



MUSEUM MEMOS

Mt. Airy Museum Newsletter



VOLUME 15 NUMBER 2

Summer 2015

2015 Hall of Fame a Success

This year's Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony was a huge success. It seems that everyone in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the festivities and good food.

Thanks once again to all the individuals who worked so hard to make the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet such a success this year. Without the help of many people this event could not occur. Thanks also to the businesses and organizations, listed below, that advertised in our Hall of Fame Ceremony program and donated flowers, plaques, pins, and services. The support of these businesses and organizations helps the Historical Society to fund the Hall of Fame Banquet and many of our normal operating expenses. Please patronize these businesses whenever you can.

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|--|---|
| 4 County Lions | Blade Busters |
| Blossom & Basket Boutique | Brick Ridge |
| Browning Reagle Insurance Agency | Burrier-Queen Funeral Home and Crematory, P.A. |
| Catonsville Homes | CBI Development Group |
| Century Ford, Dodge, Chrysler & Jeep | Copper Jack |
| Damascus Community Bank | Dertzbaugh Construction, Inc. |
| Health Unlimited Family Fitness and Aquatic Center | Jeff Barnes Chevrolet, Inc. |
| Jerry's Trophies, LLC | Kerry Mandrick – Long & Foster Realtors |
| Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy | Lindquist Insurance / Sherman – Emerson Insurance |
| Mary Houshar, Realtor Long and Foster | Mount Airy Ace Hardware |

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| Mount Airy Lions Club | New Windsor State Bank Club |
| New York J&P Pizza | Paul Clay Real Estate Consultant RE/MAX Realty Plus |
| Point to Point Land Surveyors | Rotary Club of Mount Airy |
| Steve Jackson Real Estate Teams, LLC | Team Bonnie & Maureen RE/MAX |
| T.E.M Trucking, Inc. | The Mount Airy Inn |
| Tim Barkley Law Offices | Van Mar Associates, Inc. |
| Wagner Meats / Mt. Airy Locker Co. | |

Thanks

The Historical Society of Mount Airy, Maryland would like to thank the following individuals who made donations. These donations will help the Society to pay for new museum displays, photo reproduction, printing of the newsletter, storage of items in the collection, and acquisition of new historical items.

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|-------------------|------------------------|
| Carolyn Quigley | Clarice Runkles |
| SK Printing, Inc. | Billy & Barbara Wagner |

The Historical Society would also like to thank the following individuals and businesses who donated photographs and artifacts. These items will go on display in the museum and help us to portray the history of Mount Airy and its people and businesses.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| C. Oscar Baker | Becky Brown |
| Elaine Driver | Lucille Putt Kammer |
| David Pyatt | Nancy Sier Thompson |
| The Von Eife Oil Co. | Linda & John Whitcomb |

The Oldest Home in Mount Airy

The Tuesday, May 5, meeting of the Historical Society of Mount Airy featured a discussion of the oldest home in Mount Airy. There were 41 people were in attendance, a great crowd for our monthly meeting. The discussion was hosted by Althea Miller. Oscar Baker began the discussion. The other people in attendance then contributed their recollections. Comments made by each of the discussion participants are recorded in the following paragraphs.

Oscar Baker (92 years old) related that he was told by Bob Dubel that the “Deardorff House” was the oldest in Town. This house is located at the corner of Prospect Road and Hill Street on the south side of the railroad tracks. He was told that Tom Watkins had logged trees and dug stones out of the hillside to build the home. He had also been told the train had stopped at that location; the house was once a boarding house; and it was said to be a house of “ill-repute”.

Helen Simpson, who has lived in Town all her 98 years, spoke next. Her son and daughter-in-law, John and Leslie Simpson, were with her. They have lived in Town for 40 years. Mrs. Simpson was born in the house that Marge Morel now lives in (3 houses south of Pine Grove Chapel on South Main Street). The house was already built as she remembers and her father purchased it for \$14,000.

Tammy Smith lives outside of Town now, but lived at 815 Park Avenue for 15 years. Her grandparents lived on Twin Arch Road at one time.

Janet Haines and her husband, Lewis, live in Damascus but Janet was raised in the Town in a house located on Park Avenue, across from Betty Ifert (701 Park Avenue). She left Town when they married, 55 years ago. She remembers having her wedding reception at home of Oscar Baker, who lived on Park Avenue at that time.

Pat Norwood moved to Town when she was 4 months old. She lived on Hood Street with her parents and then moved to Carroll Avenue after she was married.

Joe and Louise Howard have lived in Howard County for 33 years on Long Corner Road. They read about the program in the paper and wanted to attend the meeting to hear what was said. They are interested in the history of the Town.

Tom and Sharon Walker have lived in the area for 15 years. They came to Mount Airy from the Harrisburg, PA, area for work.

Ellie Bonde, owner of Blossom and Basket Boutique; has lived in Mount Airy area since 1977. She is very interested in the history of Mount Airy. She is very good friends with John and Linda Whitcomb, who live at 20 Hood Street (Charles and Deanna Brown owned the home before them, Nichols sold to Browns, Hoods sold to Nichols). The year 1889 was mentioned as the date of their home. Mention was also made that the Clary House, which is on the corner of Hood and Hotel Streets (owned at one time by Frank Johnson, former Mayor of Mount Airy) has a built date of 1883 on it.

Diann Main Linton, resident of the Town, lived with her grandmother as a child on South Main Street. This house still stands, but is the site of the Mount Airy Inn. Her grandmother, Ada Main, purchased the house in 1933, but it was originally built in the early 1900's. Diann's husband, **Jim Linton**, born in 1947, lived on Harrison Street. When he was in 4th grade, he and his family moved to the house at the top of Harrison Street and Buffalo Road. While cleaning out after his mother's passing, Jim indicated he found in the attic written on a board the date of 1897 as the built date, but forgot the contractor's name listed. He will speak with family members to see if they remember the contractor's name.

Paula Camuti is the resident of the house on Prospect Road right across from Hill Street. In doing some research she found that her house was dated 1885, Cherryhill Farm, which was part of the Leatherwood property.

Carol Jean Eaves grew up in Mount Airy on Harrison Street and now lives out of the Town limits.

Lee Fogle lives at 608 South Main Street. His house was built in 1917 by builder Tom Watkins. Lee is only the 4th owner of the property. He and his wife moved to Town in 1958. He worked for the Telephone Company and loved it.

Rodney Carr has lived in Mount Airy for 9 years. He enjoys the history of the area.

Oliver and Roni Davis have lived in Town in three different houses – 701 N. Main Street, Park Avenue (where Dave Pyatt lives now), and now at 101 Park Avenue. They bought the house from the Bridenbacks(sp?) in 1969. They mentioned that the house was built in the late 1800's. Oliver's relatives are owners of the Davis Meeting House down off Watersville Road. Oliver indicated that his grandfather's slaves helped to build Pine Grove Chapel. Oliver's Dad was Assistant Chief in the local Fire Company at one time. Roni's relatives are in the Hood family.

The Oldest Home in Mount Airy (Continued)

Clarice Runkles is a member of a multigenerational Mount Airy family. She had spoken with Ron Runkles about his family's home on Hill Street (Marion and Arlene Runkles) and thought it was built in the early 1900's. Stone from the quarry on the Runkles' tree farm was used in the house. Ron also told her that Ben Gue's building on S. Main Street is the oldest store and that the Kimmel House on Kimmel Road in Frederick County is the oldest house in Frederick County. The Codd House on Route 144 going toward Frederick was where her great grandparents had lived.

Larry and Mary Hushour have lived in town for 14 years. Larry has been instrumental in getting the Rails-to-Trails project up and running.

Dave Miller has lived in town for 15 years and enjoys Mount Airy.

Mike Stull lives at 6 Baker Street and has been there for 15 years. He used to carpool children from Damascus to Full Gospel School, but decided to move to Mount Airy. He indicated that the year 1890 is shown on his deed, but a painter found items dated March 3, 1891 in the house. His house was the former Carlos and Chloe Warfield home. He has found medicine bottles with Dr. Forney's name on them.

Mary Jane Bell came with her friend, Debbie Crutchfield, to hear about the oldest house.

Debbie Crutchfield moved to Mount Airy in 1977. She came tonight to listen to the discussion.

Susan Boller lived at 17 Paradise Avenue on the northwest corner of Paradise and Dorsey Avenues in her younger days. Clyde Boller was her dad. She and her husband are working on the property and plan to restore it. Chestnut lumber was milled for the construction of the house. She felt it was built in the late 1800's. A water tower and windmill are still located on the property. It was indicated there were apartments in the house at one time.

Lori Dilks has lived on the Frederick County side of Mount Airy for 16 years. He is interested in the local history.

Lars and Bobbie Miller have lived on Gillis Road for 17 years in an old hunting cabin, which was expanded in 1949. Her mother, Virginia Hillery, graduated from Mount Airy High School. She had a brother named Buddy. Her family lived three houses down from the High School (now the Mount Airy Elementary School). She remembered the family house for the "Gingerbread" trim on it. It is still there today. Hallie Runkles was her grandmother and she lived in the area of Snell's Nursery. She remembers in the house was a door in the side of the wall with no steps leading to it. William and Jane Harrison, farmers in the area, were on her grandfather's side of the family. She asked if anyone knew

where the farm would have been and Bonnie Winkler seemed to think it is now what is known as the Harrison/Leishear Farm along Rt. 27 right out of town limits.

Althea Miller lives on Park Avenue and has since 1967.

Pete Bowlus thanked all for coming out this evening. He lived on North Main Street as a child. His family bought their home from Ben Bryan in 1941. He now lives in the Nottingham Subdivision off Watersville Road. In 1939 his father purchased the 300 acre farm for \$2,900, which is now the Nottingham Subdivision.

Ruth Ann Lowman volunteers a lot for the Historical Society. She handed over to Pat Norwood, Treasurer for the Historical Society, \$211 of which \$135 was from donations received since the Mount Airy Museum has been opened this season. Ruth Ann indicated she has been around the area for 78 years. Born on Penn Shop Road, her father was a farm hand for the Molesworths, who gave him a hog each year for his pay. They lived and farmed the Dorsey Farm which is now the site of Merridale Gardens Subdivision for 18 years. The family then moved back to Penn Shop Road. In later years Ruth Ann lived on Park Avenue.

Naudine Phoebus lives on Penn Shop Road (Frederick County side) and has been there since she was 3 years old, 69 years ago. The house she lives in was the former Jess Day home.

B.J. Dixon lives at 24 Park Avenue and has for 49 years. She researched her deed and found her property was originally part of the Milton Bussard property. The original Bussard house was located on what is now the Town Municipal Parking Lot. Byron Dorsey, trustee for the late Milton Bussard, sold the property to George Clay. Clay in turn sold to Arthur Davis. Davis then sold to Alice Wetzel. Alice deeded over to Frankie Wetzel. Frankie Wetzel sold to the Henley's. The Henley's sold to the Rable's. The Rable's sold to the Dixon's. B.J. indicated that she had also done some research on the Deardorff property and went back as far as 1907 when it was transferred to Ira, Raymond and Thomas Watkins. She also mentioned that in speaking with a local engineer, Michael VanSant, he indicated that his great grandmother had lived in the house known as the Shoemaker house on Prospect Avenue (two houses up from the American Legion Home) and thought that it had some age on it. In looking at the tax records, it shows the house as being built in 1875.

**The Historical Society of Mount Airy, Maryland
Meets the first Tuesday of every month (except July and
August) in the lower level of Mount Airy Fire Hall. The
meetings begin at 7 pm. Please join us.**

The Oldest Home in Mount Airy (Continued)

Bonnie Winkler grew up in the house on South Main Street across the street from what people remember as the Dennis Kitchen and Bath business. The house was built in 1915. Her father's family was from the Town. Henry Bussard, an ancestor, built the first house on what is now the Town Municipal Parking Lot. Bussard had Pine Grove Chapel built in 1846. Another relative was first mayor of Mount Airy Byron Dorsey. Bonnie indicated that some houses along Main Street were built before 1846. In speaking with Jean Gartrell, former owner of the Roop house located on Prospect Road (across from the Castle), she indicated that the records reflect that house was built in 1876, but it is known that the center of the house was built in the 1700's and then added to at various times with other additions.

Ruth Ann Lowman mentioned that she had recently read an article in the "Lancaster Farmer" magazine about the Sears and Roebuck homes that were offered as kits back in 1908 to 1940 with some 440 styles to choose from. One of those houses is in Town, the old Jim Windsor Home located at corner of Paradise and Dorsey Avenues. The other one is located outside of Town, known as the Dwight Walker home located at the Walker Peach Orchard (Rt. 27).

Ken Phebus built a house in Town in 2001. His affiliation with Mount Airy was through Dr. VanPoole, his doctor when he was a young boy.

Wayne Evans has lived on Old Frederick Road (Howard County side) for 27 years. He likes the small town atmosphere. He is interested in the railroad.



Mr. Harvey Woodrow Wilson Tabler



Ms. Patricia "Diann" Main Linton



Mr. Robert H. "Bob" King, Jr.



Mr. Donald C. Brightwell



Mr. Terry L. Baker

The Mount Airy Hall of Fame's Newest Members – The Class of 2015

Historical Memories from Fifty Years Ago

Compiled by Althea Miller

The information for these Historical Memories was compiled by Althea Miller from articles in the January, February and March 1965 "Community Reporter" Newspaper. The late L. Pearce Bowlus, was the Editor for over 35 years. The newspaper was the main source of information for Mount Airy residents and surrounding areas from November 29, 1929 until the last issue on July 1, 1983.

- Dreams of a white Christmas never became a reality this year. Temperatures near 70 degrees and dark clouds that suddenly spread showers over the area gave the impression of an April day instead of Christmas.
1/1/65
- The MAHS Bulldogs came up with a double win recently. Wilson Etzler, new to the team this year was high scorer against Moton with 18. Jim Linton had 14 and Jim Miller and Mike Day 12 and 8 respectively. In the game against Middletown, Jim Linton scored 20 points. Others in double figures were:
Harry Frizzel - 13, Mike Day - 14 and Jim Miller - 11. 1/1/65
- On New Years Day, the Rev. and Mrs. C.G. Muradian entertained at the Ridgeville Howard Chapel Parsonage. The affair was well attended by members and friends of both congregations as well as former members of churches Rev. Muradian has served in the past. Assisting Mrs. Muradian at the buffet table were: Hazel Ryan and Mary Fleming of Ridgeville and Irene Hardy and Georgette Watkins of Howard Chapel.
1/8/65
- Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hill and family, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Slagle and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harrison and Roxanne were Christmas Day dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. Millard Clark. 1/8/65
- Don't forget! During the next two weeks Calvary Lutheran Church will be celebrating its' 75th anniversary. Special services are planned for January 10-14 and 17. Former pastors are expected to be present on the 14th and Dr. J. Frank Fife, President of the Maryland Synod, will be guest speaker on the 17th. 1/8/65
- Mrs. Ray Simpson will be in charge of the program for the WSCS at Calvary Methodist Church. The program, "We Would See Jesus," is one in a series, The Life Within. Anyone needing transportation should call Mrs. James Reed, Hickory Hills, Mrs. Russell Ray, Buffalo Road or Mrs. Roger Elgert. 1/15/65
- Mrs. Grace Arrington, cafeteria manager at Mount Airy Elementary and Junior High, has been receiving state and national recognition for her outstanding work. She has made numerous demonstrations around the state as to how to make inexpensive decorations for school lunch rooms. 1/15/65
- Mount Airy Girl Scout Troop #520, with Mrs. Raymond Barrie, Troop Leader, and Mrs. Leonard Mullinix and Mrs. Roger Elgert, Assistant Leaders, made Christmas tree ornaments and decorated the tree at Mount Airy Elementary School where the troop meets. They joined with Junior Troop #279 with Mrs. William B. Culwell, Leader, Mrs. Charles Burns and Mrs. Robert Gosnell in singing Christmas carols in downtown Mount Airy. 1/15 /65
- The Bulldogs were 1-1 last week. Wilson Etzler led the Bulldogs to a 59-48 win over North Carroll at jp,e. St. John's scored 8 points in a hectic last minute to defeat Mount Airy 53-51 on January 5 in Westminster.
1/15/65
- Mount Airy Bowlers came through the BPAA1965 All Star tournament held in Frederick with flying colors. Dot Day, sponsored by the Mount Airy Lions Club, was the top lady bowler of the tournament. 1/22/65
- An advertisement from the January 22 issue: Knapp Shoes---Billy Wagner---204 Hill Street, Mount Airy.
1/22/65
- Mrs. Joseph Kennedy served a delightful buffet luncheon to 20 Garden Club members on January 21.
1/22/65

Historical Memories from Fifty Years Ago (Continued)

- A new “Dial building” is being erected at 819 South Main Street by the C & P Telephone Company. It is now about 50% complete. Installation of the new dial equipment will begin about June 1st and it is hoped to put the new dial service into operation the latter part of September 1/29/65
- West Falls Church had purchased a new Hammond Electric organ. They expect delivery any day. Funds were raised from free will offerings. The organ was chosen by the organ committee: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Davis, Mrs. L.C. Loman and Miss Mary Sagar, organist. 1/29/65
- The Mount Airy Bulldogs basketball team is battling for the county title. Before this week’s games the Bulldogs were 10 and 4 with 6 wins and 2 losses in county play. Sharpshooter for the Bulldogs is Jim Linton with a game average of 17.7 points and a total of 231 in 13 games. Linton also had a game’s high of 27. Jim Miller has a 12.0 average (157 points) while Wilson Etzler (131 points) and Harry Frizzel (130 points) have a 10.0 average. 2/5/65
- Robert Browning was recently installed as president of the Mount Airy Kiwanis Club by Lieutenant Governor Frank Rafio of Leesburg, Virginia. 2/5/65
- A small group of Mount Airy residents recently held their seventh meeting as a prospective Junior Chamber of Commerce. The meeting was held following a crab cake dinner at the “Country Inn”. Persons between the age of 19 and 36 wishing to participate are asked to contact Jim Taylor, Carl Swiger or Fred Stephens. 2/12/65
- The PTA Players will present “The Egg and I” in May in the Senior High auditorium. Auditions will be March 7 and 14. 2/19/65
- Mount Airy High School students who received “Distinction” honors for the first semester for having received all A’s were: Virginia Boone (10th grade) and seniors Anette Bennett, Jenny Bowlus and Susan Hillbinger. 2/19/65
- The WSCS of Howard Chapel met at the home of Mrs. Kenneth Gosnell with Mrs. Albert Hardy as co-hostess. 2/19/65
- The Sweetheart dance, sponsored by the Key Club, was held Saturday night. Anne Marie Buckley was crowned Key Club Sweetheart by Mr. Eder. Those involved in planning for the dance were Ronnie Frizzell, Ronnie Clower and Doug Henley as well as club president, Jim Molesworth and Mr. Wilson, advisor. 2/19/65
- March 30 has been set as the date for the Annual Father-Son banquet at Calvary Methodist Church. The speaker will be The Rev. James Archibald. He will show slides of the church in Argentina and Uruguay. Tickets may be obtained from Lindsay Browning or Harry Bellison. 2/26/65
- The Mount Airy Homemakers held their meeting at the home of Mrs. Oscar Baker with Mrs. Aubrey Fleming as co-hostess. Tasty refreshments were served in keeping with Washington’s birthday to 21 members and one visitor. 3/5/65
- The Mount Airy Bulldogs captured the Carroll County Basketball championship. It was the second championship in four years for Coach Baker and his cagers. 3/5/65
- The Ridgeville Howard Chapel Charge will host the Annual World Day of Prayer observance this year at Ridgeville on March 5 at 2:00 P.M. 3/5/65
- On Sunday, March 7 at 3:00 P.M. the groundbreaking ceremony was launched by the Howard Chapel Methodist Church on the site of the new Educational Building and Parish Hall to be erected soon. 3/12/65
- Both churches of the Ridgeville Charge will hold their Spring Suppers in April. Ridgeville Church will have its’ Fried Oyster and Baked Chicken supper on April 3. Howard Chapel will have a Roast Beef supper on April 24 at Long Corner Hall. 3/12/65

Historical Memories from Fifty Years Ago (Continued)

- Barbara Browning, a senior at MAHS, was chosen to represent her school in the third annual Good Citizen Pilgrimage, sponsored by the DAR. In addition, Barbara also placed second in the county in the Soroptomist Citizenship Award contest. 3/12/65
- This week Walter Spurrier completes 50 years of service to the Mount Airy Milling Company. He began working at the Mill while he was still in high school. In addition to his work at the Mill he has served as Mayor, church official, Masonic and Eastern Star and Kiwanis leader. 3/19/65
- Samuel R. and Alfred M. Schmidt, 18, twin sons of Mrs. Rut Schmidt, completed a 12 week fuel and electrical system repair course at the Army Ordinance Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground. 3/19/65
- Electronics Technician Third Class Thomas L. Neff, grandson of Mrs. W. Norman Hood, has completed a five week Loran-C Maintenance course at Dom Neck, Virginia and has returned to the Polaris missile firing nuclear submarine, USS Thomas Jefferson Holy Loch, Scotland. 3/19/65
- Calvary Weekday Kindergarten will now accept registrations from parents wishing their children to attend next year. 3/19/65
- Mary Lynn Myers appeared on television, Channel 11, last Sunday on a program entitled "To Promote Good Will". She was one of four students from the School Pharmacy, University of Maryland. Mary Lynn, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lyndon B. Myers, will graduate from the School of Pharmacy in June. 3/26/65
- Twenty-four Mount Airy students have been chosen by auditions to play in the All County Band and Orchestra concert on April 3. Band members are: Flute - Anne Marie Buckley; Clarinet - Barbara Browning and Marajean Kaetzel; Alto Saxophone - Charles Condon; Tenor Saxophone - Donald Duncan; Trumpet - Jim Wilson and Michael Mason; Horn - John Simpson and Barbara Goodwin; Trombone - Steve Walton; Bass - Tom Muller and Percussion - Ronnie Hawkesworth. Orchestra members are: Craig Edwards - Trumpet; Ronnie Clower - Trombone; Clarice Runkles - Oboe; Susan Boller, Basil Eavey, Jannette McCauley, Susan Farnsworth and Teresa Farnsworth - Cello, and Jerry Baker - String Bass. 3/26/65

If you have not already renewed your membership for 2015, you can use this form to renew. Thank you.

Join the Historical Society of Mount Airy, Maryland

Name: _____ Address: _____ _____ City, State, Zip: _____ Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____	Membership Type				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$5.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$15.00	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Life/Individual	\$250.00	
	<input type="checkbox"/> New		<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal		
	I would like to help				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Museum Host(ess)	Museum Exhibits	Fund Raising	Data Entry	Other

Please make checks payable to: The Historical Society of Mount Airy, MD, Inc. P.O. Box 244 Mount Airy, MD 21771



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 Mount Airy, Maryland 21771