

# Isle of Kent - 1631

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

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. ■ WINTER 2007

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## President's Message

THE KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY looks forward to another year of historic opportunities as we strive to identify, preserve and maintain the history of Kent Island.

Our main focus this year will be to acquire more docents for our historic sites, which include:

- Historic Cray House (1809)
- Old Stevensville Post Office (1877) and newly restored caboose
- Stevensville Train Depot (1902)
- Old Stevensville Bank (1903)
- Kirwan Store Museum (1890) located in Chester.

These sites will be open on the first Saturday of the month from May through October, as well as for bus tours that come especially to visit our sites.

For those wishing to inquire about or volunteer to serve as a docent, a form is included with this newsletter, as well as a contact telephone number.

A Docents Tea will be held on Thursday, March 29. Invitees will include our present docents as well as new volunteers.

Welcome aboard to new directors Toni and John Gibson. And a special thanks to outgoing directors Janet Denny and Fran Peters for their service to our community.

*Nancy M. Cook*

## KIHS Prominent Participant In Queen Anne's Year-Long Tricentennial Celebration

The exciting 300<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for Queen Anne's County has come to an end. A 36-page supplement to the *Bay Times* and the *Record Observer* titled "Queen Anne's 300<sup>th</sup> - The Year That Was" documents this year-long event.

From cover to end, the contributions to this effort by KIHS and its members are prominently featured on almost every page.

For example, of the eight full-color photos on the cover page, one is of President Nancy Cook and Vice President Jack Broderick in full colonial costume reading a proclamation from a scroll to county commissioners kicking off the celebration. Another features a beaming Gil Dunn dancing with his wife, Florence, at the Tricentennial Ball. Two photos show the wonderful concert hosted by KIHS at Kirwan House.

And so it goes throughout the supplement.

### Mark Your Calendar

## Kent Island Heritage Society GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, March 14  
Kent Island Free Library  
7:00 p.m. Refreshments

7:30 p.m. Program

"History of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge"  
*presented by*

Walter "Woody" Woodford, Member  
Maryland Transportation Authority

## COMMITTEES

### Docents

Audrey Hawkins  
**Kent Island Day**  
 John Broderick  
 Flora Sossi  
 Gary Walters  
 Joyce Woodward  
**Fundraising**

### Programs

Jack Broderick  
**Kirwan Property**  
 Joel Berger  
 Bill Denny  
 Dan Hopkins  
 Wayne Morris

### Kirwan Interior

Midge Kirwan  
 Myrtle Bruscup  
 Linda Collier  
 Lora Lake  
 Jane Sparks  
 Emma Thomas

### Cray House

Bill Denny  
 Barbara Marmion  
**Old Stevensville P.O.**  
 Francis Collier  
**Train Depot**  
 Florence Dunn  
 Gil Dunn

### Caboose Restoration

Richard Dadds  
**Publicity**

Greg Nizza

### Oral Histories

Brent Lewis

### Nominating

Jack Broderick  
**Grants**

### Membership

Mae Hutchison

### Library Files

Myrtle Bruscup

Mary White

### Audit

Lynn Riley-Coleman

### Scholarship

Jane Sparks

### Social

Janet Denny

### Cemetery Identification & Preservation

Lora Lake

### Editor

John Bonner

## Know Your Board

**GARY L. WALTERS** is a 5<sup>th</sup> generation native of Kent Island who counts the Denny and Dunn families among his closest friends. He and Bill Denny's son, Randy, were members of the first Little League team on Kent Island, established by the Island's first — and best, he thinks — pharmacist, Gil Dunn.

He and his wife, Joann, enjoy the beauty and serenity of living on Cox Creek and the maritime activities that offers, including sharing those waters with Jack Broderick and Dan Hopkins.

Most of all they enjoy spending time with their children, Jennifer, 14, and Mitch, 11.

Gary graduated from QAC High School. He received a bachelor's degree from Western Maryland College and a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering from the University of Maryland.

He also is on the Advisory Board for John Hopkins University Graduate School of Engineering.

## Welcome New Members

B. Diane Brendsel  
 Queenstown, Md.

Ava Kelley Honeycut  
 Grasonville, Md.

Ross Rolson  
 Chester, Md.

Eddie Walters  
 Chester, Md.

Clockwise: ➡

Del. Richard Sossi,  
 Al Kepley and Jack  
 Broderick;

Linda Collier and  
 John Wayne Morris;

Carol Frederick and  
 pianist Kathy  
 Gabriele;

Joel and Madeline  
 Berger.

## In Memoriam

### CARLTON FOSTER

*The society is very thankful  
 for and will miss the  
 interest and support shown  
 our organization by this  
 member. Continuing our  
 shared mission honors his  
 memory.*

## Thank You

### Bette Benton Thompson

... who made a donation to The Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc. in honor of Mrs. Mary White for her extensive genealogical research through the years.

### Lynne Riley-Coleman

... who purchased for the Kent Island Heritage Society's library the hardback, *A Pictorial History of Queen Anne's County, Maryland*,

## Isle of Kent

John Bonner, Editor

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Bottom from left: ➡

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 Director Francis  
 Collier,  
 Director Myrtle  
 Bruscup,  
 Director Toni  
 Gibson,  
 Director Jay Gibson.

# Scenes from the Annual Meeting

Photos by Jean Leathery





# SAVE YOUR BUTTER

By Gil Dunn

**IT** was supper time at the all-boys prep school. A whisper was going around the dinner table: "Save your butter." The secret whisper spread around the entire dining room.

After dinner, a group of students gathered outside before taking a short walk to the train station. The tracks for the north-south route of the train ran close to the school's property.

Upon arriving at the station, the boys became very busy. Then they waited for the arrival of the train, which usually was on time.

The train stopped and discharged

several passengers. After a short layover, the engineer of the train engaged the throttle, but the train would not move. What could it be?

The engineer jumped from his cab to look for the problem. He soon found that the tracks were covered with butter. He removed the butter, returned to his cab, engaged the throttle and the train began to move.

The prep school boys were hilarious with laughter. Other people at the station were bewildered., wondering what could be causing such laughter.

The boys had found a new use for butter. Save your butter.

## Calendar of Events

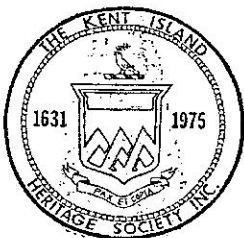
- ❑ **March 14**  
General Meeting  
Kent Island Library
- ❑ **March 29**  
Docents Tea
- ❑ **May 19**  
Kent Island Day
- ❑ **April 21 - 22**  
Centreville House  
and Garden Tour  
sponsored by QA  
Historical Society



Kirwan Docents: Lora Lake, Linda Collier, Midge Kirwan.

The Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc.  
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