

Isle of Kent - 1631

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

NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. | SUMMER/FALL 2012

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President's Message

Summer on our historic and beautiful Island always presents a few challenges. This year was no exception. Of course the Bridge traffic is something we always expect, but this year's added challenge of high wind closures and damaged construction equipment has made our lives more interesting. The big Derecho storm in June was described as "one of the most destructive severe thunderstorm complexes in North American history". We all felt its effects at our homes and around the Island, with extended power outages and damaged trees everywhere. However, I'm happy to report that our historic sites came through the storm with no major problems. The extremely hot weather presented its own set of challenges, but that touch of fall in the air now feels pretty good.

Meanwhile, life in our Creeks this season has been marked by an especially huge run of thousands of little crabs. Although they're a pain when culling them out for keepers, they're a great harbinger of our future. Hopefully most of those little guys will grow up for next year. That same sense of hope for our future is shared by many of the KIHS Board Members as we begin to put our new strategic plan into place - with plans for expanding our community outreach, publicity, fund-raising, and membership, and improving our historic sites. Our plan was made possible through a grant from the Maryland Historic Trust. We hope that additional grants will be possible for other projects in the future.

After a great Kent Island Day in May, we hosted an entertaining and educational evening at our general meeting in June, featuring the Music of the War of 1812, with David and Ginger Hildebrand. We thank the Bay Times for their wonderful coverage of the event, both before and after. We hope to feature other special presentations on the War of 1812 over the next two years. Our planned open house tours of our historic sites on the first Saturdays have been well attended so far, thanks to the efforts of Nancy Cook and our team of dedicated and knowledgeable docents, Saturday October 6, will be the last one of the season. Our local papers will have information on the event. In addition, special tours of our sites can be arranged by contacting Nancy Cook or by going on our website, www.kentislanheritagesociety.org.

Speaking of our website, we strive to keep it current with new information on a regular basis, so check it out periodically.

As part of our long term planning efforts, we are committed to improving and preserving our unique sites. This summer's focus has been the dramatic transformation of the kitchen at the Kirwan House from the rather drab affair that had evolved over the years into a first class rendition of a Victorian kitchen as it might have looked at the turn of the last century. Thanks to the guidance of our Kirwan Curator, Linda Collier, and the professional talents of Tom Willey and his crew, the work is nearly complete as of late August. Check out the pictures and Linda's article. The new "old" kitchen now helps make the Kirwan House an even greater historical gem! (And, we'll still have a small modern, functioning kitchen hidden behind the back wall, to help support social events there.)

We are grateful for the many historic artifacts that have been donated to us for preservation over the years. We encourage your continued generosity in this effort. Among our many artifacts are some interesting and beautiful old quilts that have been left in our care. We were pleasantly surprised this summer to learn that several of them are indeed rare and quite valuable, thanks to the efforts of Hanna Wall, docent and active KIHS member. Hanna shares the story in her article on our special quilts.

As we plan for our future, we are looking for new Board members to help us in our mission to discover, identify, restore, and preserve the heritage of Kent Island. If you think you would like to be part of our Board team please contact Nancy Cook or myself as we consider nominations for next year.

As we round the corner from summer into fall, we are preparing for our Fall Heritage Picnic, on Sunday September 23. Check out the article here for details. Thanks to Carole Frederick for coordinating our picnic team this year. We will showcase how beautiful the Kirwan Place is in the early fall, as well as the new kitchen and the rest of the historic Kirwan House. The picnic has grown to be a wonderful celebration of our Kent Island heritage for our members and guests and we hope you'll plan to join us.

See you in September.

Jack Broderick

DOCENTS

Nancy M. Cook,
Coordinator

Historic Stevensville

Fran Peters
Butch Collier
Marilyn Wilson
Anne Marie Bouchal
Michael Bouchal
Josh Bouchal
Flora Sossi
Hanna Wall
Chris Kilian
Barbara Marmion
David Leathery
Jean Leathery
Janet Denny
Jay Gibson
Toni Gibson

Historic Christ Church

Carole Frederick
Ernestine Kopley

Kirwan Museum - Chester

Linda Collier, Curator
Cameron Sewell
Taylor Harmon

COMMITTEES

Caboose Restoration

Tom Willey
T. Humphries
Wayne Humphries
Nancy Cook

Cemetery Preservation

Josh Willey

Picnic

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

Annual Dinner

Toni Gibson
Linda Collier
Carole Frederick
Flora Sossi

Historic Records

Sally Morgan
Nancy Sadler

Development

Hal Wilson

Kent Island Day

Joyce Woodford
Jack Broderick
Flora Sossi
Toni Gibson
Gary Walters

Oral History

Brent Lewis

Public Relations

Membership
Carole Frederick
Nancy Cook

Website

Carole Frederick
Amanda Jenkins

Help Wanted

Picnic Volunteers... We need some volunteers to help set up tables and chairs, direct parking, set out trash cans, and help with clean-up. If you could assist with any of these please call: Carole Frederick, 410 643 3776 or email www.cpfred@verizon.net

Members to Work on Committees.. Remember what our grandparents told us: Many hands make light work. There are a variety of committees that need your help and expertise, i.e., Kent Island Day, Membership, Picnic, Kirwan House Interior, Kirwan Property, Cray House, Caboose, Train Depot, Post Office, Docents, Programs, Oral Histories, Nominating, Fund-raising, Grant Writing, Library, Scholarship, Cemetery, Annual Meeting and Newsletter Editor. Call Nancy Cook for more information. 410 758 2502 or email: Carole Frederick: www.cpfred@verizon.net.

Old Pictures are needed to help us preserve our history. If you have any that you could share with us, we would be glad to copy and return them to you. If you know the people in the picture, where it was taken, etc. – that would be appreciated too. Call Nancy Cook for more information: 410 758 2502 or email Carole Frederick: www.cpfred@verizon.net.

We are looking for an Ear Trumpet – predecessor to the hearing aid – to display in the Kirwan Store Museum. If you know how we can acquire one please call Linda Collier – 410 643 2731.

Newsletter Editor is needed. If you have an interest in filling this position please call Jack Broderick 410 643 6452

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 18

BOARD MEETING

February 15

BOARD MEETING

March 14

GENERAL MEETING

PUBLIC FORUM

Historic Christ Church, Stevensville

March 24

DOCENT TEA AND TRAINING

April 18

BOARD MEETING

May 5

FLEA MARKET

Kirwan House Lawn

FIRST SATURDAY OPEN HOUSE
PROGRAM BEGINS
(through October)

May 16

BOARD MEETING

May 19

KENT ISLAND DAY, STEVENSVILLE

June 20

GENERAL MEETING (TBA)

July 18

BOARD MEETING

September 19

BOARD MEETING

September 23

ANNUAL FALL PICNIC
Kirwan House

October 17

BOARD MEETING

November 14

BOARD MEETING

December 9

ANNUAL MEETING / ELECTION

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Nancy Cook

The Kent Island Heritage Society is most grateful to the cadre of docents who open our historic sites – the Cray House (1809), Stevensville Train Depot (1902) and Caboose (1926), the Stevensville Post Office (1877), the Stevensville Bank (1906) and the Kirwan Museum (1898) in Chester – on the first Saturday of the month from May through October (12:00 – 4:00 p.m.), for Kent Island day and for tour groups.

These docents dress in costume and have prepared a guided tour for those who visit our sites. The summer of 2012 has seen approximately twelve to fourteen visitors on each of the first Saturdays, even on July 7, when the temperature was 103°F!

There is no way we can adequately thank the following persons who willingly volunteer their time to present a walk back into history:

Ann Marie Bouchal, Josh Bouchal, Toni and Jay Gibson, Sally Lewis, Butch Collier, Fran Peters, Flora Sossi, Hanna Wall, Marilyn Wilson, Carole Frederick, Chris Kilian, Linda Collier, Taylor Harmon and Cameron Sewell.

More volunteers are always needed; training is offered, scripts and suggestions for simple costumes are provided. If you might be interested, call Nancy Cook – 410 758-2502.

Annual Picnic for You and Your Guests Sunday September 23, 2012

The KIHS board is holding our annual old fashioned picnic for our members and whomever you would like to invite. Just be sure to let us know how many will be in your party so that we have enough fried chicken

and sweet tea!

The picnic will be held at the Kirwan House and Farm from 1:00 – 5:00p.m., Sunday, September 23, 2012. Visit our website for directions: www.kentislandheritagesociety.org

Look for the invitation in this newsletter. We are asking that each family bring a covered dish – enough to share with others – and some lawn chairs. There will be games for all, a raffle, some craft demonstrations, music, artists, displays, horseback rides, genealogists, conversation and lots of good food.

If you have some early Kent Island and/or family pictures, we would love to have you bring them to the picnic so that we may copy them for our records. All pictures will be returned to you.

We hope to see you there.

From Our Members

In the last issue of our newsletter we asked for input from our members. We are very grateful to Alex Johnson for sending us one of his creations and a book review.

ISLAND HAIKU
by Alex Johnson

Watermen rising
Cold as the sodden oyster
Waiting in the dark.

Old Bay, beer, good friends
Await the steaming comfort
Blue crabs turning red.

Silver honking cries
Above in the azure sky
Truant runaways.

Winter children wake
Forgetting their dreams before
Dressing in the dark.

Snow geese sliding in
Cement gray December sky
Shotgun boom-boom.... boom.

Book Review

The Right-Hand Shore
by Christopher Tilghman
Published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Hard cover, \$27.00, Amazon \$14.51.

Reviewed By Alex Johnson

Well, it was worth the wait!

Christopher Tilghman's new novel, *The Right-Hand Shore*, 16 years in the making, is an elegant and incisive story of the people who populate a legendary Eastern Shore estate, Mason's Retreat, near Kent Island.

In 1920, Mary Bayly, the current owner of the property, is dying. There is no apparent heir to the estate. Miss Mary is interviewing a distant cousin, Edward Mason, in hopes that he could be the right one to take over. Mason likes the idea of owning an estate but knows he could never live so far from his other interests.

Miss Mary suggests a tour of the property with Orel French, the farm manager. During the course of a long day, French recounts the estate's generations of unsettling secrets, from love and loss to the tragedies of slavery, miscegenation, and murder.

Another Tilghman novel is *Mason's Retreat*, a story of the same Eastern Shore estate in a later time. He also author's a prize-winning short story collection, *In A Father's Place*.

If Christopher Tilghman's fiction is not on your bookshelf, it should be.

Welcome to Our New Members

Lynnda & Frank Kratovil
Kay & Don Thomson
Michael Willy
Dixie Sala



An Old Fashioned Picnic
for
Kent Island Heritage Society Members and Guests
at
The Kirwan House and Farm
Sunday, September 23, 2012
1:00 – 5:00

Bring a Covered Dish to Share

The Society will provide

Fried Chicken, Hot Dogs, Iced Tea, Lemonade, and Coffee

Bring your *lawn chair* and join us for

hay rides, corn hole, genealogists, children's games, music, plein air painting,
horseback rides, demonstrations and displays + a 50/50 Raffle

RSVP: by September 19

email: cpfred@verizon.net or call Carolæ Frederick at 410 643 3776



Or you may mail this form to

Carolæ Frederick, 521 Love Point Road, Stevensville, MD 21666

We would love to attend the heritage society picnic and will have the
following number of people in our party:

No. of Adults _____

No. of Children _____

Ages of Children _____
(for game planning)

Names of everyone attending in your party

Your phone # _____ (in case of inclement weather)

LITTLE LADIES TEA

By Linda Collier

with flowers, and a teapot cake for the birthday girl. After dessert of course, as if they didn't have enough sweets, they wanted a piece of candy from the general store. We obliged and also gave the moms a mini tour.

We concluded the afternoon with a cupcake shaped piñata, more games and dancing. These darling little girls had a wonderful time (so did we) and really put some life into the old Kirwan place that it hasn't seen in many a day!



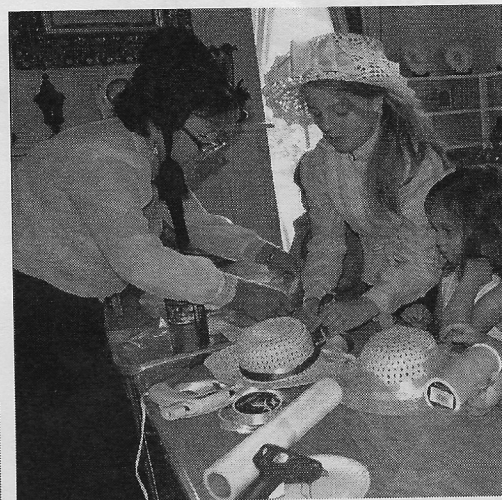
Last year, at the KIHS Annual Christmas Dinner Silent Auction, we offered a "little ladies tea". This was for a little girl and a few of her friends to be held at the Kirwan House on the date of her choice. The lucky winner was Nicole Ransom, but, the real winner would be her 3 year old daughter, Claire.

Claire's 4th birthday was this past July and she celebrated with an afternoon of tea, games and crafts at the Kirwan property with Linda Collier, Taylor Harmon, and Mindy Sewell acting as hostesses.

Festivities, that were originally going to occur outside, were moved inside, because of the intense heat. Mindy directed the guests in a game of musical chairs. Each chair held a lovely hat that the girls wore for the luncheon part of their tea. A variety of sandwiches were served after a brief etiquette lesson on the use of their napkins and how to hold a tea cup.

After the lunch portion of the tea, we went to the parlor where Linda, Rena Dye (Claire's proud grandmother), Taylor and Mindy helped each girl decorate a hat to wear at dessert and to take home as a favor.

Melinda Lowe furnished cupcakes and cookies, beautifully decorated



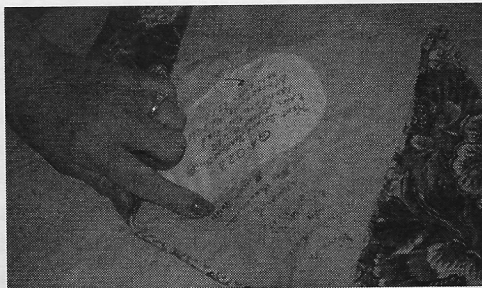
KIHS Historic Quilts

By Hanna Wall

As a docent at the Cray House, I was aware of the 4 very old quilts in the upstairs bed rooms. As a quilter, I am aware of the time and work that was put into these quilts. An old worn out quilt can be very valuable and there is a need to have the quilts appraised and preserved. I received permission from Jack Broderick and Nancy Cook to take two of the quilts to the Annapolis Quilt Guild's Quilt Show on June 10, 2012. For \$50.00 per quilt they were offering appraisal by Phyllis Twigg Hatcher a well known Certified Quilt Appraiser in Maryland.

The first quilt Phyllis looked at was a red and off-white Feather Star Quilt. According to Phyllis the construction and quilting was excellent but it was in poor condition. It was made about 1840. The appraisal value was \$200.00 due to its condition. The Accession papers stated the donor as "Frances Hall" and the Credit line states: The Hall Family of Anne Arundel County.

The second quilt she identified as the Sunburst Nine Block Quilt pattern, which had a high degree of difficulty in the construction. It was all hand pieced with 1830 and earlier fabrics of cotton prints and glazed chintz. The quilting was excellent with a heavy amount of cross hatching. The condition of the quilt was good and had never been laundered. She decided to call a few friends including Kay Butler to look at our quilt. Everyone thought this was a very special quilt. Phyllis's appraise value was \$3,850.00 for insurance purpose.



Waters" (or possibly Walters). Also sewn on by hand is a white cloth label "QA-023 Kent Island Heritage Society c/o Mrs. Alfred G. White 1301 Love Point Road Stevensville, Md. 21666 301-643-6283". On the Accession papers for this quilt the donor is listed as Alice Jones and the credit line states: Great Grandmother, Mary Whiting Cooley (married 1843). Does anyone in the Society have any information about any of these people? If so please contact me, or Nancy Cook.

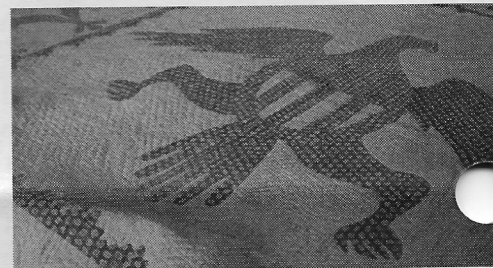
Phyllis Hatcher and the other quilters asked me, if the Heritage Society had any other quilts that they might be able to look at. I arranged for a meeting at the Kirwan House on July 16, 2012 with Nancy Cook, Linda Collier, Phyllis Hatcher, myself and Kay Lee Butler, Cathy Spence and another lady of Heartland Quilters of the Eastern Shore meeting in Denton, MD.

We looked at the other 2 Cray House quilts and then 8 quilts from the Kirwan House. One of the Cray House quilts was a Lone Star pattern with Prussian blue, green, tan, brown and red fabric. The other Cray House quilt was blue and white T-Square Quilt which appears to be an older top with newer cotton added to the sides. For both of these quilts the donor was listed as Frances Hall and Credit line states: The Hall Family of Anne Arundel County.

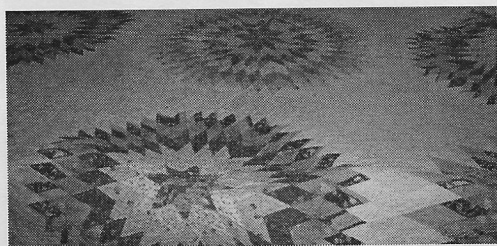
Of the eight Kirwan quilts three were Crazy quilts, one was a small doll quilt only 16"x 11" and two were mid 20th century red Checker Board twin size quilts. One of the quilts was a Diagonal Checker Board quilt circa 1900-1925 made out of red with white and white with blue shirt waist fabric. There was also a very unique baby quilt with a Red Cross pattern made during World War I.

The eighth quilt was a blue and white appliquéd American Eagle Quilt.

Kay Butler, a well known appliquéd quilter and the other ladies from Heartland Quilters of the Eastern Shore were very excited about the Eagle quilt. The size is about 99"x98" and appears to have been made circa 1830. Kay and Phyllis both said the eagle pattern is very unusual. They have both seen a number of eagle patterns but none quite like this one. Kay and a special group of quilters have reproduced new patterns and instructions from unique historic patterns. Kay would like to give the Kent Island Heritage Society the opportunity for a fund raiser by reproducing a new pattern. Quilters are always looking for new and different patterns in order to make their own quilts.



I attended the August 15th Kent Island Heritage Society Board meeting and received the go ahead to proceed with the reproduction of the Eagle Quilt Pattern. In October Kay and her design team will come to the Kirwan House and do tracing and precise measuring of the quilt. They will then create templates, diagrams and full instructions. These then will go to a printer for reproduction and Kay will have the final product completed by February. Kay and her team will donate their time. Kay's proposal is that 50% of the proceeds will come to the Kent Island Heritage Society, 25% to Heartland Quilters of which she is president and 25% to the new Fabric Art Center in Denton. I will take the patterns to quilt guilds such as the Queen Anne's County Quilt Guild and the Annapolis Quilt Guild. Kay will take the patterns to various other guilds and the Fabric Art Center will also sell the patterns. We will also be able to sell patterns at Kent Island Day.



Written in ink on the back of the second quilt was "Given to Virginia Hall by her mother, March 1875, made by her grandmother Harriet

Kent Island Trivia

There are a few questions you can ponder, or research, and bring your answers to the picnic where all will be revealed!!

1. How does Kent Island rank in size to the other islands in the Chesapeake Bay?
2. What is its approximate square mileage (according to the Census)?
3. What name did the Matapeake tribe have for Kent Island?
4. For how many years has Kent Island had human life?
5. What famous explorer was among the first Europeans to set sight on Kent Island?
6. Can you name three things which were included in the price of Kent Island when it was "purchased" from the natives?
7. Where did William Claiborne get the name of Kent for Kent Island?
8. To what two counties did Kent Island belong before it was part of Queen Anne's County?
9. Can you name at least three kinds of establishments that were found on Broad Creek in the mid-1600s?
10. During colonial times, what was the name given to Kent Narrows?
11. What did you use to cross the Narrows during the time period from 1826 to 1876?
12. True or false...Was there ever a mosque on Kent Island?

Have fun with these questions, and bring your answers to the picnic, where we hope there will be some stimulating conversation as a result! If you can't come to the picnic, never fear! We will publish the answers in the next newsletter!!

There Has Been A Change

Annual Meeting/Election of Officers

Mark your calendars - there has been a change! The Annual Meeting that has previously been a dinner meeting on the 2nd Saturday of December, will now be a Sunday Brunch on the 2nd Sunday of December which is December 9th. The venue is still the Kent Island Yacht Club.

The event will start at 12:30 with a short meeting and election of officers. The brunch will begin immediately after with entertainment to follow brunch.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Any member who is interested in serving on our board of directors should contact Nancy Cook at 410 758 2502. We are a fun-loving, hard-working board who will welcome you with open arms - and of course, give you a job to do!

In Memoriam

John W. Legg
(January 27, 1923 to July 5, 2012)

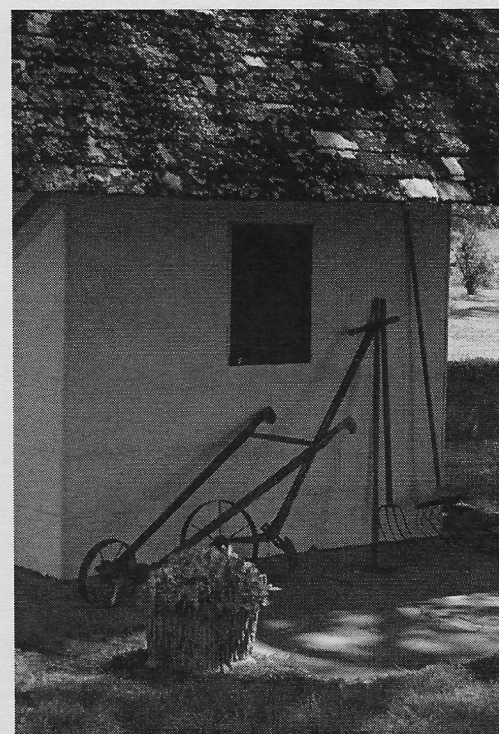
Barbara Ann Kellam
(November 6, 1937 to August 23, 2012)

The society is very thankful for and will miss the interest and support shown to us by these members. Our deepest sympathy goes out to their families and friends.

Kirwan Kitchen Update

Linda Collier

As this newsletter goes to press, the Kirwan kitchen is about 85% complete. There have been many challenges along the way, but, the finished product will be well worth the effort. Tom and Mike Willey are working on the window and door trim and the final floor sanding is scheduled for September 4th. We think by the September 23rd picnic it will be quite presentable. You'll be transported back in time when you had to pump your water, light your lamps, fire up your stove and bake your own turtle pie. We'll give you just a peek, for now.



KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

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Kent Island Profile Roger Lewis

By Brent Lewis

To be born among storytellers is to be blessed. Roger Lewis is my uncle - my dad's older brother. Uncle Roger says, "My father, Franklin, was born in an old farmhouse where Kirwan's Landing is now. I think the end of Charles Street in Baltimore was as far as he ever went in his life. Momma's father was a waterman. Grandfather Joe Coleman fathered 12 children including my mother, Ella. He came down from Rock Hall, Eastern Neck Island. Married Hattie Timms from Kent Island, and drowned crabbing in Kirwan Creek when he was 70. Grandfather Coleman was a Republican and Grandfather Lewis a Democrat. Grandfather Lewis had a carriage so he'd come get Grandfather Coleman on Election Day. They'd ride together, talk politics, then go inside and kill each other's vote."

Roger's earliest memories center around a farm where his family lived on Dominion Road. "I loved it," he says. "I remember loading hay in the barn and man, that hay smelled so good I can smell it right now. Frank Cockey had a wheat thrasher and he'd go to all the different farms. It'd take two or three days. Everybody pitched in. Momma might have to cook for 25-30 men."

"We had two gardens. One behind the barn filled up with Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, turnips, cabbage. So much we gave a lot of it away. It was the Depression. People would stop in just to eat. In the garden up front there was a grape arbor, every fruit and vegetable you could imagine except rhubarb. When I was ten or eleven, I was down Dominion and those old men were out on their porches. One of them said, 'Boy,' everybody called you boy, you could be in your twenties, and he said 'Boy, you think the rain will hurt the rhubarb?' I didn't know what rhubarb was, never heard of it, I said, 'I don't know.' He said, 'That boy's

dumb as hell, ain't he?"

Holidays in the 1930s were geared towards family and community. "Daddy didn't work Christmas week except to feed and milk," Roger says. "Momma would raise poultry, we'd help her take care of them, and she sold 50 geese every Christmas, so Santa Claus brought a lot of stuff. Momma wouldn't sell to anybody but Henry Grollman. He was a fine man, she said, honest, wouldn't cheat."

"We'd visit all around during Christmas," Roger remembers. "Soon as you walked in a house, the table was set. There were made-from-scratch layer cakes in stacked lard cans and homemade root beer. Aw, man, it was good. Next day people would come by our house and do the same thing."

"And Fourth of July church picnics on the lawn at Matapeake Ferry terminal were grand, playing on the beach and in the water." Roger laughs, "We were rich and didn't know it. We had a home, plenty of food, a car, and we all had a suit we wore to church on Sunday. We went to Kingsley Church every Sunday from two to four even if we didn't want to."

Roger entered first grade at Chester School (two room, seven grades), when he was six. "First day, Momma dressed me up in short pants and stockings and a short sleeved shirt. Here I was, this little guy, scared anyway, and these big guys come up and are going to 'initiate' me. One would get a hold of your shoulders, one gets a hold of your feet and they'd throw in you in this great big rose bush. Some of those guys in seventh grade, they were 16 years old."

In third grade, Roger was one of four boys who got whipped by teacher Evelyn Jones for starting a fire in the boy's outhouse. "When I went home, I didn't tell my mother because Momma would want to go up there and fight her. I was outside with Daddy, following him around, in his way. I said, 'Daddy I got to tell you something. I got a whipping today in school.' He turned

and looked down at me and said, 'You got a whipping?' I said, 'Yes, sir.' He said 'Well, if you hadn't needed it you wouldn't have gotten it.' And he walked on. Roger is tickled by his father's gentle nature."

He continues, "I went to eighth grade and then started working on an ice truck for Mr. Dudley Sparks, who was along with Daddy, one of the nicest men I ever knew in my life. Wallace Chance drove the truck and I was his helper. Six and a half days a week for \$10.00. Mr. Dudley would give my pay to Daddy. That's how it was. Nobody minded. You wanted to help your family."

When Roger was 18 he married Kent Island's Barbara Hoxter. Roger held a number of jobs in those early days, including driving a beer truck, a job he had to quit because he was expected to have a drink at all the local businesses he sold beer to. "I couldn't drink and work, too," he says. Roger helped build both the Bay Bridge and the Severn River Bridge, and eventually retired after many years working for Coca-Cola in Easton.

Of eight siblings, Uncle Roger was born next to last. Only my dad was younger and only Roger, at 85, survives. "Not only are all my brothers and sisters gone," he says with a disbelieving shake of his head but a matter-of-fact tone, "so are their husbands and wives. It's really something."

As he winds up our talk, Uncle Roger goes back to that Kent Island farm. "When we were young and would go up to Dudley Sparks store in the evening, Daddy wouldn't lock the doors in case some neighbor was coming across the field and got cold or tired, or a storm came up, they might want to go inside and get out of the weather. I think we only ever had one key. It was a skeleton key and everybody had one just the same and then I think we lost it. We couldn't have locked the doors if we wanted to."

"Some of the old things," my Uncle Roger Lewis says, "were better than the way we have now."