



CHEVY CHASE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

Spring 2003

Spring Program to Feature Author of *Our Governors' Mansions*

Share Your Memories of Chevy Chase During World War II



photo by Angela Lancaster

Patti Rosenfeld

Would you like to take a glimpse into the past while visiting the magnificent homes of our nation's governors? Join the Chevy Chase Historical Society for its spring program on May 21, as author and Chevy Chase resident Patti Rosenfeld tells the story of the creation of *Our Governors' Mansions*. This captivating book, which Ms. Rosenfeld co-authored, is a comprehensive pictorial presentation of the official governors' mansions. It takes the reader behind the scenes of these grand residences, mixing fascinating historical anecdotes with detailed architectural descriptions. As you will learn, each residence provides a unique glimpse into history. Program attendees will receive a discount on purchase of the book.

The program will begin at 8:00 p.m. with a brief business meeting. It will be located on the lower level of the Chevy Chase Community Library, 8005 Connecticut Avenue. Light refreshments will be served.

Dedication of the World War II Memorial on the Capital Mall is scheduled for May 29, 2004. In conjunction with the dedication, CCHS is planning a community based project, "Chevy Chase Memories of World War II."

You can assist us in locating those who lived in Chevy Chase during World War II and kept the home fires burning, as well as residents who had work related to the war effort at home or abroad, and residents whose lives were affected by the war in significant ways. And, of course, we are particularly interested in the recollections of those who served in the military and of their loved ones.

Do you, yourself, remember shortages, rationing, precautions, and restrictions? The tenor of radio broadcasts, newsreels, mail, and morale? Did you have a victory garden? Did you lose—or gain—family or friends? Did the war change your outlook, career path, or knowledge of the world? Did it have a long term positive or negative effect on your life?

We welcome your participation in this project. Please drop us a note at: Chevy Chase Historical Society, P.O. Box 15145, Chevy Chase, MD 20825, or call our



During WWII "Mac" (real name) the postman had a special tune he whistled whenever he had a letter from overseas. Everyone in Chevy Chase knew what the tune meant.

Chevy Chase Historical Society Newsletter



Chevy Chase Historical Society
Post Office Box 15145
Chevy Chase, MD 20825-5145

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CCHS Archives and Research Center

Chevy Chase Community Library
8005 Connecticut Avenue
Tel.: 301-656-6141
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E-mail: chevychasehistory@msn.com

Open 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

on Tuesdays and by appointment

Kathryn Best Director of Collections

The Chevy Chase Historical Society is a non-profit organization founded in 1981 to discover, record, and preserve the history of the Maryland and Washington neighborhoods known as Chevy Chase.



Alice Kinter and Helen Secrest greet party-goers on the front porch of the Maloni House



C. Dudley Brown greets CCHS founder Mary Anne Tuohey



Frances & Jack Stickles enjoy a quiet moment during the gala. Frances, a former librarian, is a recent volunteer with CCHS.



Susie Eig and Wendy Adams, editor of the Newsletter, chat with hostess Heidi Maloni

What A Swell

High spirits and brilliant skies were the order of the day at the Chevy Chase Historical Society's 2003 Champagne Supper on April 27! Partygoers enjoyed the gracious hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. William Maloni in their classic Craftsman style home at 5 Chevy Chase Circle. Good cheer prevailed as guests circulated through the spacious rooms of the home and into the warm sunshine of the front porch, backyard terrace and pool area. Accordion music provided a cheerful background to the lively conversation that filled the house and yard. Mr. Alain Roussel and his staff at La Ferme restaurant served a sumptuous buffet of fresh spring foods.

Ms. Kathleen Matthews, Chevy Chase resident and well-known Washington TV news anchor, served as CCHS' first Honorary Chair of the gala. In a brief ceremony before dinner, Mary Sheehan, CCHS Vice President and gala coordinator, introduced Ms. Matthews, thanked her for her support of CCHS' work, and presented her with a memento of the gala. She also introduced the Malonis, thanked them for their generous hospitality, and presented them with a framed series of historical photos depicting the history of their house. A grand time was had by all at this annual celebration of the unique history of our Chevy Chase community.



Society's Capital Campaign Continues

The 2001-02 fund raising period for our campaign has brought us excitingly close to our \$350,000 goal. We are extending the campaign briefly in order to give everyone a chance to be a part of our current accomplishment and future development. Just think, it could be your gift that takes us over the top!

Send your check or pledge to:

Chevy Chase Historical Society
P.O. Box 15145
Chevy Chase, MD 20825.

Make checks payable to:

CCHS Building Development Fund.

CCHS Welcomes Director of Collections and Six New Volunteers

photo by Carol Coffin



Our new Director of Collections, Kathryn Best, flanked by board members Joan Marsh and Eleanor Ford

Kathryn A. Best has joined CCHS as its first professional employee. She is the new Director of Collections and will be working the Research and Archival Center each Tuesday when it is open to the public. She will be supervising the cataloguing of the collections and the computerizing of all society records. She already has begun to develop a new acquisition policy with the help and cooperation of the chairs of the society's standing committees.

Ms. Best also is employed by the Montgomery County Historical Society as the Director of Pleasant Fields, the Waters House property in Germantown, Maryland. She has studied at Keble College, Oxford University, at the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. She is a graduate of William Jewell College in Liberty Missouri with a Bachelor of Arts in English and history, magna cum laude, and honors in history. She holds a master of arts degree in history and a certificate in museum studies from the University of Delaware. She has worked as an intern at the Historical Society of Kent County, Maryland, at the University Gallery of the University of Delaware, and as a research assistant at the Twelfth Armored Division Museum in Abilene, Texas.

CCHS also is pleased to welcome two new members to its Archival Maintenance Committee. Gerry Siegler is a former member of the Board of Directors. Frances Stickles, known to many as the former owner of The Green Mermaid, a framing business, is a published author and a trained librarian.

Evelyn Gerson, Victoria Knopes, and Edward Rastatter have become members of the House Research Committee. Ms. Gerson and Mr. Rastatter have had past experience in deed and tax records research. Ms. Knopes has begun collecting copies of deeds and other information from local homeowners who offer the society the opportunity to copy the records they have concerning their houses. Alice Corbett has agreed to use her digital camera when photographs are required to record the history of the neighborhood.

Additional volunteers are always welcome. Call Mary Anne Tuohey at (301) 656-1779 or the Research and Archival Center at (301) 656-6141.



Brook[e]ville Road: To "e" or Not To "e?"

By Julie Thomas

That has been the question. Perhaps you have wondered, as I have, why all the "Brookville Road" street signs in Chevy Chase, Maryland, between Western Avenue and East West Highway, spell "Brookville" without an "e." If so, you will understand why I called the Maryland State Roads Commission to find out when and how the confusion arose and why it has never been settled.

When I called State Roads, I was referred to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, which is the agency responsible for naming roads in Montgomery County, Maryland. I was delighted to reach a Mr. Fred Flaharty, Senior Planning Technician in Development Review, who has 20 years of experience in road naming. As it turned out, Mr. Flaharty had personally renamed a portion of Brookville Road, between East West Highway and Jones Mill road, "Twin Forks Lane." (This had happened as a result of confusion, which is exactly what led me to Mr Flaharty in the first place!) (Cont.)



Brookville Road circa 1910

Recent Acquisitions

"Recent Acquisitions" is a regular feature in the newsletter, describing the documents and other items that are acquired for the society's Archival and Research Center.

In recent months, CCHS has added the following material to its Archival and Research Center.

- Miscellaneous papers from Chevy Chase Village, donated by Geoffrey Biddle
- Items from the estate of Helen Wolcott, including a copy of her oral history
- A cookbook from the Presbyterian Church
- Miscellaneous papers donated by Mary Anne Tuohey
- Historical tapes from Chevy Chase Elementary School, collected by Marjorie Zapruder
- Manuscripts concerning the Troth family, donated by Patricia Rich
- Map of Primrose Street, from Chevy Chase Village, collected by Mary Anne Tuohey
- Article about Walter Beach's great-grandfather, donated by Mr. Beach
- Photocopy of ledger of Joseph Holston (employed at the Brookville Market), collected by Marjorie Zapruder.
- Aerial photograph of Chevy Chase Club, from Chevy Chase Village, donated by Geoffrey Biddle
- "Reliques of Ancient British Poetry", edited by Thomas Percy, printed in Philadelphia in 1870, and containing two versions of "The Ballad of Chevy Chase," donated by David Chalmers
- Papers and documents from Mrs. Elton Phelan, donated by Anne Phelan McCloskey.
- Blueprints and photographs of 6312 Connecticut Avenue and 6406/7006 Brookville Road, donated by Carol E. Blair