

Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County Newsletter Spring/Summer 2009

Heritage REPORT

Heritage Days 2009

Mark your calendars for the 12th Annual Heritage Days, Saturday, June 27th and Sunday, June 28th! We are anticipating another fantastic weekend full of FREE opportunities to discover the history and natural beauty of Montgomery County. A small sampling of the fun activities planned for the weekend includes:

- Guided tours at the Monocacy Aqueduct at the C & O Canal (Sat & Sun)
- Gaithersburg Community Museum's Living History demonstrations, including a Civil War field display at Summit Hall Farm Park (Sun only)
- Dance lessons, tours, and children's craft activities at Glen Echo Park (Sat only)
- Enjoy live music (Sat only) and an exhibit of exquisite photographs of Montgomery County barns (Sat & Sun) at the Hyattstown Mill Arts Project

continued on page 4



Table of Contents

| Valentine's Business Breakfast | 2 |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Civil War Video/Podcast | 2 |
| MHAA Grant Applications | 3 |
| ICC Wayfinding Project | |
| MHAA Meeting | 5 |
| 2008 Fundraising | |
| Heritage Site Profile | |



www.heritagemontgomery.org

Arts & Hymanities Valentine's Business Breakfast

The Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County held their Valentine's Business Breakfast on Friday, February 13th at the Pooks Hill Marriott in Bethesda. This annual event brings together members of the arts and humanities community with local business and government leaders. The theme of this year's breakfast was "Love Stories" and Heritage Montgomery's own Peggy Erickson and Chris Goodwin were one of three "love stories" presented. Peggy and Chris shared with the group of over 300 attendees the successful and mutually beneficial relationship between Heritage Montgomery and The Comus Inn.



Mary Kay Harper, Debbie Rankin, Chris Goodwin and Peggy Erickson at the Valentine's Business Breakfast.

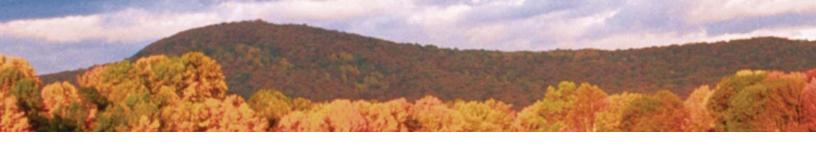
Civil War Video/Podcast Preserve America Grant

The staff of Heritage Montgomery has begun laying the groundwork for the production of its second video/podcast - The Civil War in Montgomery County. Successful proposals for Arts & Humanities Council and Montgomery County Historic Preservation grants are funding preliminary research on storylines and further grant funding is being sought for production costs. Heritage Montgomery is particularly pleased to announce that major funding for the project has been secured in a Preserve America Grant, awarded in partnership with the City of Rockville. Special thanks go out to former HM Board member Jeff Winstel who identified and shepherded the grant proposal through Rockville on behalf of this important Heritage Montgomery project.



Above: Edward's Ferry -Retreat of Union Forces to Maryland Shore

Left: Pontoon Boats



MHAA Grant Applications

The Maryland Heritage Area Authority (MHAA) Grant Program is a source of funding for projects in certified heritage areas that are designed to assist and encourage preservation, tourism, and economic development. A strong slate of applications was reviewed and approved for referral to the state by the Heritage Montgomery Board of Directors. In addition to its annual operating grant, Heritage Montgomery submitted proposals in support of Heritage Days and the Civil War in Montgomery County video/podcast.

Capital Grant

• Sandy Spring Museum: "Increasing Education Capacity" by heating and lighting three outbuildings.

Non-Capital Grants

- M-NCPPC: "Interpreting Quaker, Underground Railroad, and Civil War History" through development of a docent training program.
- Montgomery Countryside Alliance: "GoLocalMoCo" to promote the Agricultural Reserve and local growers through website development.



- Montgomery Preservation, Inc.: "Robert Davis Photographs: A Life Remembered" an exhibit on the life of the long-time Silver Spring Railroad Stationmaster.
- Sugarloaf Regional Trails: "Website Development & Branding" for updating and posting trail guides on the SRT website and in brochures.
- Sandy Spring Civic Association: "Sandy Spring Signage Project" for two signs at the entryways to the Target Investment Zone (TIZ).

ICC Wayfinding Project

Heritage Montgomery has been selected as project lead for a significant signage and wayfinding project in the county. With the final approval for construction of the Intercounty Connector in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, funding for the project has been made contingent on certain mitigation features. As part of environmental stewardship efforts, the Maryland Transportation Authority and the Maryland State Highway Administration propose to provide wayfinding devices and signage throughout the ICC study area to identify and direct travelers to historic sites, heritage

areas, and scenic/rustic roads. Heritage Montgomery will identify and prioritize a list of county sites benefiting from signage, with assistance from M-NCPPC, and will also determine sign verbiage and appearance. Heritage Montgomery will coordinate with the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area to identify sites in Prince George's County. This significant project provides a welcome windfall to many sites in the heritage area; the majority of funds from this \$400,000 project will come to Montgomery County.



Heritage Days 2009 continued from page 1

- New exhibits and demonstrations on rural life including blacksmithing and weaving at the **Sandy Spring Museum** (Sat & Sun)
- Hike the **Underground Railroad Trail** in Sandy Spring (Sat only)
- Guided tours (Sun only) at the **Josiah Henson Historic Site** (Uncle Tom's Cabin)
- Step back in time at the **Sandy Spring Slave Museum** (Sat only)
- Tour the vineyard and winery at **Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard** and for a small fee sample local, award-winning wines (Sat & Sun)
- Watch the **DC/RC Radio Control Club** fly model aircraft around the S. Germantown Park (Sat only)
- Enjoy an art exhibit (Sat & Sun) and live music (Sat only) at the **Historic Silver Spring B&O Rail Station**

Many sites will feature live music, children's activities, and refreshments for sale. For a full listing of Heritage Days activities, visit our website at HeritageMontgomery.org. Be on the lookout for the eye-catching Heritage Days advertisements on the sides of Metrobuses throughout the county—and keep your fingers crossed for blue skies and pleasant temperatures!

Thank You!

A special thank you to Mr. Dan Leaman for making possible Heritage Montgomery's participation in the Sugarloaf Craft Festival. Not only did he get us a booth at the fair, but Dan personally went above and beyond the call of duty in helping with the logistics of our first foray into the world of craft festivals! This fantastic annual area event was held at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds the first weekend in April and provided a great opportunity for spreading the word about Heritage Montgomery and our county's fascinating history.



Judy Christensen, Peggy Erickson, Melissa Romeo





MHAA Meets in Montgomery

On October 16, 2008 Heritage Montgomery hosted the fall Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) meeting. Meeting participants included Matt Power, MHAA Chairman and Deputy Secretary,



Maryland Dept. of Planning; Bill Pencek, Director of Heritage & Cultural Tourism, Dept. of Business and Economic Development; Elizabeth Hughes, Deputy Dir. Maryland Historical Trust & Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer; Sylvia Ramsey, Dept. of Transportation; John Wilson, Dept. of Natural Resources; Amanda Conn, Asst. Attorney General, Dept. of Planning; Richard Hughes, MHAA Administrator; Amanda Murphy and Bernadette Pruitt of MHAA, and Dr. Sheryl Elliott of George Washington Univ. Also attending were Heritage Area Directors Carol Benson, Four Rivers; Jeffrey Buchheit, Baltimore; Amanda Fenstermaker, Heart of Chesapeake Country; Mary Ann Lisanti, Lower Susquehanna; Karen Jennings Crooms, Anacostia Trails; and Heritage Montgomery Board Member Tom Kettler.

After a morning of meetings at the historic Comus Inn, Heritage Montgomery Executive Director and "Official Tour Guide" Peggy Erickson took the group on a fascinating bus tour around the Agricultural Reserve. The group enjoyed stops at Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyards; the Monocacy Aqueduct, where Dr. Karen Gray of the C & O Canal Association gave the group a mini-tour of the site; and the recently renovated Old Town Hall, as well as the new Town Hall, in Poolesville.

Heritage Montgomery Stag

Peggy Erickson, Executive Director director@HeritageMontgomery.org

Romola Ghulamali, Historian & Webmaster romola@HeritageMontgomery.org

Lori Ranney, Grants & Marketing Coordinator Lranney@HeritageMontgomery.org

2008 Year-End Fundraising Drive

Heritage Montgomery embarked on a dramatically expanded year-end fundraising drive in December 2008. Thank you so much to our following loyal supporters:

Fran Abrams Teresa Baines Elie Pisarra Cain Judith & Chris Christensen Corporate Network Services, Inc. Nancy & Raymond Dacek George Delaplaine, Jr. Delaplaine Foundation Jack Devine **Bobby Donovan** Romola Ghulamali Roger Glendenning Steve Goldberg Chris Goodwin Mary Kay Harper Kathleen Henning Thomas & Melane K. Hoffmann Don Housley, Jr. John Hutchinson & Linda Baim Ann Jones Foundation Tom & Debbie Kettler Austin Kiplinger Chris Kirtz Patrick Lacefield Maude McGovern Barbara & John McGraw Phyllis & John Pentecost Jayne Plank Helen & John Reed Bruce Rothrock

Text Design, Inc.

Hm! History where you least expect it!

Catherine & Roger Titus

Please remember Heritage Montgomery in your charitable donations. Every contribution has a significant impact and will be greatly appreciated. Visit our website for details on how you can support Heritage Montgomery.

Heritage Montgomery is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your contributions are tax deductible.



Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County 12535 Milestone Manor Lane, Germantown, MD 20876

301-515-0753 • www.heritagemontgomery.org

REMEMBER THE 12TH ANNUAL HERITAGE DAYS WEEKEND!



Saturday, June 27th & Sunday, June 28th





Heritage Site Prof



Sandy Spring Museum

17901 Bentley Road Sandy Spring, Maryland 301-774-0022

www.sandyspringmuseum.org

The Sandy Spring Museum was established in 1980 and has become an important community link with the area's fascinating past. The beautiful post and beam construction and distinctive octagonal shape of the main Exhibit Hall are reminiscent of buildings on the Quaker farms of old Sandy Spring. The museum exhibits offer a look at Sandy Spring's rich history of social reform, progressive farming techniques, inventions, education, and cultural achievement. Special events are held at the museum year-round. Be sure to stop by their annual Strawberry Festival which will be held on Saturday, June 6th.

Heritage Montgomery Board of Directors

President - Mary Kay Harper

Vice-President - Steven A. Goldberg, Hearthside Antiques

Secretary - Judy Christensen, Montgomery Preservation, Inc.

Treasurer - Debbie Rankin, Montgomery County Historical Society

Fran Abrams, Arts & Humanities Council, Ex-Officio

Jack Cayouette

Bobby Donovan, Hyattstown Mill Arts Project

R. Christopher Goodwin, The Comus Inn

Kelly Groff, Conference and Visitors Bureau of Montgomery County

Sharon Holt, Sandy Spring Museum

Tom Kettler, Poolesville Chamber of Commerce

Chris Kirtz, The Gaithersburg Inn

John Pentecost

Delegate Herman Taylor, Ex-Officio

Scott Whipple, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Ex-Officio

> Laura Anderson-Wright, Sandy Spring Slave Museum