



MUSEUM MEMOS

Mt. Airy Museum Newsletter



VOLUME 24 NUMBER 4

Winter 2025

The President's Pen

Mike Eacho

The Historical Society would like to wish all of you, our members, a very happy, blessed and healthy new year.

I would like to thank our members who help keep the Historical Society operating, who arrange the wonderful presentations at our monthly meetings and who keep the Mount Airy Museum open. If it were not for their volunteer efforts we could not preserve and share the wonderful history of our town, Mount Airy. Thanks you all so much for all your efforts.

We need more people to help us out. We especially need more help keeping the museum open. It is getting harder and harder for us to keep the museum open on weekends and during the many special town events. We only need a couple of hours of your time every month.

We also need your financial support. We have recently purchased a number of Mount Airy artifacts and plan to purchase more in the new year. We also have a number of restoration projects we would like to fund. We can only do this with your help.

Thank You for Your Support

The Historical Society of Mount Airy, Maryland would like to extend our sincere thanks to the following individuals who have made donations to the Historical Society. Your donations help us with the cost of printing the newsletter, cataloging and storing of new items in the collection, printing of new, informative, and eye-catching exhibits in the Mount Airy Museum and the acquisition of new historical items. Recently, these donations have allowed us to purchase many Mount Airy artifacts from the Allen Brown collection and will help us pay for the design of a new, eye-catching logo and a new portable Historical Society sign. Thank you for your support:

- Matthew & Patricia Sparacino
- Lynn Galletti
- Dede Potter
- Carl & BJ Dixon
- Davis Streaker
- All our kind visitors who dropped money in our donation box

Mark Your Calendars

- Boxes and Bags Bingo – Saturday, February 8, 2025 at the MAVFC Reception Hall.
- Carroll County History Day and Expo – March 1, 2025 at Winters Mill High School
- The Annual Mount Airy Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony – Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at the American Legion Gold Post 191. The Class of 2025 will be honored at the event.

Welcome New Members

The Historical Society would like to extend a welcome to the following new members:

- Amy Rotruck
- Payton Hall Music
- Philip Stackhouse
- Bob Miller

We now have 146 members. Of those 41 are Life Members.

These and other events are listed on our website at:

<https://www.historicalsocietyofmountairymd.org/copy-of-calendar-of-events-5>

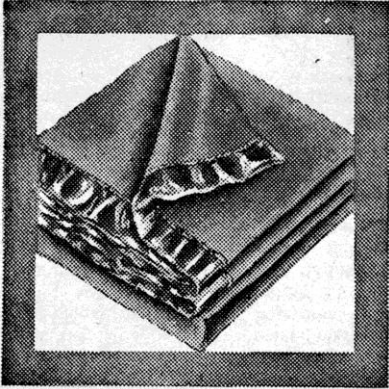
Hall of Fame Nominations

After careful consideration, our Hall of Fame selection committee has picked five deserving residents and former residents of Mount Airy to be inducted into the Mount Airy Hall of Fame. The selectees for 2025 were:

- Mary Jo Burkett
- Adele Connolly
- Matthew Heard
- John O. Steel
- Fran Wimmer

The Historical Society congratulates these truly deserving members of our community and sincerely thanks you for helping to make Mount Airy a wonderful place to live.

These honorees will be inducted into the Mount Airy Hall of Fame at The Annual Mount Airy Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony, which will be held Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at the American Legion Gold Post 191. The social hour begins at 5:00 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner at 6:00 p.m. and ending with the induction ceremony.



Wool and Cotton Blankets...\$3.75 to \$9.75

Tailored Curtains.....\$2.65 to \$3.75

HOOD'S

MT. AIRY Phone 56-M MARYLAND

Ad from the Community Reporter September 1, 1944

Editor's Note: The following story was published in the Mount Airy Community Reporter on Friday, January 19, 1945, 80 years ago.

Local Soldier with Famous Combat Outfit

T/Sgt. William Oliver Hood 398th Infantry Proved Mettle In First Clash With Nazis.

Baptism of fire is an experience few soldiers ever forget and the men of the 398th Infantry Regiment of the 100th (Century) Division have special reason never to forget theirs. For they went into action for the first time in one of the toughest sectors of the long Sixth Army Group front in Eastern France.

A local man, T/Sgt. William Oliver Hood, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard H. Hood, Mt. Airy, is with the outfit. Young Hood was one of the first men to be inducted from this locality for military service prior to Pearl Harbor. He is a trained technician and toured the country with the Army War show, during which modern weapons, ordnance, and their use were demonstrated. His wife and daughter reside in Mt. Airy.

The 398th went into action against the enemy which held prepared positions in dense forests. Their dugouts were deep, covered with logs, and well camouflaged. Their artillery was placed on the mountainous heights that rose above the forest level. Tank traps, booby traps and land mines – many of the latter ingeniously fitted with trip wires, blocked the narrow routes and paths throughout the forest.

Still, against military obstacles like these, against a fanatical enemy, and in weather conditions that included rain and snow and ankle-deep mud, the 398th proceeded without delay to help take Baccarat, to cross the swift, flooded Muerthe River, and to press the Nazis further back toward the Rhine.



Support for the Mount Airy Hall of Fame

The Historical Society of Mount Airy, Maryland would like to sincerely thank the many businesses in our community that supported the 2024 Mount Airy Hall of Fame Dinner and Induction Ceremony. Without their generous sponsorship we would not be able to honor these deserving members of our community.

Please support the following local businesses, which contribute so much to the Historical Society and to our great community.

Mount Airy Hall of Fame Supporters

- 17 Paradise Bed & Breakfast
- ACNB Bank
- American Legion Post 191
- Auxiliary to the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Co.
- Blade Busters Lawn Cutting, Firewood, Snow Removal
- Blossom & Basket Boutique
- Browning Reagle Insurance Agency
- Burrier-Queen Funeral Home and Crematory, P.A.
- Dertzbaugh Construction, Inc.
- Electrical Solutions - Michael Dixon
- 4 County Lions
- George's Girls Jewelry & Repairs
- Health Unlimited Family Fitness and Aquatic Center
- Jerry's Trophies, LLC
- J & J Trash Service
- Kiwanis Club of Mount Airy
- Mary Hushour, Realtor Long & Foster
- MacKenzie A. Kantruss, Attorney at Law
- Mount Airy Ace Hardware
- Mount Airy Lions Club
- Paul Clay, Real Estate Consulting RE/MAX Realty Plus
- Rotary Club of Mount Airy
- SK Printing
- Tabler's Auto Clinic
- Team Bonnie and Maureen - RE/MAX Realty Plus
- The Plumbery Home Center
- Tim Barkley, Attorney
- Wagner Meats / Mt. Airy Locker Co.
- WRF & Sons Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Carroll County History Day and Expo

Join the Historical Society of Mount Airy, and other Carroll County museums, libraries and historical societies for this very special event.

Carroll County History day consists of student exhibits and presentations of their research and projects based on the theme for the 2025 year: "Rights and Responsibilities in History". Attendees have the opportunity to interact with the students to learn more about their topics. During the event the winners of each junior (middle school students) and senior (high school students) project category will be announced and receive awards. Students will also have the opportunity to win local awards and cash prizes from our community partners if their project aligns and meets the requirements for the local award. The Historical Society of Mount Airy offers a \$250 prize in each category for projects that specifically address rights and responsibilities in Mount Airy's history.

The event also includes a History Expo with presentations and exhibitors from Celebrating America partner organizations, including the Historical Society of Mount Airy. Celebrating America is a local collaboration of historical societies and organizations within Carroll County. The organization's goal is to foster a greater sense and understanding of America's history and Carroll County's important role in that history in order to present accurate and complete historical information, to promote activities and encourage increased public participation in and celebration of holidays and other significant people or events, and to develop and implement strategies recognizing Carroll County as being at the "Center of History".

Come spend an hour or so at this special event and learn about the history of Carroll County and the organizations working hard to preserve this history.

Discover the History of Mount Airy!

Visit the Mount Airy Museum in the historic Mount Airy Station

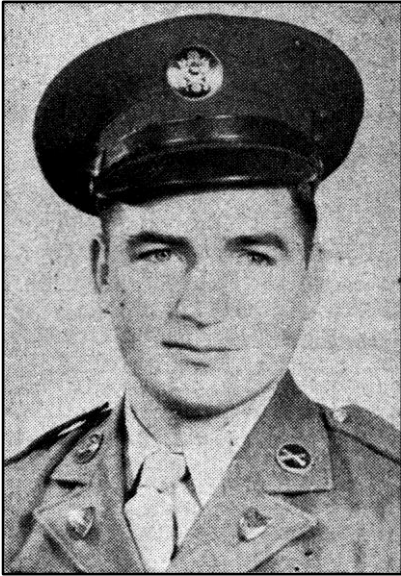
located at 1 North Main Street.

Open Saturdays and Sundays noon until 4 p.m.
and by appointment.

Editor's Note: The following story was published in the Mount Airy Community Reporter on Friday, February 2, 1945, 80 years ago.

Local Man Prefers Philippines To Bush Of New Guinea

Cpl. Harvey W. Tabler, One of Sons of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Tabler, Enjoys Paper.



Cpl. Harvey W. Tabler

son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert S. Tabler, Mount Airy, now 25 years of age, has been in the army nearly five years. He enlisted with the regulars before Pearl Harbor and is now with his regiment in the Philippines. Those medals on his breast denote proficiency with the several weapons he does business with.

We are grateful for this interesting letter from Harvey:

Hi Judge: Just a few lines to let you know how much I enjoy getting the Community Reporter.

It makes a man feel at home when he is far from his loved ones. I hope and pray that all the swell people of Mount Airy are well and enjoying the very best of life. I think of my dear mother and also my friends when the shells get dropping nearby and how wonderful it would be if all the boys could be at home.

But I am happy to be fighting to free the world and to help others to find happiness.

The Japs have taken most all the food and clothes away from the Filipinos. It is really nice to come in a

land where people are friendly and will help to fight the enemy. They tell us right where the Japs are; then we can shell their dugouts so the infantry can take over.

I am certainly glad to be away from New Guinea because we saw very little action and we couldn't understand the natives. But here in the Philippines we have good looking girls and they are quite educated. The weather is also a lot better than New Guinea. I am getting a big kick out of running these Yellow Japs all over the island.

It gets hot as hell sometimes when the Japs start shelling us but we soon put them out of action. The first night we landed I was really praying because the Japs had quite a few large guns up in the hills and were firing directly at us.

I went down so deep in the sand that my B. C. wanted to try me for desertion.-Can you beat that one! Say hello to all my friends. As ever. "Staff."

P. S. That's what everyone calls me now.

Editor's Note: The following story was published in the Mount Airy Community Reporter on Friday, February 2, 1945, 80 years ago.

Corporal Baker Recovering from Wounds

Corporal Charles Oscar Baker, Jr., son of Mrs. Bessie Baker, near Mount Airy, was reported slightly wounded in Belgium on January 3. Corporal Baker, who is about 22 years of age, entered the Army on March 2, 1943. He went overseas the latter part of last September, spending some time in England before being removed to the continent. Prior to going overseas, he trained at Fort Lewis, Washington, and also underwent training at Idaho University and Oregon University. His family received a letter from him last week, in which he stated he was suffering with frozen feet. His family believes he purposely failed to disclose the true nature of any injury.

Visit our webpage at

<https://www.historicalsocietyofmountairymd.org/>

Historical Memories from Fifty Years Ago

Compiled by Mary Lynn Myers Kuhn

The information for these Historical Memories was compiled from articles in the January, February, and March, 1975 issues of the Community Reporter. 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.

- A storage facility is to be operated in Mount Airy by Joseph Weiner and his son, Marvin Weiner, of the Florence Beef Company and owners of the Cold Storage facility. The storage facility is located where the Mount Airy Canning Factory once stood and it is an export facility served by truck and rail transportation.
1/3/75
- Mount Airy firemen celebrate their 48th year of service with attendance of 350 at a dinner meeting. Eddie Browning will serve as Fire Chief for 1975 and will be assisted by William Duvall as 1st assistant chief and Robert Lowman, 2nd assistant chief. Oscar Baker, Thomas Wagner and Robert Lowman will serve as board members. 1/10/75
- Rose Marie Custer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Custer, recently became the bride of Allen Wayne Grimes, son of Mrs. Virginia Grimes and the late Donald F. Grimes of Mount Airy. The organist was Mike Kelly of "Milk and Honey" and Robert Grimes was best man for his brother. 1/10/75
- Public meeting on Bicentennial Celebration in 1976 is scheduled. Memories of the "good ole days" hopefully to be remembered – the days when you could stay at the Ridgeville Hotel, buy a brew in downtown Mount Airy, listen to the Boys Band on Saturday night, ride the train to Baltimore, court the nurses at the Sanatorium, or attend school on South Main Street. 1/17/75
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield is now offering an expanded Medicare supplemental program for \$5 per month, payable quarterly. Specifically, expanded coverage will include the initial deductible for each hospital admission, which is increased from \$84.00 to \$92.00 and the additional charge on the 61st through the 90th day of an inpatient hospital stay, which increased from \$21 to \$23, plus other benefits. 1/24/75
- Mr. and Mrs. John C. Holmes of Pittsburgh, Pa. announced the engagement of their daughter, Joyce, to Larry A. Van Sant of Mount Airy. Joyce is a December graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan college with a B.A. degree in Sociology. Larry is a 1970 graduate of South Carroll High School and a 1974 graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan with a B.S. Degree in Business Administration. 1/24/75
- Mount Airy girls have two teams in basketball sponsored by the Recreation Council with the support of the Lions Club. The Dare Devil Dribblers consist of Yvette Evans, Lisha Hickling, Kim Arnold, Tracy Dorsey, Lisa Sanders, Wanda Fornay, Shirley Savage, Susan Smith, Jilly Jacobs and Carol Stauffer. The coaches are Clarice Runkles, Pat Savage and Portia Hood. The Mount Airy II team consists of Robin and Dee Winkler, Octavia Plummer, Wendy Wagner, Laura Miller, Peggy Dorsey, Kathy Harman, Libby Mezaros, Gina Lowman, Margaret Cataldi and Kati Connor. Coaches are Laura Lenz, Jeanine Lecka and Sonja Plummer.
1/24/75
- For Rent – 2 bedroom apartment in Mount Airy - \$130 per month. 1/25/75
- Custer Toyota slashes 1974 prices on new 1974 Toyota ½ ton S.W.B. pickup for \$2,998.00 - delivered
1/24/75

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Historical Memories from Fifty Years Ago (Continued)

- From “Around Town” by Peggy Jones – Pleasant View Nursing Home is a privately owned and operated facility on 35 acres along Rt. 40. It is a 52 bed facility with its first admission on March 23, 1973 and has admitted 87 resident since then. They range in age from 43 to 96 and come from countries such as Russia, Greece and of course the U.S.A. 2/7/75
- The Mayor has asked the Town Council to request funds from the State for a resident trooper. He feels we are in great need of a patrolman to patrol our town. 2/7/75
- Thieves stole a phone booth located near a service station in Jefferson. The booth was hauled away in a truck and found 10 miles away in Braddock Heights. The culprit unfastened four bolts holding the booth to its concrete base. 2/7/75
- The South Carroll High School Cavalier Band will represent Maryland in the “Festival of States” in St. Petersburg, Florida. Governor Marvin Mandel described the band as a “symbol of superior performance in marching and music” and declared the band has gained for the State of Maryland the reputation of developing in young people bountiful image of our state’s future through youth of high moral character and fiber. 2/7/75
- Letter to the Editor: To Peggy Jones
“Your report regarding “PWP”[Parents without Partners] was lengthy – too much! Were you preaching a sermon” Your coverage of the Planning and Zoning Committee of Mount Airy was brief, so the meeting was curtailed! I hope you give the citizens of Mount Airy as many inches of information regarding the February 24th meeting to be held as you did to the complexes of alcohol and its causes.
Don’t get me wrong – alcohol is a menace, but you can’t help it much with 21 ½ inches of printed space in a local one half portion of the paper allotted to Mount Airy news.
Print this letter in your column and get news that concerns the citizens – at their heart strings, alcohol or the price of anything.
From Evaleen Leon (Moxley)
To Mrs. Moxley:
In Reply to your letter, I always felt constructive criticism was worthwhile and should be commended. In this instance, I feel no reply is necessary.
From Peggy Jones 2/7/75
- Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bone and Mr. and Mrs. John Crout announce the engagement of their daughter Terri Jo to Richard Allen Harshman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Harshman. Miss Crout will be a South Carroll graduate of 1976. Mr. Harshman graduated from South Carroll in 1974 and attended St. Mary’s College. He is presently employed by Mt. Airy Cold Storage. 2/7/75
- The United Methodist Women of Calvary Methodist Church will meet 2/18 to hear a lecture on national defense. Vernon Simpson, guest speaker, will show slides relative to our defense forces, and their strength and locations. He will also discuss the present status of NATO and present food for thought as to whether our forces in Europe are still needed in their present strength, etc. 2/14/75
- Scout Troop 460 held its annual banquet in commemoration of the 65th anniversary of scouting. Richard Smith was toastmaster and special awards were given to local men who have contributed their help to scouting – Jack Shank, Dan Hartke, Don Norwood, Lee Fogle and Bob Logue. The retiring Scoutmaster, Francis Ayers was honored. 2/21/75

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Historical Memories from Fifty Years Ago (Continued)

- Pamela Bohrer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Bohrer, graduated from the University of Maryland on December 20, 1974. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from the division of Arts and Humanities. Her major was Spanish. Pam is now working at the Spanish Educational Development Center, Washington, D.C. as a teacher in the After School Program. 2/28/75
- Harold Skidmore, developer of Friendly Acres, applied for the rezoning of the 66 acres recently annexed by the town and located off Prospect Road back of the American Legion Post. Skidmore's proposed development would include 237 units, 57 of which would be single family units and 170 would be townhouses. He also has plans for a 3 acre man-made lake. 2/28/75
- Mrs. Olea Hood was feted recently on her 80th birthday at a surprise party attended by 75 friends and relatives, Mrs. Hood is the mother of 7 children: C. Ellis Hood, H. Donal Hood, William S. Hood, Harold E. Hood, Elizabeth Kraft, Metty M. Leatherwood and J. Wesley Hood. 3/7/75
- Editorial: The Congressional Sideshow
 "One is appalled at the spectacle which has emerged in the United States Congress hedges and squabbles over what should be done in the present economic and energy crisis. Day by day it becomes more evident that the plight of the people is not the overriding concern of the legislators, but jockeying for preferred representation in their section of the country... It's a good thing we have an executive branch of government, which can evaluate the needs of the country dispassionately and take whatever actions seem more desirable for the general good. We simply could not live forever with Congressional procrastination. 3/7/75
- Navy Fireman Recruit Edward W. Threw, son of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Threw, Sr. of 1208 S. Main Street graduated from recruit training at the Naval Training Center, Orlando, Florida. The training included instruction in seamanship, military regulations, fire fighting, close order drill, first aid and Navy history. 3/14/75
- Resident Trooper, Larry Smith, is assigned here on a full-time basis working 40 hours a week out of the town office. Mayor Lewis Dixon and the Town Council are to be congratulated on this achievement. 2/14/75
- The Mount Airy community is due to get new middle and elementary schools. The Carroll Planning Commission is taking action to provide for a new middle school here and also a new elementary building by acquiring 45 acres of privately owned land near the present middle school, which will provide for an addition which will double the present capacity of the middle school from 600 students to 1200. This plan will also provide for a new elementary to house 700 youngsters. 3/21/75
- The XI Psi Chapter of Beta Sigma Theta met at the home of Diane Buckman March 20th. Guest speaker, Pat Ensor spoke on the job of a mother, as a wife and the problems of raising children in today's world. She stated that her daughter, Detective Carole Meiklejohn, working with Montgomery County Juvenile Bureau, found that many problems can be overcome by parents becoming more attentive to their children. Mrs. Ensor said many parents don't know where their children go or what they are doing when they leave the house. This fact was exemplified when the State Police arrived at the meeting to check the cars members had driven to the meeting – the police had been called because kids were allegedly draining gas from the tanks of their cars! – an ironical twist to the meeting! 3/28/75



The Historical Society of Mount Airy, Maryland
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