Summer Event Preview

The Museum Division staff has been working hard putting together plans for new and expanded events for the 2019 event calendar. We have a very exciting new event series called “Dinner and a Cruise” to look forward to as well as expanded and improved events all through the year. Read on to learn more about these exciting events.

The Drayden African American Schoolhouse will be open the first Saturday of the month from 11am–2pm. If you have not had the chance to check out this important piece of Southern Maryland History, plan to make a trip this summer. The newly renovated Schoolhouse is located just a few short miles from the Piney Point Lighthouse and Historic Park. Visit Facebook.com/DraydenSchool and like the page to stay up to date.

Dinner and a Cruise events are scheduled for April 28th, June 2nd, July 11th, and October 13th. Watch for more information on social media and in the email newsletter for these events. Last year’s inaugural cruise in October sold out fast. Call St. Clement’s Island Museum to register at 301-769-2222.

Join us at the St. Clement’s Island Museum for a program and ceremony commemorating a forgotten tragedy of the Civil War, the Black Diamond Disaster during the weekend of April 27th & 28th. This weekend event features special period tours of Blackistone Lighthouse, a showing of the silent movie The Lighthouse by the Sea and more.

St. Clement’s Island Art Kids with art instructor Ms. Ellen Duke Wilson is happening again this year. Join in and explore fine arts through a variety of artistic styles. For ages 7 to 17; preregistration required; $3 per child. Classes occur April, July and August (12PM-3PM). For more information or to sign up, call 301-769-2222.

Heritage Day is planned for June 1st at the St. Clement’s Island Museum. The event will feature a free boat ride to the St. Clement’s Island State Park and will have expanded activities this year including living history interpreters and a hands on exhibit with the Piscataway showing what life was like when the settlers first arrived in Maryland.

Children’s Day on August 17th is also expanding with more history and science activities for kids, also an activity featuring local children’s author Cindy Freeland. Check Facebook for more updates on the event.

The Piney Point Lighthouse and Historic Park is getting a new event this fall. The first annual Retro Fest on the Potomac will be happening on September 28th and will feature a day dedicated to all things vintage and retro. Enjoy a car show, vintage vendors, music, food and more. More information to come.
A letter from the Board President

As you are reading this issue of the Finer Points, we are well underway with our expanded 2019 season of events which kicked off with the Appraiser Fair and Community Day events hosted at St. Clement’s Island Museum. You may also have noticed advertising for our events and recognition of our accomplishments appearing regularly in all forms of print, broadcast and social media. Thanks to the Museum Division’s and Friend’s dedicated staffs, their efforts to develop new community and business partnerships, along with a broader marketing presence to share our story is working…and people are listening.

The new collections and events coming to Piney Point Museum, monthly openings at Drayden Schoolhouse and the Black Diamond Event at St. Clement’s Island Museum are but a few of the new opportunities to show your support for our museum community. Whether you are a volunteer, patron, contributor or sponsor, your participation is important to our success.

And finally, we say thank you to Friend’s board member and contributor Maggie Hammett for volunteering to complete the term of a departing Director, which leaves us with an open Director’s position to fill at the end of March. If you are willing to volunteer your time to the Friends Board, please contact the Friends or speak with one of our Directors. We are a nine member volunteer Board meeting quarterly on the second Thursday of the month.

Dale Springer, Board President

2019 Appraiser Fair a Success
The Appraiser Fair held on January 26th at St. Clement’s Island Museum was a big success. This year marked the 15th year and the crowd was one of the biggest we have had in years, with 164 visitors raising over $1,000 for the museum. The event is a cost effective way to learn about what you have and how to care for the specific items. We appreciate the appraisers that donate their time to the event. If you are interested in donating time as an appraiser please contact the St. Clement’s Island Museum for more information.

Upcoming Outreach Event
The Museum Division will once again participate in the Business Showcase on May 8th, put on by the St. Mary’s County Chamber of Commerce at the Higher Education Center on Airport Road. The Museum Division will share a booth with other museums across the county and will share information about the museum and opportunities to become a Friend and/or sponsor. The event is open to the public and has a great display of local St. Mary’s County businesses.

Penny Press at St. Clement’s Island
The Friends of St. Clement’s Island and Piney Point Lighthouse Museum Store are pleased to announce the purchase of the first penny press machine installed at the St. Clement’s Island Museum. The machine is located in the lobby of the museum and features original designs highlighting St. Mary’s County treasures associated with the museum division.

Jayne Walsh, the Friends Museum Store manager has been enthusiastic about Penny Press machines since her kids were little. “Penny press machines are a big draw for all family members, both as souvenirs and collectible items. A pressed penny at the St. Clement’s Island Museum is the perfect inexpensive, 5¢ souvenir for children and adults.” Jayne also sought feedback from museum team members. “The staff wanted a hand-crank machine so children can have a full interactive experience; from choosing and setting their design selection, inserting the coins and then cranking the large wheel that flattens the penny until they hear the clink of their elongated penny hitting the return cup.”

The Friend’s Museum Store would like to thank the community and patrons for their support in donations through our Friends Facebook page fundraiser and in the Friends Museum Stores “Spare Change” collections. $443.14 has been raised through contributions that began as a campaign in September of last year. The Friends organization sponsored a large portion of the procurement costs as well, donating $2,000 toward the $3,850 cost.

The Penny Press Fundraiser is continuing; the goal is to buy a second penny press machine for the Piney Point Lighthouse location. The Friend’s Museum Store continues to offer a $1,000 business sponsorship opportunity that includes a permanent brass plate on the St. Clement’s machine acknowledging the benefactor. Community contributions can also be made in the stores, dropping spare change into the large carboy jugs, through check donations mailed to the Friend’s Museum Store at 38370 Point Breeze Rd., Coltons Point, MD 20626 and through the Friend’s Facebook page donation button. Facebook.com/FriendsSCI

St. Clement’s Island Museum Penny Press Designs

THE FINER POINTS

3
MEMBER NEWS
Welcome Aboard, New Members
Individual
Nicole Stewart
Marcia Doerr

FRIENDS NEWS
Our new business membership program replaces the standard event sponsorship and corporate membership and offers year round advertising and sponsorship opportunities. Please welcome and thank our first members.

Bronze Level:

J.F. Taylor, Inc.

Cross, Wood & Wynkoop and Associates, Inc.
28231 Three Notch Road, Suite 101 • Mechanicsville, MD 20659
301-884-5900 (office) • 301-934-4680 (office) • 301-884-0398 (fax)
info@cwvainc.com

Guy Distributing

Silver Level-

DYSON BUILDING CENTER
The Quality Difference

Printing Press, Inc.
Copy • Print • Design

CHIEF’S Your Neighborhood Bar

Huntington LEARNING CENTER®

Past Event News

The Chesapeake Bay Running Club held their annual run on March 10th. Thank you to those that helped to volunteer their time to make sure all the runners stayed hydrated and on the right path. Every year the Chesapeake Bay Running Club gives a portion of the race fees to the Friends. This is a great partner event for the Friends.

Maryland Day was held at the St. Clement’s Island Museum on March 25th. The event saw several hundred people and was a huge success. Rev. G. Ronald Murphy, S.J., a professor of the German Department and a member of the Jesuit Community at Georgetown University which is the same group that landed with Fr. Andrew White, S.J. in 1634, was this year’s Maryland Day Ceremony keynote speaker. He brought the original iron cross that the first Jesuits brought to St. Clement’s Island and had on hand during the first Mass in the English New World, back to St. Mary’s County for display.

Wish List
Photos of St Clement’s Island prior to the 1950’s;
Photos of cans and labels from the Blackistone Island Canning Company;
Photos from the Shirley K and Golden’s Hotels.
2019 is the 20th Anniversary of the Potomac Jazz and Seafood Festival and we have expanded its usual 1 day concert into a full weekend celebration in partnership with the town of Leonardtown, MD. Check out the poster above for details and go to our new website www.potomacjazzandseafoodfestival.com for additional information. The Festival is the Friends’ largest fundraiser and is currently looking for raffle basket donations and community businesses to sponsor Saturday’s events. For more information please email amber.puschinsky@stmarysmd.com.
Membership Levels

- Individual ($40)
- Family ($60)
- Heritage ($125)
- Patron ($250)
- Benefactor ($500)

Business Membership is now available with extended year round advertising benefits. Contact amber.puschinsky@stmarysmd.com for information.

Friends Membership Application

☐ New Member
☐ Membership Renewal
☐ Gift Membership

Name/Business Name: ____________________________________________

Point of Contact: ______________________________________________

Mailing Address: ________________________________________________

Phone Number: _________________________________________________

Email Address: _________________________________________________

Membership Level: _____________________________________________

Payment Method: Checks should be made out to The Friends.
Please call 301-769-2222 to pay via VISA or MasterCard.

Thank you for your support!

Friends of the St. Clement’s Island and Piney Point Museums
38370 Point Breeze Road
Colton's Point, MD 20626