



ABOUT TOWN

News, events and resources for Kensington Historical Society members and friends

PO Box 453, Kensington MD 20895 November 2008

2009 Membership



Join today!
Membership
form for new
& returning
members
available on

our website. Check your mailing label to see when your membership expires. No year on your label? Time to join!

Road Show Recap



Our Road Show last month was a great success. Read our recap on page 2 and check our website for more pictures.

2009 Calendar

Our 2009 Calendar, Past and Present, is available. Pick your copy up at the Nov 11th meeting or the Holiday Party. Or call 301-942-8933 to arrange pickup.



Warner Circle Update

By John Doherty

On October 27th an open meeting was held at the Kensington Town Hall where citizens were given an update on the County's plans for restoration and future use of the Warner Circle Manor and Open Space Park.

Brenda Sandberg of the Montgomery County Planning Department (M-NCPPC) outlined the process by which proposals for use of the historic property will be evaluated. The Victorian-style manor was built around 1891 by Brainard Warner, and lies at the heart of the Kensington Historic District. The County purchased the property last year using Legacy Open Space Park funds.

An unspecified number of applicants have applied for a long-term lease on the manor, and an evaluation panel, including two public representatives, is in the process of reviewing and ranking the proposals. Sandberg said county procurement rules prevent disclosure of the identity of the bidders until the panel concludes its initial review. However, she said details of the proposals will be disclosed at an open meeting of the County Planning Board at the end of the initial vetting, after which citizens will be given the opportunity to submit written

comments on the proposals. This could be as late as Spring 2009.

After review, the evaluation panel will then make a formal recommendation to the M-NCPPC Executive Director who will make a recommendation to the Planning Board on which plan, if any, best meets the overall criteria for preserving the property. Following another Board hearing, the staff would then seek further guidance from town citizens, probably in the form of a public workshop, or charrette, before beginning detailed negotiations with the top-ranked applicants, said Sandberg. At any stage in the process, the county could decide to reject all applicants and seek new proposals.

State Delegate Jeff Waldstreicher, who attended the briefing, expressed concern about the lack of a timetable for the process. Sandberg said the vetting process, which is unusually detailed, was developed because of the sensitivity and importance of the property, which she described as unique. She said no firm deadlines have been set because of the nature of the proceedings.

The briefing had been requested by the Kensington Historical Society, along with the Kensington Land Trust and Citizens United to Save the Circle. Sandberg said further briefings would be provided as

Upcoming Programs

General Meeting open to everyone, Tuesday, November 11.

November's the month for raking leaves! The air turns crisp and you are in the mood for a good story. Our November 11th speaker can spin a good yarn. Please join us as **Bill Maury** intrigues us with some little known history from our own backyards. "Only Yesterday: A Historic Glance at 'the Dan'."

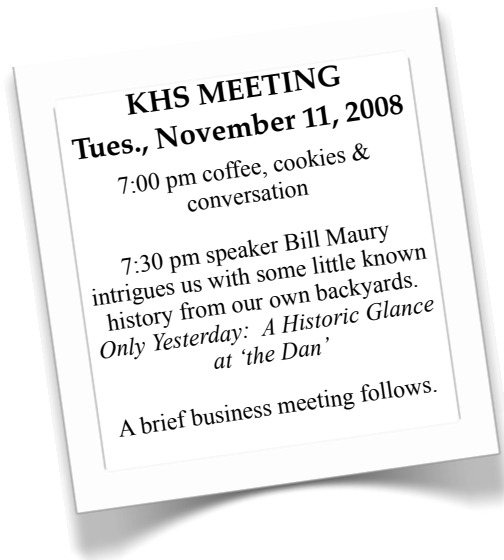
Come at 7 p.m. for coffee, cookies and conversation. Our speaker starts at 7:30 and we'll follow with a brief business meeting. We'll meet at the Kensington Town Hall/ Armory on the lower level. Everyone is welcome.

Save the date for our annual Holiday get-together! Members, mark your calendars now for Sat., December 13th, 2008 for our annual Holiday tradition.

the process unfolds. (See www.mc-mncppc.org, go to Planning Department, then Community & Plans on the sidebar. Meeting notices will be posted on www.TOK.MD.gov and www.kensingtonhistory.org.)

Kensington Historical Society
PO Box 453
Kensington, MD 20895

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The Kensington Sector Plan

Want to be involved in the future of Kensington? Please note this information on the Maryland National Capital Planning website: "The Montgomery County Planning Department has begun a comprehensive update of the 1978 Town of Kensington and Vicinity Sector Plan. The update will look closely at six major issues: land uses, zones, design, transportation, the environment and community facilities such as schools, libraries, police and fire stations. The updated plan will articulate the Kensington communities' vision and guide the area's physical development over a 20-year period.

The Kensington Sector Plan area includes the incorporated Town of Kensington and three adjacent areas: the West Howard antiques district, the Ken-Gar community north of the CSX railroad tracks and the small commercial district at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and University Boulevard."

During this period of study Fred Boyd, MC Planning Staff, is hosting office hours in the Kensington Town Hall to facilitate community input and answer questions. He is available on Wednesdays, November 19th and December 3rd, from 6:30 to 8:00. Feel free to come by, email Fred.Boyd@mncppc-mc.org, or call 301-495-4654. These dates and times are on the Town of Kensington's website: www.TOK.MD.gov.

Road Show Recap



The Antiques Road Show, Kensington Style, was a wonderful success. We thank all those who participated by bringing their unusual, intriguing and beautiful items to share.

We also wish to thank the following dealers, shop owners and appraisers for contributing their time and expertise: Diane Grimes, Carol Silverman of Chelsea Antiques, Barbara Miller of Capital Estate Advisement Group, Lori Chaikin and Henning Kramer of Sparrows, Diane Soloman of Diane's Antiques, Jill Rotter of Jill and Company Country Antiques, Deb Sagerholm of Marco Polo's Treasures, Beth Youkel of Osiris Books, Elisenda Sola-Sole of the Kensington Row Bookshop, Andy Moursund formerly of the Georgetown Book Shop, Jack Waugaman of A Rare View Books, and Margaret Goldsborough and Susan Glynn of Goldsborough Glynn Antiques.

*The fabulous raffle basket was donated by the Old Town Kensington Merchants' Association. Our delicious food was contributed by the Sub*Urban Trading Company, the Old Town Market, Safeway, and the County Cupboard Tea Room.*

Thanks for a job well done by our own KHS committee members: Sigrid Doherty, Elisenda Sola-Sole, Janet Barnes, Gary Ditto and Barbara Scharman!

We were lucky to have coverage by the film crew from Montgomery County Cable TV. They will be airing segments of our Road Show through the month of November. We will put times on www.kensingtonhistory.org when they become available (or call 301-942-8933.)