

# ISLE OF KENT - 1631



NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

Isle of Kent is published quarterly by The Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc., a non-profit corporation, P.O. Box 321, Stevensville, MD 21666. Every effort is made to publish accurate information, but no responsibility can be assumed by The Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc. or the Editor in the event of claim of loss or damage from any contribution. Statements attributed to individuals do not necessarily reflect official policy of the K.I.H.S. Send Isle of Kent correspondence to Jerry C. Myers, Editor, 2809 Cox Neck Rd, Chester, MD 21619

## President's Message

*Your Board of Directors has had a very busy summer as we plan for the Kent Island Days on May 20 and 21, 2000, and as we enter planning stages for the establishment of a museum in the house which was bequeathed to the Society by Catherine Kirwan.*

*The responsibilities of the Society have increased fourfold with the acquisition of the Old Stevensville Post Office, the restoration of the Cray House, the maintenance of the beautifully restored Stevensville Depot and now the planned Kirwan Museum. We find that volunteers are desperately needed. A list of a variety of activities that require volunteers is found with the newsletter. Won't you take time to help our Society grow in order to meet the needs of our residents and visitors to our historic sites?*

**Nancy M. Cook**

**President**

**Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc.**

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES !**

Do one of these activities interest you? Can you spare a little time to help the Society improve and serve the community better ?

- Docents for the Old Stevensville Train Depot, Cray House, and Old Stevensville Post Office.
- Grant writers for financing the restoration of the Cray House.
- Audio-visual camera buff who would interview native Kent Islanders who could tell us about life on the Island in the early 1900's, the ferries, the Old Love Point Hotel, etc.. (Camera provided by the Society)
- Someone to cut the grass and care for the Kirwan Cemetery plot.

Please call Nancy Cook, 410-758-2502, if you would be willing to help. Your call will be returned if you will leave your name and phone number if I am not available.



## KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1999

President	Nancy Cook	758-2502
Vice President	John Smigo	643-4609
Corresponding Secretary	Carole Frederick	643-3776
Recording Secretary	Donna Jones	827-7106
Treasurer	Audrey Hawkins	643-5969

#### Incumbent Board Members

William E. Denny III	1998-2000	643-5869
Charles "Gil" Dunn	1997-1999	643-5414
Mrs. Barbara Nash	1998-2000	643-5196
Ms. Gail Rumenap	1997-1999	643-4245
Mrs. Barbara Siegert	1997-1999	827-7988
Franklin Smith	1997-1999	643-2258
Mrs. Emma Thomas	1998-2000	643-5584
Mrs. Eva Thompson	1998-2000	643-5368
Ms. Carole Frederick	1999-2001	643-3776
Peter Holland	1999-2001	643-8481
Maurice Sanger	1999-2001	643-6465

**Assistant to KIHS:** Michael Foster, Esq. Legal Advisor

### Nominations for Officers - 2000

President - Nancy M. Cook  
Vice President - John Smigo  
Secretary -  
Treasurer - Audrey V. Hawkins

#### New Board Member

Jane Sparks

#### Returning Member

Charles Gill Dunn

Article III, Section 2 of The Society Bylaws provide that additional nominations for any position may be made 21 days in advance of the annual meeting by presentation to the Recording Secretary of a declaration of intent to be a candidate signed by the candidate and two sponsoring members.

Officers are elected for one year terms and directors for 3 year terms. The election will be held at the annual meeting on December 11, 1999.

Additional nominations must be received by the Recording Secretary by November 21, 1999.

### MEETING DATES - 1999

#### GENERAL MEETING KENT ISLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Refreshments 7:00 p.m.

Program 7:30 p.m.

**Mr. Pete Leshar from the Chesapeake Bay Museum will speak on Automobile Ferries Crossing the Bay and will include a slide presentation followed by Q&A period.**

#### ANNUAL MEETING

KENT ISLAND YACHT CLUB

Saturday, December 11, 1999

Christmas Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS

Old Stevensville Post Office Meeting Room  
(All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.)

January 12

February 9

March 9

April 13

July 13

October 12

November 9



# TREASURER'S REPORT

Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc. Financial Report for July 1, 1999 - August 31, 1999

*Submitted by - Audrey V. Hawkins, Treasurer, September 1, 1999*

Balance in checking account 6-30-1999		\$27,606.03
<u>Accounts Receivable</u>		
Dues	20.00	
Donations Building Fund	1,050.00	
Bank Interest	103.31	
Sales Income	14.75	
Sales Tax collected	.25	
Stock Dividend	3,549.52	
Memorial Donation	50.00	
Raffle Tickets	900.00	

Total      \$ 3,833.07  
\$31,439.10

<u>Disbursements</u>		
Cray House Sewerage	108.72	
Train Depot & Cray House(Grass/Electric)	463.71	
Printing & Office Supply	8.51	
Post Office(HQS) Expense	246.12	
Storage Fee	371.00	
Kirwan Property	5,050.00	
Painter	4,500.00	
Grass	150.00	
Carpenter	400.00	
Miscellaneous	184.74	

Donations	35.00
Refreshments	69.74
Md Calendar listing	30.00
Raffle Fund	50.00

Total      \$6,432.80

August 31, 1999 balance in checking account \$25,006.30

<u>Regular Savings Account Balance</u>	<u>\$12,994.25</u>
<u>CD Savings Account</u>	<u>744.75</u>
<u>CD Savings Account</u>	<u>\$15,027.50</u>



## **GENERAL MEETING**

**MARCH 16, 1999**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**MR. NEIL FRAMPTON**



The March 16 general meeting of the Kent Island Heritage Society was most privileged to have had Neil Frampton speaking on the Railroads of the Eastern Shore. His talk was most enlightening as he displayed the stock certificates which he had collected over the years. Mr. Frampton is the nephew of Mr. Addison Frampton, a long time resident of Kent Island and the former owner of the Stevensville Grocery Store(now occupied by Sunflower's Cafe). He spoke about the impact which the railroads had in conjunction with the ferry system on the economics on the Shore. He presented the Heritage Society with reproductions of stock certificates of the Queen Anne's Railroad and the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railway.

Mr. Frampton has promised to make a return visit , for his presentation generated much interest and many questions from the audience.



## **NEW ADMINISTRATOR FOR QUEEN ANNE'S HISTORIC SITES CONSORTIUM**

The Queen Anne's County Office for Business and Tourism selected Caryn Trinkley of Stevensville as the new administrator for the county's Historic Sites Consortium. Caryn is a 1995 graduate of the University of Maryland at College Park with degrees in anthropology, art history and archaeology. Her prior experience has included working for an archaeological contracting business on a grant project for the Maryland Historic Trust and for the Smithsonian Institution. Originally from Ellicott City, Ms. Trinkley now resides in Cloverfields with her husband and son, Colin.

Ms. Trinkley will be responsible for maintaining and expanding upon services offered by the network of the thirteen historic sites which belong to the Consortium.

**ATTENTION ! ATTENTION!**

**THE SOCIETY NEEDS OLD  
MAILBOX UNITS USED IN THE  
EARLY  
1930'S TO BE PLACED IN THE OLD  
STEVENSVILLE POST OFFICE**

## **REPORT ON THE SMALL MUSEUM WORKSHOP**

*On August 16 your president attended a Small Museum Association Summer Conference at the Rocky Gap Lodge and Conference Center in Cumberland Gap with Caryn Trinkley of the Historic Sites Consortium. The workshop was entitled "Collections Care: A Hands On Workshop" and was led by Mr. Brian Howard from the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Conservation Center. He began the conference with a slide presentation, "Collection Care within the Historic House Museum" and was followed by a hands on session "Care of Furniture". After lunch "Care of Metal: Iron, Copper Alloys and Silver" was presented with a review of treatment options using artifact brought by the participants. At the end of the day, a visit was made to the Thrasher Carriage Museum in Frostburg, where a fine collection of horse drawn vehicles was displayed.*

*The responsibility which the Society has in preserving our collection of artifacts requires much knowledge and fore thought. Mr. Howard emphasized in his presentation, "Within our material collection lies the irreplaceable opportunity to preserve our nation's heritage, but preservation hinges on the proper ongoing care of these objects, documents, buildings and works of art."*

*Thirty-five other small museums throughout the state were represented at the conference.*



## **KENT ISLAND DAYS - YEAR 2000**

**MAY 20 AND 21, 2000**

**9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

### **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:**

- + IDEA PERSONS FOR EXHIBITS, DISPLAYS**
- + IDEAS THAT INCLUDE THE LOCAL SCHOOLS' PARTICIPATION**
- + PLANNERS AND EXECUTERS OF IDEAS**
- + DOCENTS FOR THE TWO DAYS**

**ARTISANS AND CRAFTERS NEEDED  
CALL FOR APPLICATION  
AND INFORMATION**

**410-643-5969**



## CRAY HOUSE RESTORATION FUNDS NEEDED

One of the most important projects of the Kent Island Heritage Society is now taking place - plans to restore the Cray House, reportedly one of only two existing post and plank buildings dating from the early nineteenth century (circa 1809-1817) in the state of Maryland.

An architectural survey conducted in 1994 indicates the collapsing of the first level floor system, especially on the front side of the building due to rotting plates, sill and beams. **As of February 15, 1998 the Cray House was declared unsafe and is no longer open to visitors.**

The Cray House preservation plan consists of five phases which will occur over the next four years, the total cost estimated to be about \$200,000. Grants from Maryland Historic Trust and other sources are being sought, but your financial aid is greatly needed in order to begin the important first phase of the preservation plan, the foundation and chimney repair at the cost of \$46,000. We do need to seek matching fund monies in order to complete the task to save this very important example of nineteenth century history.

The immediate goal of the Heritage Society is to raise \$20,000 in order to provide matching funds for our grant requests. At the present time we have no monetary resources to underwrite this project.

Won't you participate in a project which will assist visitors to and the residents of Kent Island in understanding their historical and cultural heritage?

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**The Kent Island Heritage Society**  
**PO Box 321**  
**Stevensville, Maryland 21666**



# The Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 321 - Stevensville, Maryland 21666-0321

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I wish to become a member of the Kent island Heritage Society, Inc.  
Enclosed is my check to cover dues of membership indicated below:  
Life Membership ... \$250.00      Single Membership... \$10.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Town/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Dues and contributions are deductible on income tax returns.  
Membership period January 1- December 31



# ***ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN TODAY***

## ***The Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc.***

P.O. Box 321  
Stevensville, MD 21666

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Stevensville, Md.  
21666  
Permit #11