

ST. MARY'S COUNTY MUSEUM DIVISION

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



ST. CLEMENT'S ISLAND MUSEUM, PINEY POINT LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM AND HISTORIC PARK, OLD JAIL MUSEUM AND DRAYDEN AFRICAN AMERICAN SCHOOLHOUSE

museums.stmarysmd.com

TIME FOR TRANSITIONS

A year of special visitors, awards and honors

This past year was a year of specials and a year of transition. It seems every month we had a special visitor or a special honor given us. On Maryland Day, we were honored by a visit from the Papal Nuncio, who served as the main celebrant at Mass. It rained, so he was not able to go out to the Island but promised to come back another time. Then for our Civil War Weekend and Black Diamond Commemoration, we had a descendant of John K. Hall, one of the soldiers lost in the collision, participate. She shared a great deal of family history, and in return was given a print of the painting of the incident done by Angie Wathen for the museum. Over the summer, I was named as one of the Five Faces of Maryland Tourism, which was quite an honor. There is a YouTube video about that on the Maryland Tourism site. A new winery was added to the First Landing Wine Trail; they also joined us for our First Landing Wine & Arts Festival. And we had a number of very special items donated to the U-1105 exhibit.

Transitions came on both the Board of Trustees and the Board of Friends. We had some folks retire from the Board of Trustees and the Friends Board lost a dear friend with the passing of Johnny Wood - the last of the "old time statesmen." Both boards welcomed new members to fill these vacancies.

For the year 2024, we look forward to the building of a new ADA-compliant water taxi, and hope to see the museum building project get under way.

Karen Stone

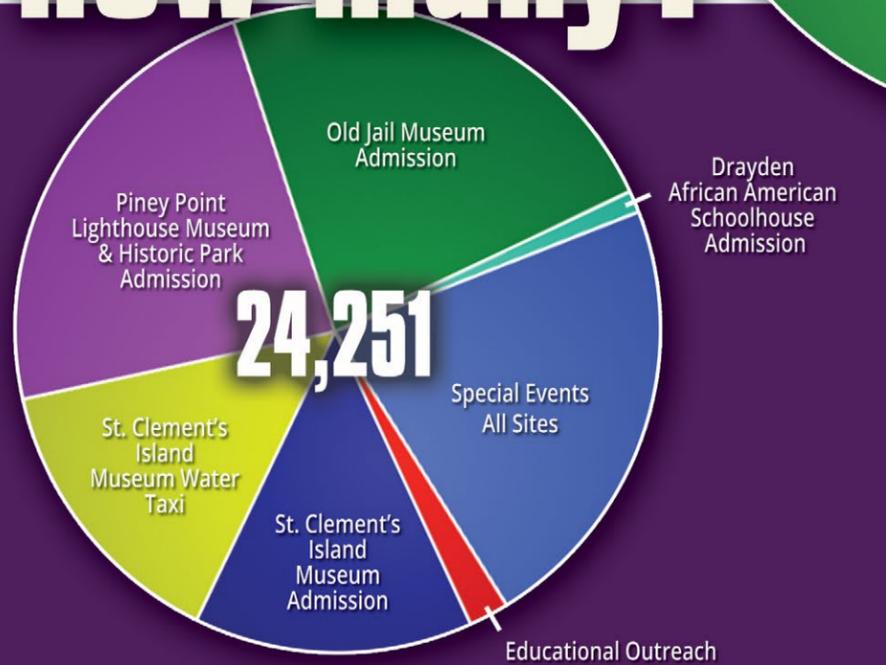
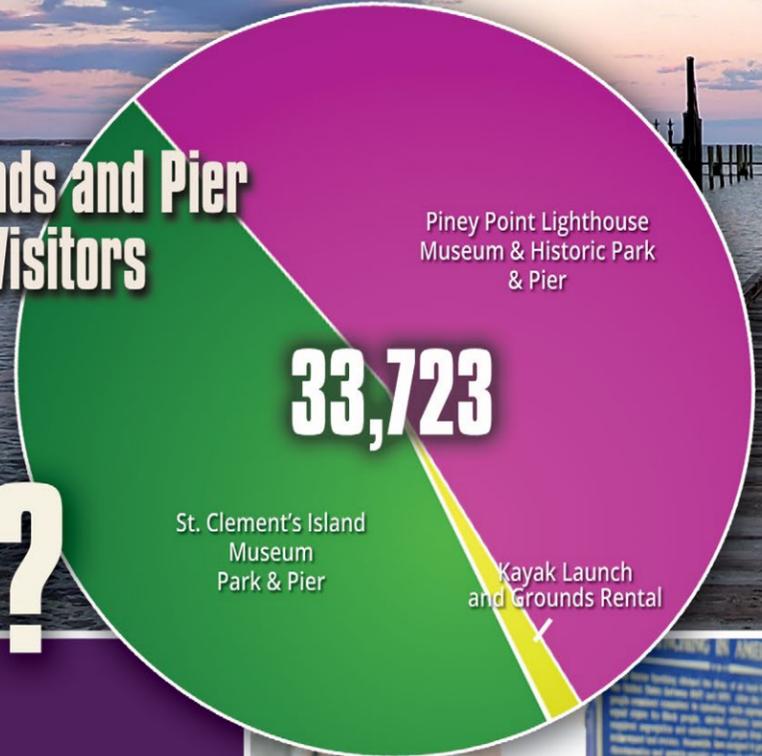
Cover photo courtesy of Ron Bailey Photography. Some photos in this publication courtesy of Ron Bailey Photography.





our 2023 visitors

how many?



how do we keep in touch?



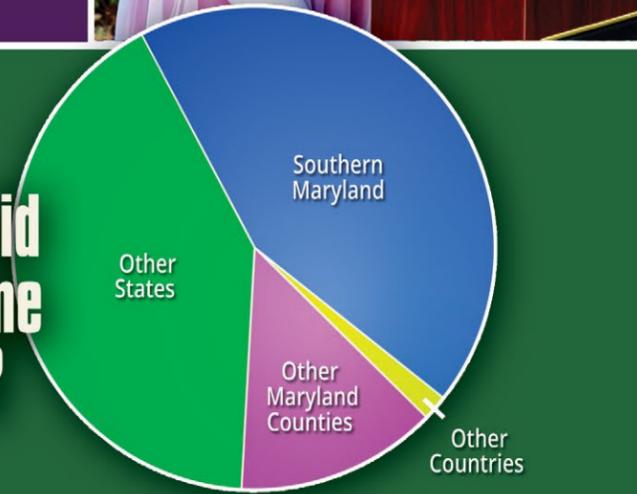
how did they find us?

- Internet
- Word of Mouth
- Brochure
- Repeat Visit
- Road Signs
- Newspaper

*shown in descending order



where did they come from?





events

MUSEUM EVENTS

Appraiser Fair at St. Clement's Island Museum • Community Day at St. Clement's Island Museum • Maryland Day at St. Clement's Island Museum • First Landing Wine & Arts Festival • Black Diamond Civil War Weekend • St. Clement's Island Heritage Day • Monthly Open House at Drayden African American Schoolhouse • Juneteenth Open House at Drayden African American Schoolhouse • Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival • Outdoor Adventures at Piney Point • Second Saturdays Monthly Family Activities at the Museums • Children's Day at St. Clement's Island Museum • RetroFest on the Potomac • National Lighthouse Weekend • St. Clement's Island Museum Art Kids classes • Dinner & a Cruise Series • St. Clement's Island Museum Christmas Open House • Piney Point Lighthouse Museum Holiday Open House • Museum Store Sunday • Outdoor Story Time with the St. Mary's County Public Library at Piney Point Lighthouse • First Fridays at the Old Jail Museum • Free Admission on Mother's Day to the Museums • Free Admission on Father's Day to the Museum • Free Admission on Armed Forces Day to the Museum • Moll Dyer Day at the Old Jail Museum • St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours at the Museum

OUTSIDE EVENTS WE PARTICIPATED IN

Tourism Day in Annapolis • Maryland Tourism Coalition "Maryland in a Day" Road Trip • Juneteenth • St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase • Maryland Tourism Coalition Spring Seminar at Serenity Farm • Cherry Blossom Festival • St. Mary's County Fair • U.S. Oyster Festival • Blessing of the Fleet

exhibits

AT THE USCT INTERPRETIVE CENTER

Drayden African American Schoolhouse and the USCT in the Civil War

AT PINEY POINT LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM

Retro Christmas Exhibit • New items in the U-1105 gallery

AT ST. CLEMENT'S ISLAND MUSEUM

Christmas Doll and Train Exhibit • Through Darkness Into Light: Photographs Along the Underground Railroad • Southern Maryland Women in Art • Photography by Mancil Gray

AT THE OLD JAIL MUSEUM

New permanent interpretive panels

artifacts on loan

23 artifacts are on loan FROM other institutions
4 artifacts are on loan TO other institutions

contributors in-kind and financial

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 221 • Angela Wathen Art • Mike Barbour • Bailey's Party Rentals • Black-eyed Susan Doll Club of Southern Maryland • Chesapeake Custom Embroidery • Delicados • DJ Pete • Hammer Antiques and Collectibles • Maggie and Anthony Hammett • Dorie Lear • Optimist Club of the Seventh District • Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron • St. Clement's Hundred • Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department • Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary • Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad • Ellen Duke Wilson

donations

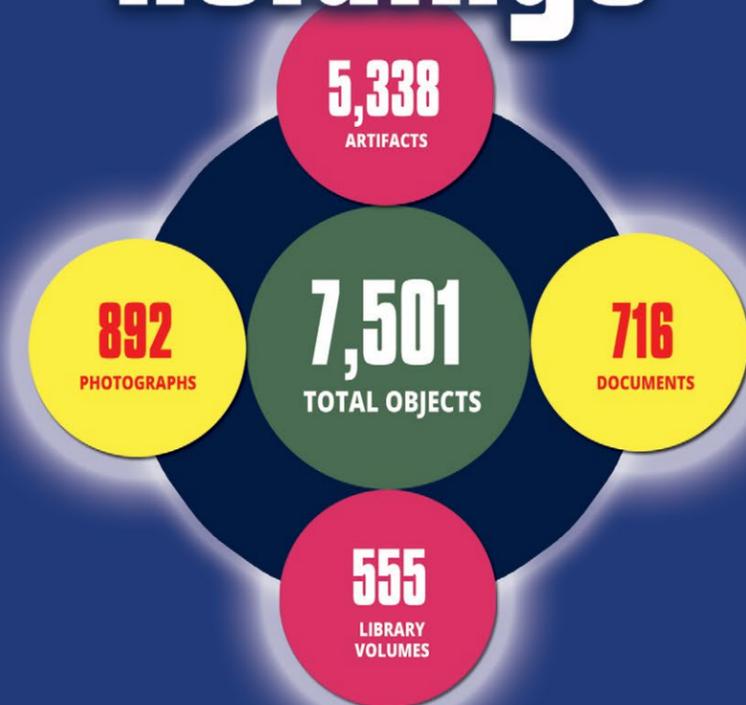
A collection of oyster cans from packing houses in Southern Maryland from the James Banagan Estate

A 1934 serving tray depicting the first landing of St. Clement's Island donated by Terry Larus and Joseph Densford

Items from Sea-Fruit packing house including a photograph of the employees donated by Jack Russell



holdings



The St. Mary's County Museum Division is one of only two accredited organizations in St. Mary's County, one of only three in Southern Maryland, and one of only 23 in all of Maryland.

staff updates

We had seven apprentices from the Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center through the Maryland Department of Labor's Tech Jobs Rule program.



volunteer hours



THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!
658 hours = \$20,924

museum division board of trustees

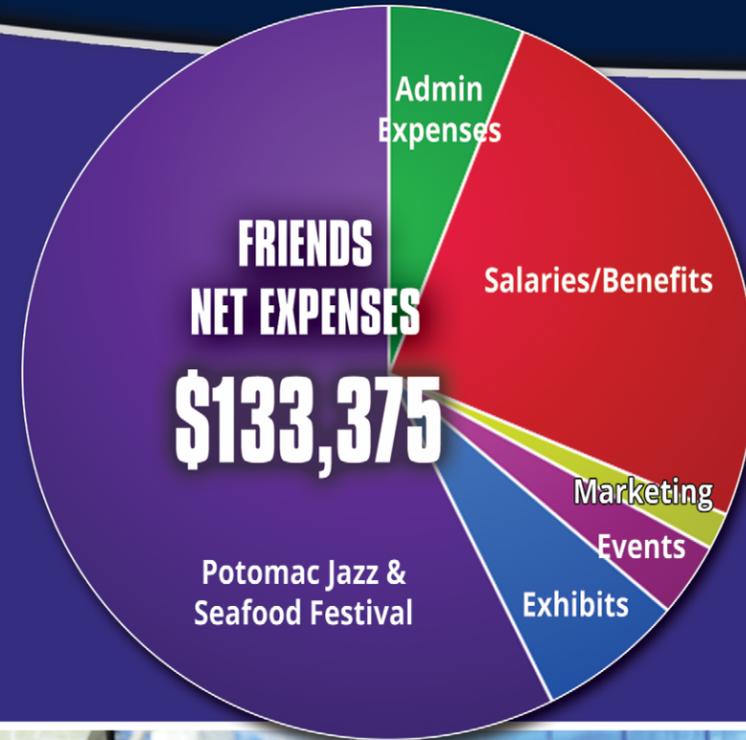
This advisory group is appointed by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County, and serves to provide them with advice and assistance concerning the cultural and natural history of the region through the establishment and maintenance of museums.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Laura Friess, President | Lynn Fitrell |
| Michael Brown, Vice President | Karla Langhus |
| Michael Blackwell, Secretary | Lilyanne Ohanesian |
| Dr. Catherine Bowes | Conner Wolfe |
| Robin Finnacom | |



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

The Friends organization is the 501(c)3 arm of the Museum Division of the St. Mary's County Department of Recreation & Parks, whose mission it 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.



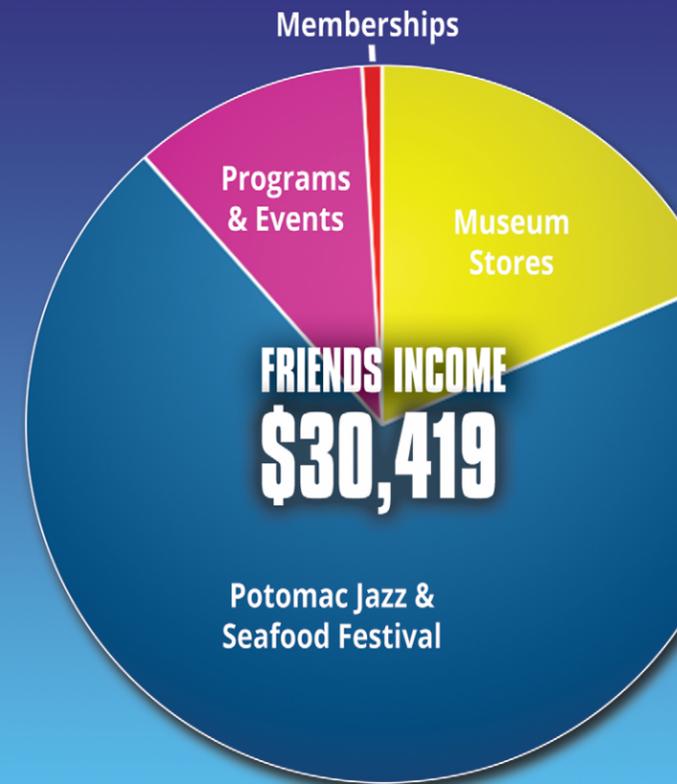
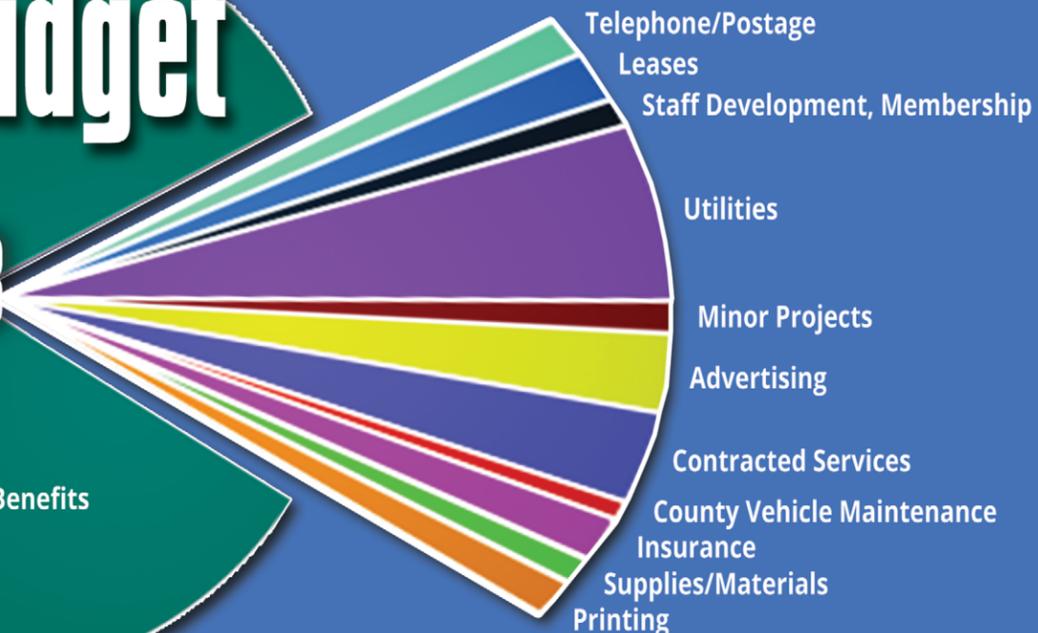
Friends Board of Directors

- Dale Springer, President
- Todd Morgan, Vice President
- Judy Sterling, Secretary
- Paul Nelson, Treasurer
- Ann Davis
- Gretchan Hardman
- Tressa Setlack
- Brian Williams
- Johnny Wood (deceased)

2023 budget

TOTAL BUDGET
\$827,303

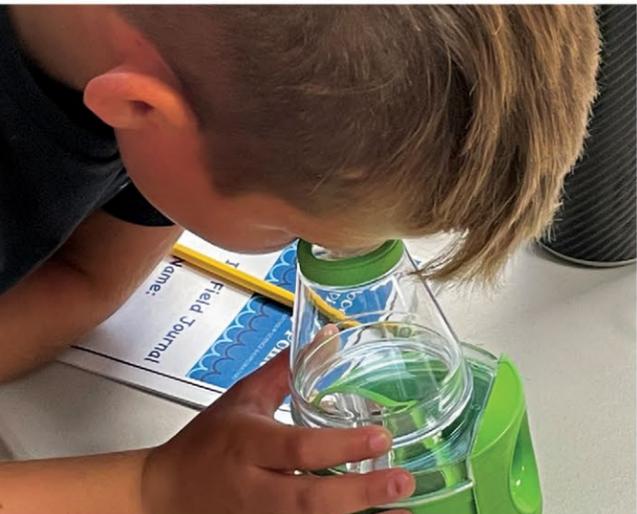
Salaries/Benefits





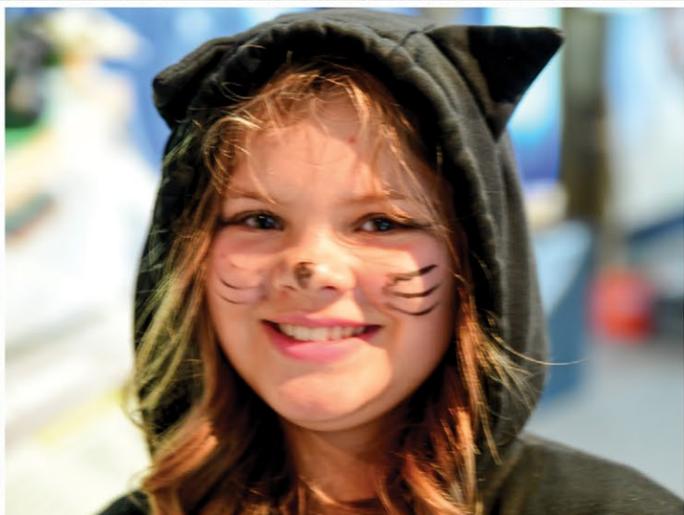
\$37,377 museum store gross proceeds

Sales were a little slower than the year before, but the profit margin remains strong.



JOIN

Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museums



Join the Friends today. Benefits include free museum admission, the quarterly *Finer Points* newsletter, email updates for special events, NARM benefits, and a 10% museum store discount. Benefits vary by level and can also include guest passes and water taxi passes. To become a member of the Friends, download the membership form at www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/friends.

CALL FOR EVENT SPONSORS

The Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums are looking for community businesses to help support our expanded educational and community-focused event calendar. **The Friends have introduced a new Business Membership program with sponsorship opportunities and year-round benefits.**

Sponsorships help to support our museums and our local history. Email Sara.Saunders@stmaryscountymd.gov for more information.
St. Mary's County Museum Division | 2023 Annual Report



ST. MARY'S COUNTY MUSEUMS

2023 Annual Report

©2023 St. Mary's County Museum Division. Design by Unique Designz, www.designz.com