelson  
April 5, 1873 - Aug. 2, 1885

Horace B. Nelson  
March 15, 1834 - Dec. 3, 1891

Harriett A. Nelson  
July 7, 1842 - Dec. 30, 1922

A. (C. or G.) Columbus Jones  
Jan. 5, 1873(?) - Dec. 11, 1881

Baby Thomas  
Age 15 minutes July 10, 1938

Coleman  
Father - 1857 - 1898  
Grandmother - (?) 1838 - 1892  
Sister - 1884 - 1886

Edward T. McBride (no date)

Margie, Wife of John W. Robinson  
Dec. 31, 1889 - May 4, 1910

To My Beloved Husband  
Nicholas G. Collison  
Aug. 21, 1860 - Aug. 7, 1900

N. G. Collison  
Nov. 1, 1895 - Mar. 22, 1896

Georgie Rebecca  
Beloved Daughter of  
George A. & Rebecca Gardner  
Nov. 19, 1895(?) - July 6, 1900

Silas D. Orem  
July 7, 1877 at 24

# TREASURER'S REPORT

BALANCE 12/31/81 \$ 7380.30

## CEIPTS

Dues	180.00
Contributions	550.00
Spec. Events	3408.60
Refunds (Ins. & San. Dist.	135.00
Sales Books, etc	664.14
Trans. Savings	2000.00
<u>Total Receipts</u>	6937.74

## DISBURSEMENTS

Meeting Exp.	177.58
Stat. Printing & Postage	624.99
Cray House Rep.	3142.88
Cray Hs. Maint.	514.93
Cray Hs. Furn.	103.00
Trans. Savings	6000.00
San. District	51.00
Exp. Spec. Ev.	1311.10
Misc. Records	
Box rents, etc.	165.00

TOTAL DISB. 12090.48

BALANCE 11/15/82 2227.56

Business Savings	4143.40
Money Maker II	3597.26
<u>TOTAL FUNDS 11/15/82</u>	\$ 9968.22

Marian Steuart, Treas.

## CRAY HOUSE BUILDING & GROUNDS

The north end of the Cray House has been repaired and painted. The walls upstairs have been plastered and the fireplace repaired. The walls and woodwork have been painted in the same manner as the south room downstairs. An estimate has been given for sanding and finishing the floors and we expect this to be accomplished before the next meeting.

Alfred G. White, Chairman

## CRAY HOUSE INTERIOR & FURNISHINGS

The Cray House was open to visitors on Saturday afternoons from the middle of April until work

was begun on the upstairs the last of August. Over 200 persons have visited the house, including groups from Washington, the Brig. General Perry Benson Chapter of the DAR from Easton and a local Girl Scout Troop. Mrs. LaRue Updegrave has done a beautiful job of providing hostesses for these occasions. We now have a book listing memorials and gifts to the Cray House.

The Island Garden Club will decorate the outside of the house for the holidays as they did last year. We have not scheduled an Open House because we are not sure when the floors upstairs will be finished.

Marian Steuart, Ch.

## RECORDS & MATERIALS

Records have been copied from the United Methodist Church listing of baptisms, marriages and deaths, from some Family Bibles and family graveyards, and have been placed in the Cray House. The Kingsley Cemetary records will also be exhibited there.

Copies of photographs of the Bloody Point and Love Point lighthouses have been secured and will also be appropriately exhibited. A copy of the book OF HISTORY AND HOUSES, A KENT ISLAND HERITAGE has been added to our library. I will be pleased to answer inquiries regarding Island families from information in my files.

Mildred Schoch, Ch.

## MEMBERSHIP

In May 1975 the Society was formed by 5 women. Charter members were accepted until Jan. 1, 1976 when the total was 156. By 1979 the number was 221. I am now pleased to report that we have 500 members and we hope to top that before the annual meeting.

Catherine Kirwan, Ch.

## PROGRAM

Christmas Dinner Meeting - Kent Island Yacht Club - Dec. 9, 1982 - Entertainment by "Sincerely Yours" Quartet.

Eva White, Ch.