



# *The Museum at Colonial Beach*

P. O. Box 215  
Colonial Beach, VA 22443-0215  
804-224-3379

## *Newsletter*

Summer 2008 Volume 10

Patti Hansley, Editor Issue No. 8 July 2008

### *President's Report*

*Art Buswell*

#### HELP

Over the past years I have written a number of these letters to you. This is possibly the most important that I have written. **This message deals with the continued survival of The Museum.**

Our membership has declined to a critical point! We need you to renew your membership and pay your dues as soon as possible so that we may continue our mission of preserving the history of Colonial Beach. As we all are aware, everything has increased in price. We are no different. Utility, insurance and maintenance costs have all increased to a point that our current member base can no longer support them.

In the near term we need two things to happen: first, current members need to pay their dues. Second, we must attract additional supportive members from both our new and long-term residents. Few are aware that only twelve people have been the heart and soul of The Museum for a number of years. Can you help for just several hours a month? If you can please contact Jane Trail, Volunteer Coordinator (see her article)

In the longer view we welcome monetary gifts and endowments from generous benefactors interested in preserving our heritage. Please call me at 804-224-2278 if you have an interest in exploring either of these

options. The Museum belongs to all of us and to future generations, please help.

### *Membership / Newsletter*

#### *Committee*

*Patti Hansley*

The 2008/2009 Membership drive began on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We would like to welcome back and recognize the following families and individuals for their continued financial support to The Museum: the R. Michael Buchanan family, the Dennis Conner family, the Steve Swope family, the David Verdin family, the Paul Odescalchi family, the Ray Porfiri family, Chet and Mary Gardner, Rick and Kathy Sullivan, Otis and Mesgal Burke, Jack and Ingrid Littman, Jennifer Sullivan, Helen (Boots) Payne, Geraldine Dorrough, Jim and Irene Lemons, William Thompson, and Betty Wilson.

Welcome new members Sandra Staley, Pocahontas Schuck, the Harry Wehr family and the Bill Hutchins family. Please send your member/renewal form today or drop it off at The Museum during opening hours. Remember, all renewals and new memberships are tax deductible.



Alfred Pollard presented a historical perspective on life in Colonial Beach during the first annual members meeting in May. We would like to gratefully acknowledge the following businesses for their contribution to the 2008 Members Meeting: Hall's Supermarket, The Espresso Station, and Fat Freda's. Also, thank you Amy Otis from Ingleside Plantation Vineyard for the wine tasting presentation that was conducted at The Museum following the meeting.



A special thanks goes to all of the volunteers who contributed to the success of the meeting.



The Big Band (Mother's Day) Dance was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to all who shared their time in support of The Museum.

## *Director*

*Ja Townsend*

### Colonial Beach Historical Society Raffle

#### Results:

Raffle Drawing Location: VFW

Date: 7/4/08

Time: 2:00pm

Ticket drawn by: Local Boy Scout Troop 255



### Winners: Bob and Dot Underwood

Sincere thanks to all participants in this raffle, and to the VFW Post 10574 for allowing the Colonial Beach Historical Society to hold its drawing there. Thanks also to Chris Markwith, Graphic Artist, for his professional assistance in the creation of the "Old Colonial Beach Boardwalk" Photo Collage.

## *Curator's Message*

*Alleyne Dickens*

I've been privileged to serve as curator for The Museum at Colonial Beach for the past five years. It's been a learning process, as I had no training in museum studies only a desire to do the job well and a love for the history of this community. Along with my most loyal supporter, Edna Edmondson, we brought the exhibits up to date, added color and new artifacts. I hope you all like the results.

Last year two exhibits were created: 100 years of the Colonial Beach School system and the Colonial Ski Club. Very soon a new display featuring Rock's Hotel will be added. We've talked to many people who are willing to donate items to showcase this important part of Colonial Beach history.

I'd like to take a moment to thank the members who have responded to pleas for donations. A special thanks goes to Anna Payne, Paul and Mary Ann Tsompanas and Jane Trail. They have given the Museum furniture and accessories, picture frames and items for our fundraisers.

We are desperate for acid-free containers to storage fragile items. Luckily the Hollinger Company, a manufacturer of archival quality storage solutions located in Fredericksburg, donated boxes to Virginia Association of Museums. VAM distributed them to museums across the state. We were lucky to get 10 each of two different kinds of boxes. Now we need clear, archival quality envelopes to hold photographs as well as smaller boxes and other types of storage.

We also need the proper software to catalog every item in the museum. I want to

organize all items in storage so that anyone coming after me will know where to look to find each precious artifact and photograph. This proprietary software is very expensive, roughly \$1000.00. Given the more pressing needs we have (upgrading and repairing the Museum building), this expense has been put on the backburner. I hope that with renewed commitment from members we can become solvent in the near future and this cost can be met.

Lastly I would like to ask that each Historical Society member consider giving 3 hours to The Museum this summer. Our fantastic Volunteer Coordinator Jane Trial has done an excellent job keeping the Museum open this year, but we all need to do our part. Without you the Museum will not open and visitors will not be able to see the fine exhibits that have been created or experience Colonial Beach's wonderful history. Colonial Beach is unique in Virginia. We need your help to show it to the world. Please contact The Museum if you have items to donate. Our phone is 804-224-3379 or email us at [colonialbeachcurator@yahoo.com](mailto:colonialbeachcurator@yahoo.com).

## *Director of Education*

*Edna Edmondson*

I am excited about the education goals for the summer quarter. I will be planning and launching a new program entitled: DMV  
D....donations,  
M....membership  
V....volunteers

The volunteer museum staff will make a concentrated effort to collect photos of beach happenings, people and places. These photos can be scanned and returned. It is hoped we can put together several new exhibits. Do you have photos, artifacts or suggestions for displays? We want to hear from you! Contact our Curator, Alleyne Dickens.

Did you know there is a video of Museums in Northern Neck and your Museum is featured? Help make it the best little small museum in Northern Neck. A Volunteer Training and Workshop is planned for Saturday, August 9,

2008 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Lunch will be served. We will discuss responsibilities, problems and concerns, and be open to recommendations and suggestions. A Volunteer handbook will also be available. Remember there are a variety of Volunteer possibilities. Find out about the many opportunities where your abilities and interests fit into the total program. Grab your BGF and come to the meet-me! A registration form is at the bottom of the Newsletter for your convenience or you can pick one up at The Museum. You can also call me at 224-9889.

REMEMBER: DMV

## *Secretary*

*Anna Payne*

Minutes from the June meeting were approved. The Board voted to support "History on the Go." The By-laws Committee completed their review and is awaiting comment from the Board to complete the work. As soon as we raise enough money, we will order town flags. There is a sign-up sheet in The Museum or during Market Days on Town Hill. June 14<sup>th</sup> was hot, hot, hot!!! Tommy Moeser and I waited about 2 hours for our start in the Festival Parade. We had a great time and our Museum "Float" celebrated Flag Day and the birth of the US Army. Both are 233 years old this year. Glad to see people standing and clapping for the USA flag (mostly men). Whenever I saw grownups with children, I called out to remind them that today (June 14<sup>th</sup>) was Flag Day. They probably thought the heat had gotten to the little old gray-haired lady. "God Bless the USA."

## *Treasurer's Report*

*Bill Hendrix*

As we start a new year, our bank account is in dire need of recharging. Ending balance for the month of July is just over \$500.00. Member dues help pay the bills, but more is needed. If you have an idea about a fundraiser

that you believe will be successful, let me know and I will gladly pass it along to the Board of Directors. I am sure there are some fine ideas out there but they have not been expressed.

## *Volunteer/Docent Coordinator*

*Jane Trail*

**VOLUNTEERS** - The Museum is open during the Second Friday Art Walk, and on Saturdays and Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. We wouldn't be able to keep the doors open without volunteers. Thanks to all of you who have given of your time. You are greatly appreciated. I also want to thank Lloyd of Rankin's Hardware for the generous donation of mulch and weed guard to help spruce up The Museum's garden. We need more volunteers and ask that you donate some of your time to greet visitors and answer any questions they may have about The Museum and The Beach. You will meet a lot of nice people who are interested in Colonial Beach and who love to share their memories of this awesome place we call home. Please contact me at 224-0472 with your willingness to help.

**WE NEED YOU!!**

### **Board of Directors:**

Art Buswell, President	224-2429
Bill Hendrix, Treasurer	224-8240
Anna Payne, Secretary	224-7557
Edna Edmondson, Education	224-9889
Alleyne Dickens, Curator	224-4027
Patti Hansley, Membership	761-7836
Jane Trail, Volunteer Coordinator	224-0472
Jo Townsend, Director	224-0927
Susie Gardner, Director	224-3379

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Market Days, GRASPING AT STRAWS**

An ongoing fundraiser is the Straw Pull, which is held at the Historical Society's tent on Market Day. The concept is simple and fun! Four hundred straws are placed in a pail. Inside each is a slip of paper. Numbers are written on 100 slips. Each number corresponds to a predetermined prize. The other three hundred straws contain notes of thanks. The straws sell for \$1.00 each and if a winning number is pulled, the prize is given out immediately. In addition, there is a special grand prize for the person who buys the last straw in the pail. The idea is that when few enough straws remain to make it worth someone's while they will purchase all the straws, taking home all remaining prizes as well as the last straw prize.

Due to the extreme heat and low attendance at the June and July Market Days, the final prize(s) have carried over. Additional final prizes are added for each Market Day the last straw goes unclaimed, making the pot even sweeter.

The funds raised will go toward establishing a scholarship for a deserving Colonial Beach High School student, sending the volunteer museum staff to the 2009 Virginia Association of Museums conference in Virginia Beach and for building maintenance.

This is a prime opportunity to learn about what is new at The Museum. Be sure to stop by to draw a straw and win a prize or just to sit and visit for a while. We will see you there.

- Aug 8 - 2nd Friday Art Walk at The Museum
- Aug 9 - Volunteer Training and Workshop at The Museum
- Aug 23 - Market Days Fund Raiser on Town Hill
- Sept 12 - 2nd Friday Art Walk at The Museum
- Sept 13 - CBHS Golf Tournament at Cameron Hills Golf Course
- Sept 27 - Market Days Fund Raiser on Town Hill
- Oct 10 - 2nd Friday Art Walk at The Museum
- Nov 1 - 10th Annual Quilt Show at The Museum and Town Center
- Nov 7 - 2nd Friday Art Walk
- TBA - Model Train Display at The Museum
- Dec 13 - Christmas House Tour, Reception at The Museum

Order your Colonial Beach Flag during Market Days and at The Museum through the end of August 2008. Flag dimensions are 2'x3'. The cost is \$60.00.

Be sure to access our websites at [www.MuseumatColonialBeach.com](http://www.MuseumatColonialBeach.com) and/or [www.ColonialBeachHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.ColonialBeachHistoricalSociety.org)

### Volunteer Training and Workshop Registration Form

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL OR WORK \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

RSVP for Lunch: \_\_\_\_\_ Y \_\_\_\_\_ N

**VOLUNTEER AREA OF INTEREST**

\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE**

\_\_\_\_\_

**DATE**

\_\_\_\_\_

The Society meets the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Thursday of every month at 7P.M. at the Cooper Library on Washington Ave., in Colonial Beach. Your attendance is greatly appreciated.

### Membership/Renewal Application

Please accept my application for membership or renewal in The Colonial Beach Historical Society, Inc. and The Museum.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL OR WORK \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

#### **TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP DESIRED:**

INDIVIDUAL \$15.00 ( )	FAMILY \$25.00 ( )
BUSINESS \$30.00 ( )	STUDENT \$3.00 ( )
NEW	RENEWAL

Dues are per year beginning on 1 July through 30 June. Please detach this application and mail along with your check to The Colonial Beach Historical Society, Inc., P.O. Box 215, Colonial Beach, VA. 22443.

**VOLUNTEER AREA OF INTEREST**

\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE**

\_\_\_\_\_

**DATE**

\_\_\_\_\_

The Society meets the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Thursday of every month at 7P.M. at the Cooper Library on Washington Ave., in Colonial Beach. Your attendance, although not mandatory, is greatly appreciated.

We need your support and  
your membership  
now!!!!!!

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Colonial Beach, VA 22443-0215

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