



Chevy Chase Historical Society

Newsletter

Fall 2005

Learn to Safely Archive Historical Photos and Other Memorabilia at the CCHS Fall Meeting

The Chevy Chase Historical Society will hold its fall meeting at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2005 at the Town of Chevy Chase's Town Hall in the Leland Center, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase. Our guest speaker will be Martha Lane, an expert on preserving memories. She has made presentations to local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution and genealogical groups, and at the Creative Memories national convention, on capturing family histories safely.

Ms. Lane has been active in the field of historic preservation for eight years. After she saw her family photos in drawers around her house and in decaying albums, she signed up for a Creative Memories class to learn how to create "safe" albums. She has been preserving memories for families ever since. She will discuss some of the international standards that are of particular interest to the family preserver; will demonstrate various techniques for preserving memorabilia; and will describe the possibilities for working with older photographs printed on different materials, such as tin types and cardboard.

Please bring a pencil and paper to take notes: this is a really "how-to" program, and Ms. Lane will discuss getting yourself organized and determining your scope. CCHS is delighted to be able to bring Ms.



Martha Lane

Lane to our neighborhood, and expects many interested participants. (Gentlemen, please don't stay home - you have stuff, too.) Also, please bring any questions you have about handling documents, preserving them, displaying them, or digitizing them. Ms. Lane will allow sufficient time to answer any of your questions.

The society will conduct a brief business meeting prior to Ms. Lane's presentation. Light refreshments will be served.

Library of Congress praises CCHS World War II project. See page 3.

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

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Open 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on
Tuesdays and by appointment.

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.

Recent Acquisitions

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

In recent months, CCHS has added the following material to its Archives and Research Center:

1. Thirteen oral histories; various interesting documents relating to the history of the Town of Chevy Chase, including 2 house histories; a history of the Offutt family, who have been identified with Chevy Chase since 1893; multiple copies of the town's excellent booklet, *Celebrating Our History, An Architectural Tour of the Town of Chevy Chase*. Donated by the Town of Chevy Chase.
2. An 1865 map of Montgomery County. Donated by Julie Thomas
3. A cowbell that was found alongside Coquelin Run (and now is a decorative accent at CCHS headquarters). Donated by Belinda Wilborn.
4. Photographs of 3626 Raymond Street taken by Cherie Mohr before the renovation of her house in 1994. Donated by Ms. Mohr.
5. Six photographs of life in the Town of Chevy Chase during the 1970s and 1980s. Donated by Frances Stickle.
6. Ten photographs of Florida Street, N.W., dating from 1969 to 1980. Donated by Natalie Fern.
7. A very interesting large framed document depicting "Fulton A. Gordon's Addition to Chevy Chase," an early development in Chevy Chase, D.C., with a map of the area and old photographs of the area's houses. It now hangs behind the desk at CCHS headquarters. Donated by Flora Gill Jacobs.
8. Four maps of the Village of Chevy Chase Section 3; a large collection of documents pertaining to its infrastructure; and copies of the Section 3 newsletter, *News and Views*, from 1993 to the present. Donated by Section 3.
9. *4-H: An American Idea, 1900-1980*, by Julie Thomas and Marilyn Wessel, and three postcards of Brook Farm. Donated by Julie Thomas.
10. Tapes of oral history interviews with Carol Blair. Donated by Susan Elwell and Helen Secrest.
11. Tapes of Cindy Aron's lecture "The History of American Vacations," given at the society's Spring 2005 meeting; a WW II ration book cover; material from the CCHS WW II project; a tape of a lecture delivered to the Village of Chevy Chase Section 3 by Mary Anne Tuohey. Donated by Susan Elwell.
12. Eleven delightful pictures of the interior and exterior of the Imrie home, collected from family members. The photos date from about 1915 and were lent to CCHS for copying. The house was formerly 125 Bradley Lane and now is numbered 4209 Bradley Lane. Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Scott F. Imrie, Jr.
13. Copies of *News and Views*, the Village of Chevy Chase Section 3 newsletter. Donated by Barbara Porterfield.
14. A CD containing pictures of the May 2004 presentation to the society of memorabilia from Leland Street. Donated by Marcy Forvent.

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Society's World War II Project Declared "a Model for the Nation"

CCHS' book, *World War II: Chevy Chase Remembers*, and other papers were accepted into the permanent collection of the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress at a ceremony at the Leland Center on June 3, 2005.

In remarks to the group, the Honorable Christopher Van Hollen, Representative of the 8th Congressional District, complimented the community for its leadership in documenting its veterans' experiences. Dr. Peter Bartis of the Library of Congress project declared the effort "a model for the nation."

The book constitutes part of the society's 2004 special project to record the collective memory of World War II from 103 citizens in the five Chevy Chase municipalities. Participants included veterans, war workers, and area residents during the war.

This is among the most comprehensive and meaningful special projects that CCHS has undertaken. It was made possible by support from the five Chevy Chase municipalities: The Town of Chevy Chase, The Village of Martin's Additions, Chevy Chase Village, Chevy Chase Village Section Three, and Chevy Chase Village Section Five. The book is unique in that it provides one community's comprehensive memory of the war, which now will be preserved in the Library of Congress.

A copy of the book is also available for viewing at the society's Archives and Research Center at the Chevy Chase Community Library, 8005 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland. The center is open on Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and by appointment

Chevy Chase World War II veterans and their families listen to U.S. Rep. Christopher Van Hollen at a ceremony where the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project accepted CCHS' new book *World War II: Chevy Chase Remembers* into its collection.



Photos and captions courtesy of the Chevy Chase Gazette newspaper



Rep. Van Hollen talks with Chevy Chase World War II veterans Alan Lukens (Army), Nat Kingsly (Navy), and Joe Clifford (Army) during the reception following the presentation of the society's new book.

Fun Of Historic Proportions at The Library's "Family Fun Day"

CCHS had great fun participating in Family Fun Day at the Chevy Chase Community Library on September 17! The annual event, sponsored by the Friends of the Chevy Chase Library and the Chevy Chase Library Advisory Committee, featured a day of activities, music, crafts, and performances from juggling to puppet shows to a jazz orchestra. This year's event also celebrated the 40th anniversary of the library, which opened in 1965.

The society sponsored a craft activity for young children designed to make them aware of a bit of the fascinating history of their community. The former Chevy Chase Lake and the carousel that graced its shores were the inspiration for the project. Each child was given a template of a carousel horse and an individual bag of embellishments with which to decorate the horse – ribbons, pompoms, feathers, spangles, braid, stickers, etc. Markers, glue, and scissors were at the ready. The decorated horses were mounted on brightly colored paper and galloped off with their creators as souvenirs of their visit to the library's celebration.



While assisting the children, CCHS volunteers talked with them about Chevy Chase Lake, the carousel, and the many family activities that centered around the lake many years ago. The children were wide-eyed with amazement to learn that a lake and carousel had once stood so close to their neighborhood library, where an apartment building now stands. Indeed, many of their parents were equally intrigued.

For the adult guests of the Library, CCHS mounted its exhibit on Chevy Chase Lake, including photos of the lake and its environs and the carousel, and landscape drawings of the location of the lake. The library staff prepared an extensive display of children's books about carousels.

CCHS was delighted to join in the celebration of the library's 40th anniversary, and grateful for the opportunity to introduce some of our youngest neighbors to a bit of the unique history of Chevy Chase.



Acquisitions *continued from Page 2*

15. Newsletters from 1973-2003, and memorabilia and ephemera from the residents of the 4100 block of Leland Street. Donated by Sylvia Jones on behalf of the group.

16. A picture of the 1930 kindergarten class of Chevy Chase Elementary School. Donated by Edward Bowie.

ERRATA

The title of George Ford II's book, a copy of which Mr. Ford has donated to the society, is *Journal of a 1954 Trip to the Middle East and India*.

Mary Joe Wilhelm has donated *Listening for Leviathan*, the biography of her father, who was the creator of Project Caesar and SOSUS during World War II.

We would like to add Mr. and Mrs. William Maloni to the list of donors to the Society's Capital Campaign.



CCHS Celebrates 25Years



2006 will mark the 25th anniversary of the Chevy Chase Historical Society. As our anniversary year approaches, the Board of Directors is working on plans to commemorate this milestone. We hope that our Chevy Chase neighbors will join us in celebrating our anniversary and the unique history of our community.

Watch for further information concerning:

- Special programs at our semi-annual meetings
- Special articles in our Newsletter concerning the history of Chevy Chase and of CCHS
- Our renewed commitment to education and outreach, to better share our history with our neighbors of all ages
- An especially festive 25th annual Spring Gala
- A Chevy Chase History Day fair in fall 2006, with activities and fun for all.

Please plan to join in the celebration!



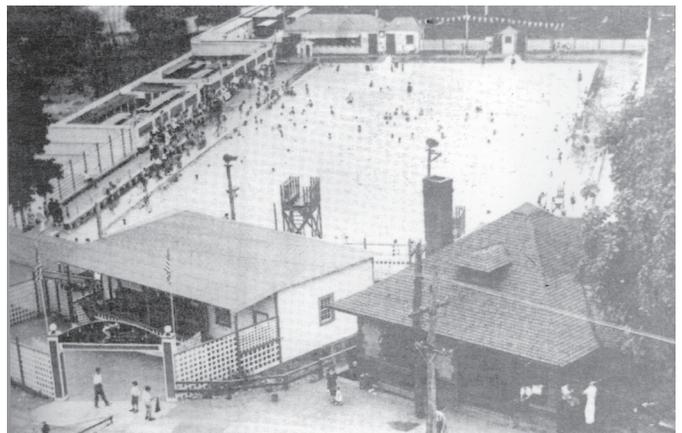
CCHS Celebrates Community Day at The Classic Residence

On May 12, 2005, the CCHS joined other local organizations and businesses to celebrate the Classic Residence by Hyatt's 15th anniversary. In honor of this milestone, residents hosted a Community Day complete with a professionally staged replica of Connecticut Avenue, live music, and tasty food. Volunteers Susan Elwell, Evelyn Gerson, Alice Kinter, Helen Secrest, and Julie Thomas, along with then-President Angela Lancaster spoke with attendees about the society's activities and upcoming events.

Many of the residents who approached our table were new to the area and enjoyed learning about the founding of Chevy Chase. They also took in our exhibit about Chevy Chase Lake, the area across the street from their building (behind the high-rise that houses Chevy Chase Bank) where a small man-made lake and popular amusement park existed until 1937. What most surprised residents was to learn that before the Classic Residence, a popular swimming pool once stood at 8100 Connecticut Ave!



Alice Kinter and Julie Thomas talk about the history of Chevy Chase with an interested attendee.



The Pool at Chevy Chase Lake in the 1930s.

Who We Are (CCHS) — and Who We Aren't (HPC)

Have you ever needed to find out whether an addition you wish to add to your house would be acceptable in the historic district of Chevy Chase? Whom do you call? Not CCHS! Try the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)!

Have you ever wondered about the social history of the house you have purchased in Chevy Chase, or wanted some old photos of your street? Whom do you call? Try CCHS!

We know that "historical" and "historic" are similar words and cause confusion, so the society is writing this article to tell you the difference between it and the HPC. CCHS is a non-profit, membership organization whose mission is to discover, record, and preserve the history of Chevy Chase, and to collect, preserve and restore historical documents of relevance to that history. Our collections serve as a resource for historical research, and we sponsor activities to promote public interest in the history of the community. We've been around for 25 years, and are hoping to make it at least another 25! We have a web site under development.

The HPC, whose full name is the Montgomery County Historical Preservation Commission, is part of the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. It's a governmental agency that was established in 1979 (26 years ago!), and has primary responsibility for designation and regulation of county-designated historic properties

and historic area work permits. It has a web site: www.mc-mncppc.org, which is full of great information about the HPC, as well as forms for tax credits and work permits.

So let's review:

CCHS: non-profit, membership, education and history. We get our money the old fashioned way: from generous donations of friends and neighbors; and from membership dues.

HPC: government, preservation, regulation, and permitting. It gets its money from the government, through the appropriation process.

Of course, we're always ready to direct you to the HPC with your questions, but why waste that "nickel" to make the call? Call us when you want to know about history. Call the HPC when you are wondering about permitting or regulations.

The HPC's number is 301-563-3400. It is located at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, and is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every weekday except holidays.

Our number is 301-656-6141. We are located in the lower level of the Chevy Chase Community Library at 8005 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland. We are open every Tuesday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and by appointment. We look forward to your calling us soon with your questions about history!



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