PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DEAR Friends:

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the officers, directors, committee chairmen and the entire membership for the support I have received as president of the Kent Island Heritage Society. It is very gratifying to know that, working together, we have completed some old projects, begun some new ones and looked into some exciting possibilities for the future.

I hope that projects such as this Newsletter, the Essay Contest, Christmas Decorating Contest, the accumulation of old records and the search for Claiborne's first settlement will continue, and that in 1984, the Society will be involved in some way with another 350th Celebration - the settlement at St. Mary's in 1634.

I extend best wishes to the new officers, and once again, my sincere thanks to everyone.

Mary J. White, President

OF HISTORY AND HOUSES-A KENT ISLAND HERITAGE by Mildred Cook Schoch

Mrs. Schoch has graciously consented to autograph copies of her book at the dinner meeting on Dec. 9, 1982 at the Kent Island Yacht Club. Bring your book that evening. There will also be a limited number of books on sale at that time.

TAX EXEMPT STATUS

After many months of delay during which time numerous phone calls, letters and appeals were exchanged with IRS, we have finally been rewarded for our persistence. We have just received official notification that our tax exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code is effective June 19, 1981. Therefore, contributions to the Society are deductible by donors on their Federal Income Tax returns as of that date.

Ray Baker, Finance Chairman

HOME CHRISTMAS DECORATION CONTEST

The Kent Island Heritage Society, in cooperation with the Island Garden Club will sponsor a Home Decoration Contest for the residents of Kent Island. The theme will be "The Williamsburg Era". Judging will be held on Dec. 27th for the two categories - Daytime Appeal and Nighttime Appeal. Watch the local papers for additional details.
KINGSLEY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND CEMETERY

As promised in our last Newsletter, we are pleased to print the names and dates found on the gravestones in the Kingsley Methodist Episcopal Church Cemetery on Route 552 in Chester. It is a tranquil spot, approximately 1 1/4 acres in size, enhanced by the presence of four majestic oaks and one hickory tree, all over 100 years old.

Our thanks to Miss Catherine Kirwan and Mr. Walter Coppage who were kind enough to brave last summer's heat to record the information. In addition, we are pleased to print the exact text from a newspaper clipping saved by Miss Kirwan's grandfather, the late Senator James E. Kirwan, of the dedication of the Kingsley Church as it appeared in the Centreville paper at that time. It appeared as follows:

"CHURCH DEDICATION ON KENT ISLAND 1886

The dedication of Kingsley Methodist Episcopal Church took place on Sunday, November 15th. Rev. J. B. Quigg of Smyrna, preached at 10:30 A.M., Rev. J. A. Arters at 3 P.M. and Rev. Mr. Quigg again at night. The church was filled to its utmost capacity at all three of the services. Rev. Mr. Quigg managed the finances assisted by Mr. Arters, J. B. Bright, J. E. Kirwan, and the pastor. Seven hundred and thirty five dollars were needed to cover the indebtedness of the church and $745 was realized in cash and subscriptions. The church was dedicated at the close of the night service by Rev. Mr. Quigg assisted by Rev. Arters and Rev. A. D. Dick of the W. P. Church and the pastor. The choir of the Stevensville W. E. Church with Miss Ella Quigg, organist, had charge of the music. We had a good day, good congregations, good preaching, good singing, and good giving and as a result the occasion was a grand success. The people of Crab Alley Neck now have the most commodious and an attractive church as is to be found on the Island, costing less than $1,000. Many thanks to the friends of the other churches of the Island for their financial assistance."

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KINGSLEY CEMETERY

Frances E. Morgan, wife of Thomas H. Harris, Sept. 1827 - Feb. 1870

Thomas H. Harris
May 28, 1895 - Age 64 years

Lizzie A. wife of Carrow M. Harris
March 1, 1870 - March 16, 1889

Eva G. daughter of Thomas L. and Susie C. Harris
Aug. 4, 1881 - July 25, 1886

Elmer Alonso, son of Thomas and Susie Harris
Dec. 8, 1882(?) - Dec. 3, 1888

Juenemann-Beulah 1930

George 1923-1971

Hiram Gardner - 1824 - 1877

Fannie Gardner - 1844 - 1880

Walter M. Gardner - 1863 - 1939

Ella L. Livingston and Children
July 4, 1872 - Feb. 25, 1904

Beloved wife of Alfred C. Jones
Jones Sarah E. 1869 - 1957

John W. 1868 - 1933

John W. Jones
March 6, 1837 - Oct. 18, 1894

James H. Benton (Father)
Dec. 25, 1849 - Sept. 15, 1917

Mary Elizabeth Benton (Mother)
Nov. 2, 1855 - Mar. 8, 1956

James Henry, son of James and Mary E. Benton
Sept. 14, 1897 - July 24, 1902

Annie E. Sept. 4, 1887

At 4 years and 11 months

Elmer H.
July 31, 1885 - Aug. 19, 1888

Ann Elizabeth Benton
May 30, 1892 - June 20, 1967

Benjamin F. Shaw

FFC U.S. Army, World War II
April 7, 1922 - June 1, 1976

Mary Ethel Beloved Daughter of
McBride
Oct. 18, 1895 - June 21, 1900

H. Randolph Kelley
Sept. 2, 1867 - Sept. 5, 1936
Kowena Taylor, Devoted Wife of H. Randolph Kelley - Aug. 9 - Aug. 11, 1976
Rock A Bye Baby In the Tree Top

Herman Henry Kelley, Maryland
TEC 5 Co. K 224 Infantry, World War II
Sept. 28, 1908 - April 28, 1972

Richard F. Dadds
Mar. 16, 1861 - Mar. 29, 1917
Elia T. Dadds
Aug. 9, 1861 - Feb. 15, 1942

Herbert M. Dadds
Mar. 19, 1890 - Oct. 9, 1907

Rowe B. Palmer
June 17, 1892 - Feb. 21, 1917

Gardner
Lula - Jan. 28, 1885 - May 15, 1959
Joseph - Sept. 21, 1890-Feb. 14, 1952

Howard Edward Gardner, Maryland
Pvt. 12735 V Comd Unit World War II
Dec. 5, 1925 - Aug. 4, 1948

N. M. Gardner, Maryland
PVT Trans Corps World War II
Sept. 12, 1913 - Jan. 23, 1968

Brown (no dates)
Mother - Father - Grandchild
Magnolia Samuel Elizabeth
Josephine A. Price - 1841 - 1898
Thomas F. Price - 1839 - 1913
James A. Son of George & Cora Tull
Nov. 28, 1896 - July 21, 1907

Heater A. Lawrence
April 6, 1818(?) - Dec. 29, 1903

W. Lawrence
Dec. 9, 1817 - Sept. 10, 1915
3 sets of stones 1 to 1½ ft., no names or dates

Walters
Ellsworth-Oct. 25, 1893 - Dec. 10, 1894
Medford -Feb. 12, 1908 - July 27, 1908
Chester -Sept. 14, 1903 - Dec. 2, 1904
Henry -Jan. 31, 1910 - Feb. 6, 1910

Sarah A. Jones, wife of Samuel W. Jones
Died Aug. 28, 1886 in the 50th year

James H. Jones
June 30, 1874 - Dec. 4, 1951

Charles William Cox - 1909 - 1980
Charles Russel Cox - 1940 - 1970
TREASURER'S REPORT

BALANCE 11/31/81 $ 7380.30

CEIPTS
Dues 180.00
Contributions 350.00
Spec. Events 3408.00
Refunds (Ins. &
San. Dist.) 135.00
Sales Books, etc 664.14
Trans. Savings 2000.00
Total Receipts 6937.74

DISBURSEMENTS
Meeting Exp. 177.58
Stat. Printing &
Postage 624.99
Cray House Rep. 3142.88
Cray Hs. Maint. 514.93
Cray Hs. Furn. 103.00
Trans. Savings 6000.00
San. District 51.00
Exp. Spec. Ev. 1311.10
Misc. Records
Box rents, etc. 165.00
TOTAL DISB. 12090.48

BALANCE 11/15/82 2227.56
Business Savings 4143.40
Money Maker II 3597.26
TOTAL FUNDS 11/15/82 $ 9968.22

Marian Steuart, Treas.

CRAY HOUSE BUILDING & GROUNDS

The north end of the Cray House has been repaired and painted. The walls upstairs have been plastered and the fireplace repaired. The walls and woodwork have been painted in the same manner as the south room downstairs. An estimate has been given for sanding and finishing the floors and we expect this to be accomplished before the next meeting.

Alfred C. White, Chairman

CRAY HOUSE INTERIOR & FURNISHINGS

The Cray House was open to visitors on Saturday afternoons from the middle of April until work was begun on the upstairs the last of August. Over 200 persons have visited the house, including groups from Washington, the Brig. General Ferry Benson Chapter of the DAR from Easton and a local Girl Scout Troop. Mrs. LaRue Updegrove has done a beautiful job of providing hostesses for these occasions.

We now have a book listing memorials and gifts to the Cray House.

The Island Garden Club will decorate the outside of the house for the holidays as they did last year. We have not scheduled an Open House because we are not sure when the floors upstairs will be finished.

Marian Steuart, Ch.

RECORDS & MATERIALS

Records have been copied from the United Methodist Church listing of baptisms, marriages and deaths, from some Family Bibles and family graveyards, and have been placed in the Cray House. The Kingsley Cemetery records will also be exhibited there.

Copies of photographs of the Bloody Point and Love Point lighthouses have been secured and will also be appropriately exhibited. A copy of the book OF HISTORY AND HOUSES, A KENT ISLAND HERITAGE has been added to our library. I will be pleased to answer inquiries regarding Island families from information in my files.

Mildred Schooch, Ch.

MEMBERSHIP

In May 1975 the Society was formed by 5 women. Charter members were accepted until Jan. 1, 1976 when the total was 156. By 1979 the number was 221. I am now pleased to report that we have 500 members and we hope to top that before the annual meeting.

Catherine Kirwan, Ch.

PROGRAM

Christmas Dinner Meeting - Kent Island Yacht Club - Dec. 9, 1982 - Entertainment by "Sincerely Yours" Quartet.

Eva White, Ch.