

# The Finer Points

A newsletter from the Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums

## **SPRING 2017**

The mission of The Friends of The St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums is to raise funds in order to support historical interpretation, education programs and special needs of the sites managed by the Museum Division of St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks.

#### Friends Board of Directors

Lewie Aldridge, Jr., President
Judi Sterling, Secretary
Paul G. Nelson, Treasurer
Ann Davis,
Todd B. Morgan
Tressa Setlak
Dale Springer
John F. Wood, Jr.

#### Friends Staff

Meg Leahey Administrative Assistant margaret.leahey@stmarysmd.com

Jayne Walsh Gift Shop Manager jayne.walsh@stmarysmd.com

#### Museum Staff

April Havens Acting Museum Division Director Piney Point Lighthouse, Museum and Historic Park Site Supervisor

Christina Barbour St. Clement's Island Museum Site Supervisor

> Rachel Harris Marketing Specialist

> Tom Emery Museum Technician

# The Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums

38370 Point Breeze Road Colton's Point, MD 20626 301-769-2222

## Dear Friends,

After a brief hiatus, The Finer Points newsletter is back and we have so much to share with you!

2016 started out a little bumpy due to a blizzard cancelling our January Appraiser's Fair. Thankfully, it was all uphill from there! We had great crowds at our events celebrating Maryland Day, Heritage Day, Children's Day, Pirate Day and National Lighthouse Weekend which marked the 180th anniversary of the Piney Point Lighthouse.

As members of The Friends, your support ensures that we are able to provide these programs to the community as well as helping the museums add collection items to their exhibits and displays. We can't wait to show you all of the great changes that have been made to all of our sites over the past year!

In 2015, we lost our dear friend, Kim Cullins. She was a bundle of energy with a vision to make the Museums a cultural destination for locals and tourists. Everyday we strive to put forth the love and energy that Kim had for the museums and to ensure that her vision for this organization becomes a reality.

Sincerely,

Lewie Aldridge, Jr.

President

# Meet the Staff

#### Meg Leahey

Administrative Assistant

Meg began as a Piney Point Lighthouse volunteer in April of 2015. When the Administrative position with The Friends opened up in January of 2016, Meg knew she could make an impact with the organization with over 10 years of nonprofit experience from the American Red Cross in Texas and VOL-UNTEER Hampton Roads in Virginia.

In her free time, Meg enjoys kayaking on the Potomac with her husband, playing with her son and walking her 2 rescue dogs. Meg is also a volunteer firefighter with the Second District Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad.



**Jayne Walsh**Gift Shop Manager

Jayne C. Walsh joined the Crab Claw Museum Shops at St. Clements Island and Piney Point museums as the manager and buyer in June of 2016. Jayne is a new resident to St. Mary's County having moved here with her family in March for her wife's new position as Director of Public Safety at St Mary's College of Maryland.

Jayne's previous experience in retail includes eleven years at HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community Col-

lege as the Lancaster and Lebanon Campus Bookstore Manager. She enjoyed working with students in the College environment and is dedicated to customer service as the hallmark of the small non-profit store.

Jayne is a big fan of antiquing, hiking, travel and continues to find new avenues to make St. Mary's her home through volunteer work and exploration.

# 2017

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

March 24 Maryland Day, SCI March 25

Museums re-open for 2017 season\*

April 16

Easter Sunrise Service, PPLM **May 13** 

Museum Yard Sale, PPLM

June 10

Heritage Day, SCI

July 8

Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival, SCI

July 22

Pirates on the Potomac, PPLM

August 5 & 6

National Lighthouse Day

August 19

Children's Day, SCI

September 16 & 17

MD Lighthouse Challenge, PPLM

October 7 & 8

The Blessing of the Fleet, SCIM

October 8

Lower Potomac River 10 Miler, PPLM

December

**Holiday Exhibits** 

\*The Piney Point Lighthouse Keeper's Quarters are now open to the public on the first weekend of every month during the season.

Interested in sponsoring one of our programs?

Contact Meg Leahey at margaret.leahey@stmarysmd.com

# **EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS**

# Celebrate Maryland Day at the St. Clement's Island Museum

# MARCH 24, 2017 | 2:00 PM ST. CLEMENT'S ISLAND MUSEUM

In 1634, English colonists, seeking religious freedom, first landed in Maryland at St. Clement's Island. Every year, the St. Mary's County Commissioners and St. Clement's Island Museum commemorate their landing on Maryland Day, with guest speakers and a wreath laying ceremony. This year, we are honored to welcome Wendi W. Peters, Secretary of Plan-

A Mt. Airy native, Secretary Peters has been active as a community leader and volunteer for more than two decades. She was appointed Secretary for the Maryland Department of Planning by Governor Larry Hogan in July of 2016 after serving as Deputy Secretary since 2015. In the Planning Department, she ensures that each community can shape their future in a way that reflects local values, honors its heritage and presents opportunities for Maryland to flourish.



Secretary Wendi W. Peters

This event is free to the public, including museum admission. The museum and gift shops will be open from 10:00 AM—5:00 PM.

## The Dedicated Volunteers & Staff at the Museums!



It was a pleasure to celebrate another successful year at the Museums with the annual volunteer potluck lunch!

Thank you to all of the amazing volunteers and staff that help to share our region's rich history with all who visit the museum sites!

#### **Fantastic Finds!**

Over 100 guests came to the St. Clement's Island Museum this January to determine the value of their prized possessions and family heirlooms.

Appraisers for furniture, clocks, glassware, pottery, music boxes, coins, dolls and toys were available throughout the event to

evaluate antiques and collectibles.

A special thank you to our sponsor, Estate Escape, who helped make this event possible!

(Photo) Among the many exciting items, appraiser, Henry Hull, had the opportunity to see a Campaign Box valued at over \$300.00.



THE FINER POINTS

# **MEMBER NEWS**

### Welcome Aboard, New Members

lay Armsworthy, California, MD Chris & Kathy Bailey, Bushwood, MD Brenda Beitzell, Bowie, MD Best Refrigeration & A/C Co., Inc., Stafford, VA Marianne S. Chapman, Hollywood, MD Laura & Jim Corns, Leonardtown, MD Liz Curtz & Richard Coppola, Silver Spring, MD Lawrence Gould, Jr., Annapolis, MD Michelle Grim, Mechanicsville, MD Karen L Grubber, Arlington, VA Landon Hall Michael Hallett & Mary Moran, Piney Point, MD Mike & Millie Huseman, Abell, MD Arna M. Lane, Silver Spring, MD Jessica Linkins, Valley Lee, MD Greg McClain, Upper Marlboro, MD Dylan Molzahn, Leonardtown, MD Reginald Newman Erik Peterson, Alexandria, VA David Seeman, Avenue, MD Lee Anne Shontere, Chesapeake Beach, MD George Sparling, Leonardtown, MD Joan C. Waters, Charlotte Hall, MD Richard Welch, Colton's Point, MD

#### **Memorial Donations:**

Thank you to Ann Woodfield & Ralph Wood who sent a memorial donation in the memory of Jean Beitzell Quinnette. Ms. Quinnette joined The Friends in 2000

and had also contributed to the organization throughout the years.

Thank you to Marjorie Rubala who sent a memorial donation in memory of her daughter, Kim Cullins, who passed away in February of 2015. Kim will forever hold a special place in the hearts of all of those involved with The Friends and The Museum Division of Recreation and Parks Department of St. Mary's County.

# Exciting New Upgrades at the Museum Gift Shops

Get ready for the new and improved Museum Stores! Over the past year, our new gift shop manager has been utilizing her retail knowledge and experience and transforming the museum gift shops into a major retail shopping destination in St. Mary's County.

What's New? Each location now has custom t-shirts and hooded sweatshirts with modern designs that are an excellent addition to any Southern Maryland wardrobe. In addition, The Friends are now partnered with numerous local artists and authors to sell items such as jewelry, pillows, glassware, books and more.









**What's Next?** Over the winter break, the Museum Shops have been completely renovated. With striking new driftwood-style walls and display cases, the shops are now a beautiful destina-





FRIENDS MEMBERS

SAVE 10%

AT THE MUSEUM GIFT SHOPS
The museum stores are open during regular museum hours.
Shipping is available. Call 301-769-2222 for information.

tion to do your museum shopping. In addition, the St. Clement's Island Museum Store has been relocated within the museum. Thanks to those who joined us for the exclusive "Friends" preview of the new spaces at the St. Clement's Island Museum. If you were unable to make it, please stay tuned to our Facebook page for announcements of the Public Grand Openings at both locations coming soon.

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#### Membership Levels Friends Membership Application Individual (\$40) New Member Family (\$60) Membership Renewal Heritage (\$125) Patron (\$250) Name/Business Name: Benefactor (\$500) Point of Contact: Corporate Patron (\$250) Corporate Benefactor (\$500) Mailing Address: The mission of The Friends of The Phone Number: St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Email Address: Museums is to raise funds in order to support historical interpretation, Membership Level: \_ education programs and special needs of the sites managed by the **Payment Method:** Checks can be made out to *The Friends*. Museum Division of St. Mary's Please call 301-769-2222 to pay via VISA or MasterCard. County Department of Recreation and Parks. Thank you for your support! **Proud Corporate Benefactor:**

# Email Updates & "Like Us on Facebook"

The Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums are working to improve communications between our organization and its Members. To do so, we are collecting email addresses of all of our members, so that in addition to our quarterly newsletters, we can also send real-time updates regarding special events, gift shop sales and exciting new developments at the museums. We would also like to send you a digital copy of The Finer Points and our Annual Report as they are released! To be added to our mailing list, please email Meg at margaret.leahey@stmarysmd.com.



Best Refrigeration & A/C Co., Inc. | Bruce, Lisa & Aryona Truesdell

Like us on Facebook at Facebook.com/FriendsSCIPP

We are also excited to announce that The Friends are now on Facebook! "Like" our page at facebook.com/FriendsSCIPP. On our page we are posting daily photos of the museums, sending invites to special events and posting exciting additions to our store merchandise at the gift shop!

You can also tag us in your photos, use the check-in feature to share your visit and leave a review for future visitors of the museums!