

# THE RECORD



Volume 113, No. 3

A Publication of the Historical Society of Charles County, Inc.

September 2018

Ronald G. Brown, President

Mary Ann Scott, Editor

## Fall Dinner Meeting

Saturday, October 20, 2018  
5:00 p.m.

*Franklin Robinson,  
Archivist, National Museum of  
American History, Smithsonian*

*will present*

*Remembered by the Wind:*

*The Serenity Farm  
Burial Ground*



### Menu

*Sliced Beef, Scalloped or Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Stewed Tomatoes,  
Corn Pudding, Rolls, Apple Crisp, Iced Tea, Water, Coffee*  
**\$25.00 per person**

Please R.S.V.P. no later than October 13, 2018 to Carol Donohue  
16401 Old Marshall Hall Road ~ Accokeek, MD 20607  
Please make checks payable to: *The Historical Society of Charles County*

## Rich Hill Update

The Friends of Rich Hill have continued to develop interpretive activities for Rich Hill. To date, the following have been completed:



- 6-panel Exhibit: *Guilty or Innocent: Charles County's Conspirators, Witnesses & Accomplices* featuring George Atzerodt, Thomas Jones, Dr. Samuel Mudd, Mary Swann & Oswell Swann.
- 3-panel Exhibit: *Dr. Gustavus Brown: Immigrant, Physician & Builder of Rich Hill; The Illustrious Descendants of Dr. Gustavus Brown; Historic Homes and their Connections to the Browns of Rich Hill.*
- 4-panel Exhibit: *Samuel Cox: Innovative Farmer & Community Icon; Samuel Cox: Harboring of Fugitives & Master of Rich Hill; Samuel Cox, Jr., The Descendants of Lucy Beall Cox Neale.*
- 8-panel Exhibit: *From Slavery's Shadow to Freedom's Light: 1762; 1789; 1814; 1847; 1860; A Life of Labor; Freedom.*
- 2 Pull-Ups: *Rediscovering Historic Rich Hill; Booth's Escape into Southern Maryland; Brown Genealogy; Cox Genealogy.*
- Outdoor Signage: *Rich Hill Through the Years.*
- Brochure & Rack Card: *Rediscovering Historic Rich Hill*

The Friends of Rich Hill have just been awarded another grant from Charles County Tourism for 3 more interpretive outdoor signs: *Archaeology at Rich Hill; Samuel Cox and his Prize-Winning Farm; The 20<sup>th</sup> Century Farm of Rich Hill.*

All of this would not have been possible if it weren't for the generosity of the Friends of Rich Hill and grants from Charles County Tourism, the Southern Maryland Heritage Area Consortium and Preservation Maryland. Thank you for your continued donations and support.

## The DAR and Rich Hill

The Port Tobacco Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution have worked very diligently researching and coming up with a design plan for the great room of Rich Hill.

Using the resources at the Surratt Society library they have made recommendations for wallpaper, rugs, window treatment, lighting and accessories and have chosen the fabric for the sofa and chairs that have been donated. Local resident Karl Hense, a direct descendant of Dr. Gustavus Brown of Rich Hill, will be doing the upholstery pro-bono.

The DAR committee was headed by Elaine Lawton with Joyce Edelen, Linda Talley, Janet Cox, Denise Grote, and Mary Pat Berry as committee members. A very special thank you to all!





## Rich Hill Cabinet Comes Home



The Descendants of the three sons of Lucy Cox Neale have donated the funds to purchase the original glass cabinet that belonged to Lucy Neale's father, Samuel Cox, Jr. The glass cabinet has been given to the Friends of Rich Hill and will eventually be displayed at Rich Hill.

Samuel Cox, Jr., purchased this cabinet sometime before his death in May, 1906.

The small tag on the back of the cabinet indicates delivery was to *H. Townsend*, Railroad Agent, with the destination to *Cox* in *Bel Alton*. *If not delivered in 16 days, notify 925 Homan Avenue, Chicago, ILL.*

Howard Townshend was the Railroad Agent at Cox's Station prior to 1910. 925 S. Homan Avenue was the Sears, Roebuck & Company Complex in Chicago.

A special thanks to Mary Pat Berry who coordinated the sale of the cabinet on behalf of the Friends of Rich Hill and to the descendants of Lucy Cox Neale who contributed the funds for the purchase:

Lucy Neale Duke, Lutherville, MD

Lanny Hilgar, Worcester, MA

Ellen McGaughey, Paxton, MA

Ann Neale, Columbia, MD

James F. Neale III, Charlottesville, VA

Joan Neale, Rockville, MD

John C. Neale, Westborough, MA

John R. Neale, Rockville, MD

Joseph Neale, Washington, DC

Robert P. Neale, Centre Hall, PA

Thomas Neale, Baltimore, MD



# The Friends of Rich Hill

Supporting the Rehabilitation of a Historic Property

Historic Southern Maryland

## Memberships

The ***Friends of Rich Hill*** was established to preserve, promote, and restore a unique part of Southern Maryland's heritage. Rich Hill was built in 1729 by Dr. Gustavus Brown, one of the wealthiest men in the Maryland colony. More notably, it was the home of Colonel Samuel Cox, who hid John Wilkes Booth and David Herold in his "pine thicket" in the days following the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln in April of 1865.

The Purpose of the Friends of Rich Hill is to:

- Develop interpretive activities to tell the many stories of Rich Hill.
- Collect interior furnishings & accessories.
- Host special events at Rich Hill.
- Provide updates on the rehabilitation progress.
- Create partnerships with other organizations.
- Record pertinent information, documents, and photographs as part of the Historic Sites file at the Southern Maryland Studies Center, College of Southern Maryland, La Plata Campus.

Tax-deductable donations will help to maintain the historical integrity of the house through its exhibits, activities, furnishings, tours, and educational programs.

### Levels of Giving

<i>Friend</i> .....	\$ 5 - \$ 99
<i>Captain</i> .....	\$ 100 - \$ 199
<i>Major</i> .....	\$ 200 - \$ 499
<i>Colonel</i> .....	\$ 500 - \$ 999
<i>General</i> .....	\$ 1,000 +

To donate, please make checks payable to  
***Friends of Rich Hill***  
c/o the Historical Society of Charles County  
PO Box 2806, La Plata, MD 20646

Name:

Email:

Phone #:

Address:

Donation Amount: \$

Areas of Interest: (check all that apply)

☐ African-American History

☐ Archaeology

☐ Brochures

☐ The Browns of Rich Hill

☐ Cemetery Research

☐ Civil War Trails

☐ Consultants

☐ Exhibits & Displays

☐ Fund Raising

☐ Furniture & Accessories

☐ Genealogy

☐ Grants for research

☐ Publicity

☐ Special Events & Encampments

☐ Tours & Educational Programs

[www.richhillfriends.org](http://www.richhillfriends.org)

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# Friends of Rich Hill

## FRIEND

Mr. & Mrs. Gene Ackerman (VA)  
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Kathleen Devilbiss (MD)  
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Michael Fleming (MD)  
Dale & Carol Flowers (MD)

Richard Frank (MO)  
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Schuster & Mary Vance (MD)  
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Charles County Maryland Genealogical Society (MD)

## LUCY BEALL COX NEALE MEMORIAL

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Lanny Rohrbaugh (MD)



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## *The Friends of Stagg Hall*

*A historic site in Port Tobacco Village,  
Charles County, Maryland*



*The Historical Society of Charles County, Inc. is proud to sponsor*

## *The Friends of Stagg Hall*

The Friends of Stagg Hall was established to preserve, enhance, and promote Stagg Hall, an important historic site in the Port Tobacco Village of Charles County. The Friends of Stagg Hall will offer public history programs, sponsor special events, sponsor educational activities and collaborate on enhancements and special tours.

Donations will help to maintain the historical integrity of the house through its exhibits, activities, furnishings, tours, and educational programs.

To become a Friend of Stagg Hall, please mail your tax-deductible donation to the  
Historical Society of Charles County, Inc.  
PO Box 2806 ~ La Plata, Maryland 20646

Colonist (\$25-\$99)

Apprentice (\$100-\$199)

Journeyman (\$200-\$499)

Merchant (\$500-\$999)

Gentry (\$1,000+)

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*The Historical Society of Charles County, Inc. ~ PO Box 2806 ~ La Plata, MD 20646*  
*Charlescountyhistorical.org*

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# *The Friends of Stagg Hall*

*A historic site in Port Tobacco Village,  
Charles County, Maryland*



## *The Friends of Stagg Hall*

### COLONIST

*Connie Regan-Alexander  
David L. & Mary C. Berger  
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Dale & Carole Flowers  
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*Jim & Mary Pat Berry  
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*Candice Quinn Kelly  
Joe McClure*

*The Historical Society of Charles County, Inc.  
Historic Friendship House Foundation  
The Port Tobacco Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution  
The Lady Jane Sewell Chapter, Colonial Dames of the XVII Century*

### GENTRY

*Lorena Goeller, Rosemary Bigelow, Lucy Barbour, Victoria Heeren,  
in memory of their parents, Robert & Phyllis Barbour*

*Barbara Graves*

*Elsie Picyk, in memory of George Picyk*

*The Historical Society of Charles County, Inc. ~ PO Box 2806 ~ La Plata, MD 20646  
[Charlescountyhistorical.org](http://Charlescountyhistorical.org)*

# The 2018 Charles County Holiday Trail

This year's Charles County Holiday Trail will be held December 1 & 2, 2018 with variety of special activities that should peak the interests of all ages.



## Along the Trail...

### Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

- Victorian Christmas – Dr. Mudd House, 11am-8pm.

### Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

- An Old-Fashioned Christmas: Tours of Heritage House 11am-1pm; Christmas Traditions with Louise Webb 1pm-2pm; Guest Author Ken L. Little Sr. "Against All Odds" 2pm-3pm – African-American Heritage Society, Heritage House.
- Archaeology & Historical Scavenger Hunt & Refreshments – Burch House, 10am-4pm.
- Colonial & Antebellum Music performed by "Rosewood" – Friendship House, 1pm.

- Colonial Winter Holiday & Children's Crafts – Port Tobacco Courthouse, 10am-4pm.
- Costumed Docents – Stagg Hall, 10am-4pm.
- Costumed Interpreters: "How the Founders celebrated the Holiday Season" – Thomas Stone National Historic Site, 10am-4pm.
- Costumed Interpreters, Music, Children's Crafts, Refreshments – Mt. Aventine, 11am-5pm.
- Handmade fresh green Wreaths for sale – Mt. Aventine, 11am-5pm.
- Harpist Kathy Keough – Stagg Hall, 11am.
- Make S'mores over an open fire pit – Port Tobacco One Room Schoolhouse, 10am-4pm.
- Military Christmas & tours; Santa photo taking on Antique Sleigh; Christmas train & refreshments – Maryland Veterans Museum, 11am-4pm.
- Port Tobacco Players Carolers – Port Tobacco Village, 1pm-2pm.
- The Madrigals of the Chesapeake Choral Arts Society – Port Tobacco Courthouse.
- Tours & Refreshments – St. Ignatius Church & St. Thomas Manor, 11am-4pm.
- Victorian Christmas – Dr. Mudd House, 11am-8pm.

### Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

- 18<sup>th</sup> Century Cooking Demonstrations, Candle Making, Wreath or Swag Making – Smallwood Retreat House, 1pm-6pm.
- Colonial Winter Holiday & Children's Crafts – Port Tobacco Courthouse, 10am-4pm.
- Costumed Docents – Stagg Hall, 10am-4pm.
- Costumed Interpreters: "How the Founders celebrated the Holiday Season" – Thomas Stone National Historic Site, 10am-4pm.
- Costumed Interpreters, Music, Children's Crafts, Refreshments – Mt. Aventine, 11am-4pm.
- Greening of the Historic Burial Ground - Serenity Farm. Craft a simple decoration then walk to the burial ground. Basic greens will be provided or bring your own-natural materials only, (meet at the Harvest House), 1:30pm and 2:30pm.
- Handmade fresh green Wreaths for sale – Mt. Aventine, 11am-4pm.
- Tours & Candlelight Tours at Dusk – Smallwood Retreat House, 1pm-6pm.
- Tours & Refreshments – St. Ignatius Church & St. Thomas Manor, noon-4pm.
- Victorian Christmas – Dr. Mudd House, 11am to 8pm.

### Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

- Candlelight Lantern Tour – Thomas Stone National Historic Site, 4pm to 7pm.



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## Officers, Board of Directors, and Committee Members

### OFFICERS

President . . . . .	Ronald G. Brown
Vice-President . . . . .	Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr.
Secretary . . . . .	Debra R. Scoggins
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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Elsie Picyk . . . . .	2017
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Jane K. Linton . . . . .	2019

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Denise deLozier Grote

Elaine Lawton

Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr.

Elsie Picyk

Carin Diggle, *Historic Port Tobacco Village Representative*

### EDITOR'S NOTE

If you would like future newsletters sent to you by e-mail, please send us your e-mail address. Articles of historic interest on Southern Maryland are requested for publication in future issues of *The Record*. Please send your articles and photographs to: The Historical Society of Charles County, Publications, *The Record*, P.O. Box 2806, La Plata, Maryland 20646.

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## Friendship House Committees

### Foundation

Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr., Chair  
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Alex Cobey  
Evelyn Karlsson Merritt  
John S. Morris, III

### Cellar Museum & Shop

James H. Berry, Jr.  
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### Ways & Means

Ruby Dyson  
Sandra Mitchell

### Furnishings

Joyce Candland, Chair  
Louise B. Turner



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## *Mark Your Calendar*

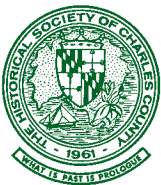
**Saturday, October 6, 2018** – Colonial Game Day at Historic Stagg Hall, 10am-4pm.

**Saturday, October 20, 2018** – Fall Dinner meeting at Durham Church. Franklin A. Robinson, Jr. will present “Remembered by the Wind, the Burial Ground at Serenity Farm,” 5pm.

**December 1-2, 2018** – Charles County Holiday Trail.

**April 27, 2019** – Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage, Charles County, Port Tobacco Region.

**May 4, 2019** – Port Tobacco Market Day.



**THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF CHARLES COUNTY, INC.**

P.O. Box 2806 • La Plata, Maryland 20646

[www.charlescountyhistorical.org](http://www.charlescountyhistorical.org)