



The Finer Points

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

Spring 2019

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

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Tressa Setlak
John F. Wood, Jr.

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**The Friends of the St. Clement's
Island and Piney Point Museums**
38370 Point Breeze Road
Colton's Point, MD 20626
301-769-2222

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](https://www.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 Blackstone 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.

2019

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 24

Maryland Day at the
Drayden Schoolhouse

March 25

Maryland Day at SCIM
Water Taxi running

April 19, 21

Holidays – Sites Open

April 27-28

Black Diamond Event at
SCIM

April 28

Dinner and a Cruise

May 27

Holiday – Sites Open

June 1

Heritage Day at SCIM

June 2

Dinner and a Cruise

July 4

Holiday - Sites Open

July 13

Potomac Jazz and Seafood
Festival at SCIM

July 27

Pirates on the Potomac at
PPLM

August 3-4

National Lighthouse
Weekend at both sites

August 11

Dinner and a Cruise

August 17

Children's Day



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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Springer".

Dale Springer, Board President



Board of Directors pictured with the Penny Press machine at St. Clements Island. From left to right: Dale Springer, Anne Emery, Ann Davis, Judith Sterling, Paul Nelson, Tressa Setlak. Not pictured: Todd Morgan, John F. Wood.

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, 51 cent 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



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.**

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301-884-5900 (office) • 301-934-4680 (office) • 301-884-0398 (fax)
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Silver Level-



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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 Blackstone Island Canning Company;
- Photos from the Shirley K and Golden's Hotels.

20th Anniversary Weekend - A Soulful Summer Serenade



POTOMAC JAZZ & SEAFOOD FESTIVAL July 12 - 14, 2019

A Three-Day Jazz Weekend Celebration

Friday, July 12th

FREE Jazz Concert/Kickoff Party in Historic Downtown Leonardtown Square (6 - 9 PM) featuring live jazz music, dancing, raffles, prizes and more. Businesses throughout town will feature jazz-themed specials and after parties. Visit the event website for more info.

Saturday, July 13th

THE MAIN EVENT!
The 20th Anniversary Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival at St. Clement's Island Museum (12 - 9 PM). Tickets (\$65) and Hotel Packages are available on the event website.

Sunday, July 14th

A Jazzin' Sunday in Historic Leonardtown featuring art showings, jazz brunches, a movie screening, cocktail party, and more. Visit the event website for more info.

Thank You to Our Major Partners



Featured Artists on Saturday



BRIAN SIMPSON & PAULA ATHERTON
5PM



MIKE PHILLIPS
7PM



ART SHERROD JR
3PM

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!



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