

HISTORIC PRESERVATION—THE DIMMITT-FRENCH PROPERTY

continued from page 1

Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) chairman, Bruce Boswell, graciously answered my plea for help to give his opinion of whether our barn could be restored from its partially collapsed (and precariously leaning) position back to its former aged beauty. I asked his opinion whether our property might meet one of the five criteria required for Baltimore County Landmark status and he said yes!

My husband and I gave this decision some thought and prayer as to the impact on the future salability of our property. There was the thought that someone might buy our property for the land and want to raze the house to build something new. Certainly, I would not like to see history lost that way. Also, we realized there is some expense in demolishing a house and

there are many vacant lots already available for new houses in our area. Furthermore, we recognized that the kind of people usually interested in an older home really love the character of it, so the historic status might even make it more appealing!

One of our other considerations was any restrictions on future changes, but the issues that LPC addresses are only for exterior changes and we planned on doing things historically and aesthetically “correct” anyway. Also, I attended several LPC meetings to see them in action and found them to be fairly easy to work with and sympathetic to the owner’s economic limitations for their projects. In addition, LPC standards seem not as stringent as for Baltimore City and some other areas.

One of the main advantages in pursuing landmarking (beside the joy of

knowing you are preserving history) is the incredible tax incentives. There is a long list of items that qualify, such as heating, plumbing, electric, exterior repairs, structural fortification, etc. The owner gets 20% of the expense (provided the expenses total at least \$1,000) to be applied as a property tax credit, and can be credited for up to ten years. We figured if property taxes are \$2,500 a year that could mean \$25,000 (and more, if your tax is more) over a 10 year period! Some properties may also qualify for another 20% from the state.

Another blessing was working with County staff people Teri Rising, Karin Brown & Vicki Nevy. Especially appreciated was the extensive research work by Teri that uncovered very interesting historical information about our property and its place in Kingsville history.

Our July hearing with the 15 volunteer members of LPC was so easy for us because the County staff also handled the verbal and visual presentation. LPC voted then to place our property on the preliminary list. The final step is the September County Council vote to place it on the Final Landmarks list, which is supported by our Councilman Bryan McIntire.

I would encourage others in our community to look into the Landmark process and join in creating an historic legacy for our future generations in Kingsville! For more details, the Baltimore County website lists LPC under “agencies” or call Karin Brown, Chief of Preservation Services for Baltimore County at 410-887-3495.

—Robin Beers

CONSTITUTION CHANGES

The Board of GKCA discussed and approved two proposed amendments to the Constitution. In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the amendments must be approved by the general membership at the general meeting.

The first change to the constitution reduces the area covered by GKCA to eliminate some of the area which was an overlap with Long Green Valley as well as the area to the east of the railroad tracks. The new description being presented for approval reads as follows:

Section 2 The Greater Kingsville area or community is defined as that part of Baltimore County, bounded on

the East by ~~Route 40~~ the railroad tracks; and bounded on the West by ~~Long Green Pike~~ a line formed by Harford Rd, Marc Lane, Williams Rd, and Bottom Rd and including any residential property bounding on either side of that line; bounded on the South by the Big Gunpowder River; and bounded on the North by the Little Gunpowder River.

The second change is a minor technical one to allow board voting by e-mail, just as it is already allowed by telephone, whenever an urgent or emergency matter can not wait until the next meeting. These changes and the entire Constitution can be viewed at our web site at GKCA.info.

WAVE OUR FLAG FOR FREEDOM – 30 YEARS OF KINGSVILLE PARADE TRADITION

This year marked the 30th consecutive year of the Kingsville parade. The headline above was the theme of this year's parade. Some might remember a parade here years before that, but we're on a roll—there has now been an *unbroken* string of celebrating our great nation!

The parade is one of our community's proudest events and there are always so many to thank—really a countless number. The businesses (and individuals) who purchase ad space in the book, the patron ad sponsors, and the band sponsors who underwrite large expenses have helped to make the parade bigger and better every year. The volunteers who serve on the committee, who help set up and take down, who seek advertisers, who schedule the fly-by, who deal with the massive numbers of details that need to be addressed have, too, been integral in the parade's development. The participants—the people who willingly march or ride on a July morning each year—are truly the centerpiece of the day. The folks along the parade route who cheer on the marchers and cars and trucks are what makes the work worthwhile. Thanks to EVERYONE!

But looking back over 30 years we all know that the parade would not exist without leadership. "Doc" Sears deserves the thanks of all of us for his dedication in the early years, and Linda Alexander has been one of the true patriots of our community as she has chaired the parade with incredible dedication for so many years now.

WINNERS—

Category #1 - Marching Units

- 1st—Company A 37th Regiment
North Carolina Vol. Troops –
John C. Houck
2nd—*Christine Zoll* – TwirlTaxTix
Twirlers and SPINominal
Color
3rd—*Jean Clifford* – Applause of
Bel Air

Category #2 - Antique Vehicles

- 1st—*Don Appel* - 1955 Torch Red
Ford Thunderbird
2nd—*Chuck Miller* – 1963 Corvette
3rd—*Roland Jewett* – 1923 Model T
Fruit Truck

Category #3 - Equestrian – Individual

- 1st—*Lucille Rice* – Shining Eye
Percherons

Category #4 - Equestrian – Group

- 1st—*Joanne Kline* – Olney Farm
Equestrians
2nd—Castle Rock Farm – *Michelle
Jennings*
3rd—*Tom and Kate Fair*

Category #5 - Family, Group or Individual Entry

- 1st—*Dawn Willig* – Fork Christian
Church
2nd—*Russell Piper* - 1954 Mack
Firetruck
3rd—*Jodi Leubecker* – Friends of
Freedom

Category #6 - Young Set

- 1st—*Lisa Eisemann* - Kingsville
Elementary School
2nd—Cub Scout Pack 779 of Fork-
Vanessa Howell

Category #7 - Commercial Entries

- 1st—CTB Logistics – Trucks
Tequila Sunrise
2nd—Ann's JES Grooming –
Ann Schultz

- 3rd—Madison Square Federal
Savings Bank-*Les Horn* 1931 Deluxe
Chevrolet

Category #8 - Floats

- 1st—Friends of Jerusalem Mill –
Joan Scovill
2nd—*Christine Moeller* – Brownie
Troop 73 – St. Joseph Fullerton
3rd—*Kim Moran* – Delmarva Turf
Warriors

Category #9 - Fire Apparatus

- Melvin C. Neuman Award for Best
Company in Parade – Joppa
Magnolia VFC
Best Appearing Engine – Susque-
hanna Hose Company
2nd Best Appearing Engine –
White Marsh VFC
Best Appearing Truck Company –
Joppa Magnolia VFC
Best Appearing Ambulance –
Bel Air VFC

Category #10 - Recreational Vehicles

- 1st – James Frank III and Caroline
Frank

Judges Awards for Best Interpretation of Theme – “Wave Our Flag For Freedom – 30 Years of Kings- ville Parade Tradition”

- 1st Place \$150 – *Linda Huber* – St.
Paul's Lutheran Church and School
2nd Place \$100 – *Jodi Leubecker* –
Friends of Freedom
3rd Place \$50 – Friends of Jerusalem
Mill – *Joan Scovill*

9th Annual Mary Frances Shep- pard Award for Best Entry in Parade (\$150) – Dawn Willig – Fork Christian Church

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

continued from page 1

Church Troop # 749 led by Steve Colclough, and Skip, Sherrill & Chris Howe; St. Stephens Roman Catholic Church Troop # 877 led by Frank Dawson, Tim Sines, Steve Valenti & John Zink; and Fork United Methodist Church Troop #779 led by Don Smith and Mark Cogar. The Hill and Stream Garden Club members who gave their expertise and advice were Mary Lee Hormes, Joan Stachowiak and Caroline Seamon. In addition over 40 members of the community contributed funds to buy the mulch, peat moss, herbicide and fertilizer. With this continuing level of support, we anticipate adding more modules of the Plantscape to the Kingsville stretch of Belair Road. Our goal is to create areas of greenery along our "main road" which will reflect the rural character of Kingsville.

—*Ila Christenbury*

SLATE OF GKCA BOARD & OFFICERS FOR 2010

This slate of nominated officers and board members will be voted on in September.

Officers

Ila Christenbury—*President*
 Dottie Foos—*1st Vice President*
 Robin Beers—*2nd Vice President*
 Lee Pine—*Recording Secretary*
 Doug Behr—*Corresponding Secretary*
 Charles Wolpoff—*Treasurer*
 Leigh Keller—*Past President*

Board

Four members to be elected for 2 year terms ending September 2012

Mike Pierce
 Tom Kneeshaw
 Joy Keller
 Pat Garner

Four members elected to 2 year terms which end Sept. 2011

Donna Kuhn
 Pat Schmidt
 Sally Wagner
 Laverne Laubach

From the GKCA Bylaws & Constitution Article V, Section 4: Additional nominations can be submitted by any five (5) members of the Association. The nominees and the nominated members must have been voting members in good standing for the immediate preceding membership year and have attended at least four meetings in this time frame. Such nominations must be in writing and received by the Recording Secretary of the Association at least ten (10) days prior to the Annual Meeting. The written consent of any such nominee must accompany the nominations.

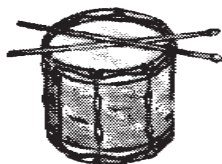
Also: Please note the article about GKCA constitution changes proposed for our September meeting.

Visit our website — GKCA.info

The Greater Kingsville Civic Association, Inc.
 P.O. BOX 221 • KINGSVILLE, MARYLAND 21087

U.S. Postage PAID Bulk Rate Kingsville, MD Permit No. 9
--

Neighbor



THE DRUM

A PUBLICATION OF THE GREATER KINGSVILLE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It's been a quiet, but hot, summer in our home town where all the children are smart and all the parents are good-looking (to paraphrase Lake Wobegone). In the months of July and August a crop of political signs sprouted up across the landscape as Baltimore County approaches a primary election in September. We invite you to come to the GKCA September General Meeting to meet many of the candidates whose names adorn our lawns.

Our Plantscape somehow survived the June drought. The northern gateway at Belair Rd and Open Bible Rd and the southern gateway at Huber's Stand at Belair and Mt. Vista Rd. are both intact and growing. These perennials are not yet fully grown but should fill out the planting design in two years. The Plantscape was the result of the volunteer efforts of many community organizations and individuals: both the Kenny Huber Family and Open Bible Church who allowed us to plant on their properties; Tom Hensler of Cavano's Perennials who generously donated all the plants; Boy Scout Troops who contributed the muscle power: St Joseph's Roman Catholic

continued on page 2

A TALE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

It all started with the collapse of our barn roof caused by the excessive snow. As I saw the roof caving in, I felt as crushed as it looked, knowing the barn dated back to at least around the Civil War, and has been such a visual and practical asset to our property. However, I reminded myself that the Lord has helped us in the past and that He always has some blessings in the midst of trials.

One blessing was it encouraged my husband and me to pursue "Landmark" status for our property. The thought had crossed our minds before but we weren't sure our old place was even worthy. We have a simple, humble home that we were told originated with just a one room log structure that was added onto several times. The original logs are now only

visible in the small dirt cellar since the outside was sided with asbestos shingles many years ago.

In February, the Baltimore County

continued on page 2

SEMI-ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Wednesday,
September 15, 7:30 p.m.**

Please join us for our Fall semi-annual meeting which will be held at the Kingsville Elementary School. Our local State elected officials have been invited to speak on matters of community interest. Please attend to get more information and share your thoughts and concerns about all the topics in this newsletter and other issues.