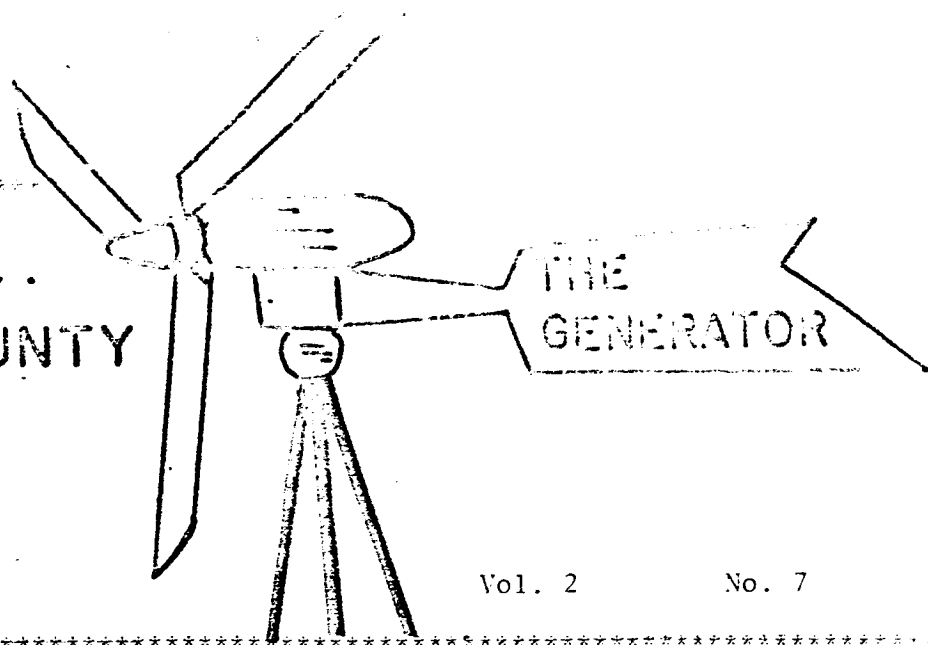


ST. MARY'S COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY



Vol. 2

No. 7

Mother nature intervened with one of the most measureble snowfalls in recent years causing the cancellation of our February meeting. This was a "first" for our society - the first time in our close to two year history that we have had to cancel a meeting because of inclement weather. If you are new to the area, be advised the snowfall of February 18th and 19th was not normal for St. Mary's County, and native and permanent residents are hoping this was not "the start of something new"!

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, March 20th, at 7:30 P.M. in the library of the Esperanza Middle School. Mr. Michael Whitson, who was scheduled to speak at our February meeting, has kindly agreed to be our speaker. His talk will concern researching land records. There will be a brief business meeting. Refreshments will be served.

We hope that, despite the severe February weather, our society members have had much sucess in genealogical research, and we look forward to seeing all of you at the March meeting. If you are experiencing any particular problems in your research or have any questions, bring them to the meeting. It is very possible that some of our members can be of assistance.

Three of our society's members attended the Genealogical Seminar at the D.A.R. Chapter House in Baltimore on the 1st of March. They were Mildred Fletcher, Winifred Russell, and Doris Jones. It was most informative, and our members met representatives of Prince Georges and Baltimore County Genealogical Societies as well as D.A.R. members. A brief report will be given at our March meeting.

We read, with interest, of the formation of the Celtic Society of Southern Maryland. If you have Celtic origins, you may be interested in learning more about the society. Questions and inquiries may be addressed to: The Celtic Society of Southern Maryland, Box 35, Prince Frederick, Md. 20678 or you may call 535-0292.

The March 1979 issue of The Clan MacBean Register carried a letter to the editor that will certainly be of interest to anyone doing research in Vermont. It concerns card files of Vital Statistics - Births, Deaths and Marriage records, prior to 1870 that are in the Secretary of States Office in Montpelier, Vermont. According to the writer these records are to be retired and will no longer be available for public use. The copy of the March issue will be available at the March meeting. For any futher information on the subject, please call Doris Jones at 994-0859.

Mildred Fletcher and Doris Jones spent February 28th at the Register of Wills office in Leonardtown working with Mrs. Norma Dawson on the best way to check and ready the old records for shipment to the Hall of Records. Because of lack of working space, due to renovation of the court house, only two could work at the time, but a method was devised by which to best sort, check and record the records. Mrs. Dawson hopes to be able to provide more space in the near future; and as soon as something can be worked out to accomodate more workers those who volunteered to assist with these records, will be notified.

The Leonardtown and Lexington Park libraries have been contacted and have no new acquisitions to report this month. If you find a book you want is not available at your local library consult the librarian to see if it can be secured on an inter-library loan for you. Have you visited the St Mary's College of Maryland library at St. Mary's City? While, unless you have a college ID card, you cannot check out books, a trip there may prove very rewarding.

There will be a Genealogical Seminar held on March 24th from 9:15 A.M. to 3 P.M. at the Towson Room, Towson Public Library, 320 York Rd. Towson, Md. sponsored by the Maryland Genealogical Society, the Maryland Historical Society and the Maryland State Society of D.A.R. The program is as follows:

- 9:15 A.M. - Registration
- 9:45 A.M. - Welcome by Raymond B. Clark, Jr., Seminar Chairman
- 10:00 - "Rage for Kentucky" speaker, Miss Bayly E. Marks
- 11:00 - "Checking 1812 War Records For A Lost Ancestor", Cmdr. F. Edward Wright, U.S.N. (Ret.)
- 12:30 - Buffet Lunch
- 2:00 P.M. - "Genealogical Research In The Baltimore City Archives", Mr. Richard J. Cox, City Archivist

Advanced reservations are required and are to be made no later than March 17th. Make check payable to Maryland Genealogical Seminar -- cost is 4.75 (which includes luncheon) Mail to - Mr. John Diuguid, 4802 Wimslow Road, Baltimore, Md. 21210 If you plan to attend, please contact Doris Jones, 994-0859. It is possible that if enough are interested, she may be able to coordinate car - pooling.

If you were unable to take advantage of Arnold Kepple's offer for copying old pictures during January and February we have good news. Arnold informs us he plans to make the offer again next year. He will however, take care of copying pictures for all who contacted him.

A salute to Great Mills High School, its alumni, students, staff and friends on its upcoming 50th anniversary celebration to be held on Sunday, March 18th at 2 P.M. Some of our society members are alumni, as are many of their children and are eagerly looking forward to the occasion.

March 25th will be the 345th anniversary of the founding of Maryland. A day long celebration is scheduled at St. Mary's City. Be sure to watch the local newspapers for detailed schedules of events.

Coming Events:

- March 17 - National Genealogical Society Meeting - 2:30 P.M. at U.S. Archives, speaker Capt. Earl R. Smith, U.S.C.G. (Ret.) "The Common Law, Doomsday Book".
- March 18 - 50th Anniversary Celebration - 2 P.M. Great Mills High School Gymnasium

- March 20 - Our meeting - 7:50 P.M. Library, Esperanza Middle School
- March 24 - Maryland Genealogical Seminar - 9:15 A.M. - 3 P.M. Towson Public Library,
Towson, Md.
- March 25 - Maryland Day - St. Mary's City
- April 4 - Prince Georges Co. Genealogical Society meeting - 7:30 P.M. P. G. Comm.
College, Largo, Md. Speaker Milton Rubincam - "Researching In Ontario"
- April 7 - National Genealogical Society Meeting - 2:30 P.M. at U.S. Archives, Speaker
Capt. Earl R. Smith, U.S.C.G. (Ret!) again on "The Origins of the Common
Law".

We were sorry to learn that member Arthur Helgerson broke his ankle recently in a fall on the ice and hope he is well on the mend. Wasn't it about this time last year that member Ruth Raley was on crutches as the result of a fall? That didn't stop her from making a field trip with a group to the library of the L.D.S. at Silver Springs! Arthur plans to attend the March meeting. This all proves you can't keep true Genealogical researchers down!