

The Inkwell

FALL 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Corner	2
Volunteer Spotlight	3
Donations	7
Cemetery Walk	9
New to the Society	12

Volunteer!
**410-398-
1790**

**Renew
your
membership
today!**

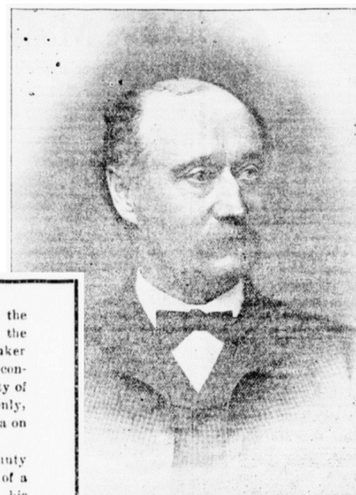
William Singerly's Elkton Stock Farm

By Emily Kilby

One hundred thirty years ago, Philadelphia industrialist and entrepreneur William M. Singerly bought two farms located between Little Elk Creek and Blue Ball Road northwest of Elkton. His vision for this property, which grew to 313 acres after two more purchases of contiguous land, was not some vast industrial complex such as his paper mill at Providence on Little Elk Creek

near Fair Hill or his recently built pulp mill along Big Elk Creek in Elkton proper. Nor was it for some grand country estate where he could escape Philadelphia's less congenial season. Instead, Singerly set about building a horse-breeding and -training farm that would propel his amateur interest in driving fast horses into a serious presence in the national racing scene. For almost a decade, Singerly's Elkton

ELKTON, MD., SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1898.



WILLIAM M. SINGERLY.

WILLIAM M. SINGERLY, editor of the Philadelphia Record, President of the Singerly Pulp and Paper Company, banker and man of affairs, whose enterprises largely contribute to the commercial and industrial activity of Elkton and Cecil county, passed away suddenly, from heart affection, at his home in Philadelphia on Sunday.

Interested as he was in Elkton and Cecil county affairs, his taking off robs the town and county of a true friend and benefactor, and the news of his death occasioned universal sorrow.

A memorial meeting of citizens will be held in the Elkton Opera House to-night at 8 o'clock. Dr. C. M. Ellis will preside at the meeting. Addresses will be made by W. T. Warburton, John S. Wirt, A. L. Crothers and H. R. Turbert, Esqs., and Rev. A. S. Mowbray.

NOW A LAW.

CECIL COUNTY ANTI-RACE TRACK GAMBLING BILL.

Full Text of the Law That Will Go
Into Effect on the Fourth Day of
April Next.

Among the Acts of the General Assembly to be signed by Governor Lowndes, on Wednesday, and thus become a law, was the bill prohibiting race-track gambling in Cecil county, and accordingly this county will be relieved from the race-track nuisance after April 4, when the law goes into effect.

The new law is as follows:

ACT to add under a new sub-title, to be designated "Crimes and Punishments," a new section to Article 8 of the Code of Public Local Laws, title "Cecil County," prohibiting gambling and the abetting thereof in Cecil county; said new section to be designated as Section 415.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That a new sub-title to be designated "Crimes and Punishments" and a new section thereunder to be designated as Section 415, be and the same are hereby added to Article 8, of the Code of Public Local Laws, title "Cecil County," as follows:

Continued on page 4....

President's Corner

Summer is over and we are all busily working to prepare for our Fall programs.

We have challenged some of our local government officials to portray three former mayors of Elkton.

We are anticipating a lively debate when the Jamar sisters approach Mayor Mackall to discuss his position on women's right to vote and the suffragette movement.

We had a successful Family Heritage Day at Big Elk Chapel even though it was a cold, blustery day so we are repeating that program model at West Nottingham Academy.

Our Trustee, Rusty Eder, is a teacher there and he is

coordinating the program and tour. We will be discussing the long history of the Academy and the prominent families of the area.

You will soon be receiving raffle tickets in the mail for our Fall Fundraiser. We have already received over \$1,000.00 in donations from area businesses to be included in the basket that is being custom-made expressly for this purpose. There is something for everyone in this basket.

We are appealing to all of our followers on Facebook to become members so that we can continue to bring them the daily posting that

everyone enjoys so much. We are striving to be 1,000 members strong so please encourage your friends and family to support us by becoming a member.

Remember to follow us on Facebook where you will see all the latest Historical Society news about upcoming events.

Keeping History Alive,

*Paula Newton
President*

Officers

- ◆ PAULA NEWTON – PRESIDENT
- ◆ BETH MOORE—VICE PRESIDENT
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- ◆ LISA DOLOR – CURATOR

***HSCC wants to email the Inkwell
to as many members as possible!
Please send us your email address to
receive future issues via email.***

Trustees

- ◆ GARY HOLMES
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- ◆ ERIC MEASE
- ◆ ALLYN NICKLE
- ◆ KAREN PETERSON
- ◆ RUSTY EDER
- ◆ TRACY JENTZSCH
- ◆ MARGIE BLYSTONE

***Do you want to get involved?
Contact us!
cecilhistory@gmail.com***

The Barnes Family

by Irene Butler

You may find, like me, when chasing rabbits down the proverbial rabbit hole, every once in awhile you just know that someone from your past is there in your presence. They may only be a whisper in the wind, a shuffle of paper, perhaps they may nudge you in the cemetery to the right headstone. Maybe your ancestors might be snickering away thinking it's funny that you are on the wrong path and heading right into that brick wall, yet again!

This story is about the elusive Barnes family of Maryland and Pennsylvania. You may have heard of them if you have been to Charlestown or Carpenter's Point and are lucky enough to be in possession of any decoys made by "Wash" Barnes who owned the fishery there. If you drove through "Barnes Inheritance" on roads like Nesbitt or Barnes Corner or happen by the Nottingham Presbyterian Academy, you are where they have been... If you ever had the chance to hike in the beautiful Ferncliff Wildflower Preserve, PA in Drumore, Lancaster County, along the Susquehanna River where they operated a lumber mill and tavern, you have been where they have been. If you have been where Muddy Run empties into the Susquehanna or any parts of Southern Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, then you are getting close!

Pass by the Robert Fulton birthplace on Route 222 and you are also in Barnes country where the family of the McSparran's shared two siblings in marriage to a Barnes and many happy years of relationships were spent as well as the long lasting familiar relations with the Swift family who later owned the Fulton birthplace. This is not far from where the Black Bear Tavern once stood in Unicorn, Lancaster, Pennsylvania!

Last but not least, the homestead of yet another generation is adorned by the monument erected for the great Revolutionary heroes Dr. Ramsey, General John Steele and Colonel Archibald Steele, and Colonel Thomas Porter, along the Robert Fulton Highway and Little Britain Rd. From there they eventually found their way into Philadelphia and then onto the suburbs.

It is with pleasure I write this story. It is also with great consternation that it isn't complete, but then is genealogy ever? My children have often joked that "I am neglecting my descendants while researching my ancestry!"

It began with an uncle who was moving to Florida. He found an old family bible in a box in the shed and asked if my Dad wanted it knowing that I scrapbooked. Who could have known that one question would lead to so many new ones, so many wondrous adventures and friends and discoveries?

I have learned so much and have now gone on to become not only self taught but also trained by professionals at some of the countries leading

Barnes Family...continued on page 3

Volunteer Spotlight: Lisa Dolor

Name and where you are from: ***Lisa McKeown Dolor.***
I was born and raised in Cecil County and I live in Fair Hill

What did you or do you do in your working life: ***I am an artist. I worked as a graphic designer in a firm in Delaware and now I have a studio where I teach children art.***

What is your job at the Historical Society: ***I am the curator.***

What encouraged you to volunteer at the Society: ***I originally started volunteering in 1991 to open up the society on Saturdays. At that time, I was working full time and wanted to be able to work on my genealogy but the society was only open on weekdays. So the board teamed Paula Newton and I up and we expanded the society's hours. Over time my role grew to include installing rotating exhibits which is one of my favorite things to do.***

What are your interests or hobbies: ***Travel, knitting, weaving, anything art related and genealogy***

What is your area of expertise: ***Graphic design***



Singerly...continued from page 1

Stock Farm produced fine young stock from stakes-winning, record-setting stallions and mares and sent out strings of as many as 50 runners to compete at tracks around the United States. The Elkton Stock Farm's physical plant rivaled any breeding and training farm in the country, and it was managed impeccably, following the most progressive methods. Next to yachting, horses and racing were Singerly's favorite pastimes, and he spared no expense.

"The Elkton Stock Farm nestles in a pretty valley two miles northwest of Elkton," begins a Cecil Whig article, "and where fully one hundred thousand dollars are invested in fine stock and in handsome and well appointed buildings, devoted to the improvement of the American racers." On the property were stabling for 150 horses in roomy box stalls, three immaculately kept meadow pastures with run-in sheds for the different groupings of horses, cropland for growing all the feed used on the farm (except for oats, imported from the Midwest where the quality was better), a half-mile training track, general farm buildings and housing for the manager, the farmer and some of the workers.

The original focus of Elkton Stock Farm had been Standardbreds which are raced in harness pulling a sulky with driver aboard. This type of competition was considered the more egalitarian of horse sports because race training and driving could be carried out by the owner,



even if he were perhaps not so young and not so lithe and athletic as a jockey on the back of a running horse. In fact, Singerly and his fellows in Philadelphia's tony Belmont Driving Club often bought trotters and pacers off the track and used them for their own amateur contests.

Additionally, harness racing was far more socially accepted in pre-automotive America, especially in areas, such as Cecil County, with strong temperance and anti-gambling sentiments, because the animals and the uses to which they could be put were part of the honest, upright agricultural fabric of the community. Runners were thought to have no purpose other than as vehicles for betting and consequent moral degradation. Even as Singerly was developing Elkton Stock Farm into a premier racing operation, Cecil County was whipping itself up into anti-gambling/racing fever. At least a half dozen outlaw racetracks were

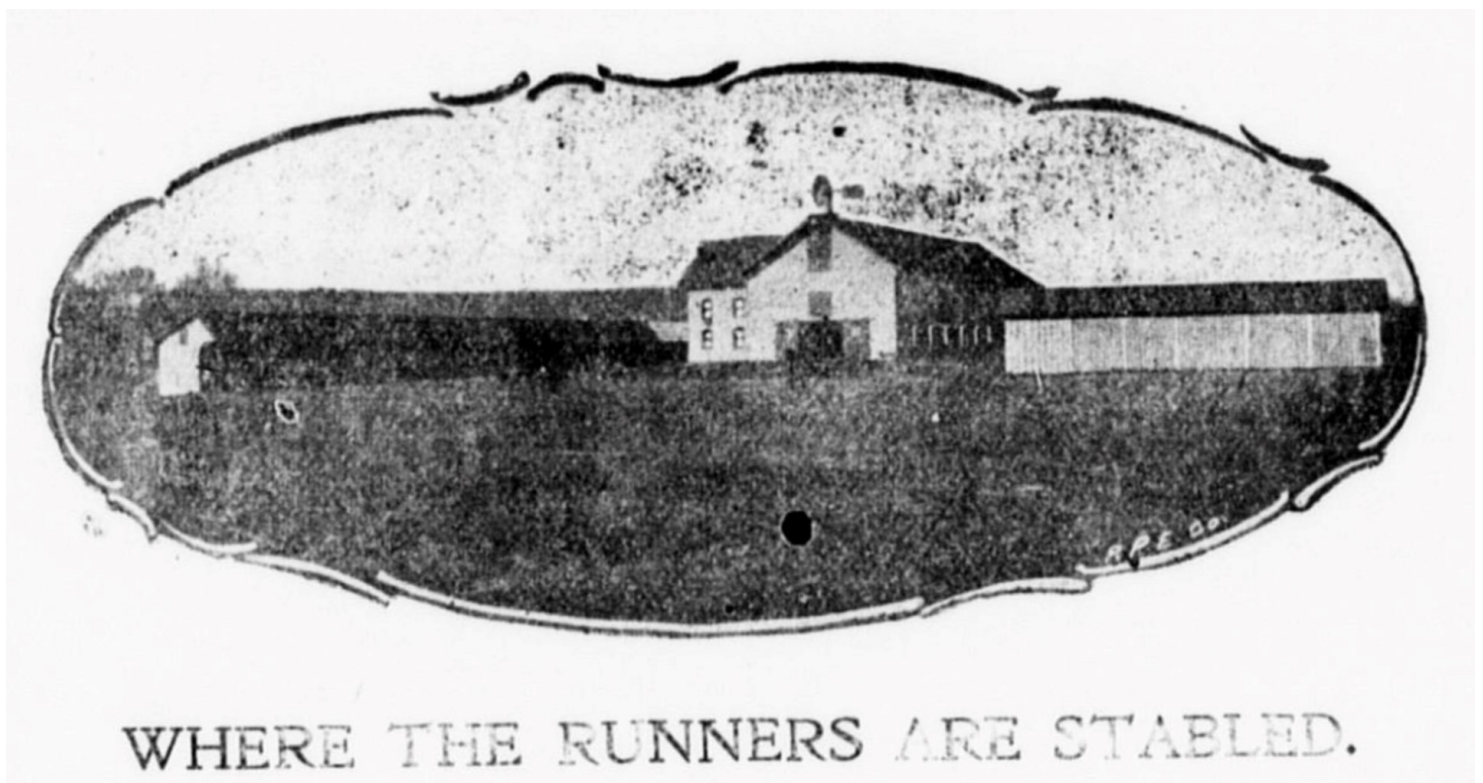
operating across the county at that time, most of them within walking distance of train stations, bringing in vice and ruining local morals, not to mention injuring horses and jockeys with some regularity. Denunciations of these dens of sin flew in pulpit, press and political meetings.

Singerly, with his highly successful *Philadelphia Record* newspaper and his vast real estate and industrial holdings, must have thought himself immune to failure, even as the Panic of 1893 initiated a six-year depression that would eventually doom him. In 1894 he decided to switch to classier Thoroughbreds at Elkton Stock Farm, and he developed close ties to the Kentucky horse world, including with a Lexington madam who was at the center of Gilded Age racing. [A chapter of *Madame Belle: Sex, Money, and Influence in a Southern Brothel*, by Maryjean Wall, examines the connection of brothers William and George Singerly to the establishment of Belle's business; text can be read online.] He brought in some top-name studs and mares and added a new feature

that was a marvel to all who saw it—a hippodrome [from the Greek hippodromos, from hippos 'horse' + dromos 'race, course']. Built in late 1895 at the cost of \$20,000, the unusual structure made news in a January 18, 1896 issue of a Wilmington newspaper:

"The large hippodrome on the Elkton stock farm of William M. Singerly has been completed and is now being used for the purposes of training horses preparatory to entering them in the spring races. The building is of steel and iron, with circular ends, two stories high, covering an eighth of a mile track and containing 44 box stalls. The second story of the building is fitted up with sleeping rooms for the jockeys and bathroom and lofts for hay and straw. Down stairs is a washroom with a 60 gallon boiler for hot water for stable use in addition to a Turkish bath for both jockeys and horses. The hippodrome is well-lighted, and without doubt one of the finest structures of its kind in the country."

The advantages of year-round training afforded by the amazing hippodrome might have eventually paid off, as a successful summer campaign that year

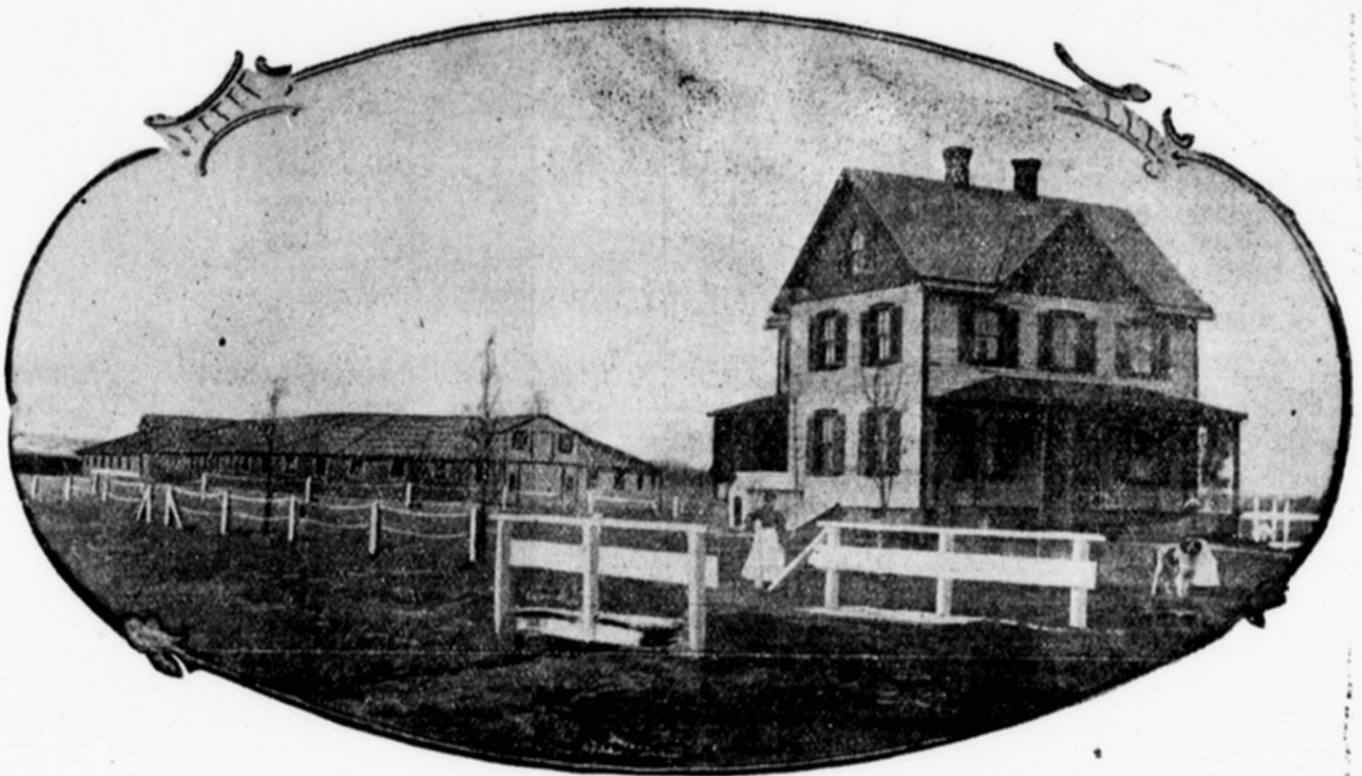


Singerly...continued from page 5

was reported in an October sporting column: "[Elkton Stock Farm Manager] W.M. Rogers has returned from the west with the stable of runners which made a successful season on the Western Turf Congress tracks. The mare "our Gertie," of the stable was the leading winner at the Harlem race track, Chicago, at the time of her leaving the track her winning being \$2,400. The farm grounds have never been in better condition and Elkton can take pride in the fact that the Elkton Stock Farm is one of the leading establishments of its kind in the country."

But even as the press ran glowing reports on the facility and its horses [see extensive articles in the Cecil Whig of Feb. 15, 1896 and Dec. 18, 1897], William Singerly had sold the

property to Rogers for \$40,000 (or so the land record of Aug. 20, 1896 indicates). Yet Elkton Stock Farm continued to be called Singerly's farm until his sudden death on February 27, 1898, as he was caught up in the collapse of his financial empire. On the same page Singerly's memorial ran, the Cecil Whig reported that the long-sought bill making gambling illegal in Cecil County had passed into law, marking the end of corrupting outlaw tracks. Within the next few years the same anti-gambling sentiment would fuel racing bans in all states but Kentucky and Maryland, which proved to be a contributing factor in the rapid downfall of Singerly's grand breeding and training farm on Little Elk Creek.



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM M. ROGERS.

Donations

Thank you to our generous donors. We appreciate the community's support for the Historic Threads Exhibit:

- Helen Long
- Emily Kilby
- Jo Ann Gardner
- Michael Leary
- Louisa Zeh
- J.P. Morgan
- Paula & Ralph Newton
- Sally McKee
- Integrity Electric and Dolor
- Mary Ellen Good
- Eder/Copeland
- Ruth Anne Weisenauer
- Denise Redkar-Brown
- Linda Cox
- Mariah Creswell
- Kaye Merrey

Special Thanks Elkton American Legion Post No. 15 and Elkton Memorial VFW Post 8175, Rising Sun American Legion Post No. 194 and American Legion Susquehanna Post No. 135 which will support the DeWitt museum.

Annual Fall Fundraiser

Each year we strive to put together a gift basket valued at \$1,000 featuring the best of Cecil County. Various restaurants and business establishments in Cecil County will be contributing to this basket of adventure. Already, we have received donations from Schaefer's Canal House, Sandy Cove Ministries & Conference Center, Walt's Tavern, & Steak & Main. There will be many more to follow as always.

Members of the Historical Society of Cecil County will each receive 18 tickets in the mail that are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Fill out the stubs and return them along with the money to the Historical Society. Your financial support is essential to us if we are to continue to provide valuable services to the public. If you do not wish to participate, just dispose of the tickets.

If you or a friend desires additional tickets, please call us at: 410-398-1790 or stop by 135 E. Main St., Elkton, MD during normal operating hours.

The drawing will be held: OCTOBER 14, 2018 during our Family Heritage Day at West Nottingham Academy. You need not be present to win; however, we do hope you attend this great event. If you do win, you could use some of the neat items for Christmas presents. The Board of Trustees appreciates your continued and enthusiastic support.

If you manage or own a local business and want to participate, contact Gary Holmes, Fundraiser Chair, at gary.holmes@mdcourts.gov or call the Society at 410-398-1790 to leave a message for him or with Bill Horne. We advertise every business that contributes, and will provide you with an official letter or receipt for your files. Thank you!



Barnes Family...continued from page 3

genealogical and historical societies. I took those middle names as clues and began my search online, later joining the masses on Ancestry.com only to find I had to get out there and start exploring and researching. Before this adventure, I had never been to Cecil County! But I can say that I always felt at home in the lush farmlands of Lancaster. Funny how that works.

So, who do we introduce first? I should probably begin by stating that there is reason to believe that William Barns, born late in the 17th century is likely the earliest immigrant to our shores. The timeline worked out shows that by his marriage date, Joseph who you will read about next, is likely to be his son. The tax records further provide clues that the untimely and intestate death of his potential father William caused Joseph to seek new opportunities in neighboring Cecil County. William Barns owned property and a tavern along "Ye Great Road to Nottingham" in Kennett, Pennsylvania which at that time was still considered by Maryland to be within their territory. Very little records remain in regards to the name or any taverns so it is entirely speculation at this stage. But it is interesting to note that his Administrator as well as many of the debtors against his estate are in my family tree! They are all related in one way or another, including the family who ultimately purchases his land. This property is now known as the Barnes-Brinton House and has been preserved and restored in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania.

Joseph Barnes is who purchased from the famed minister of the Presbyterian faith, James Magraw of West Nottingham Presbyterian Church and Academy, what would by a later generation be named "Barnes Inheritance". It is located south and west of the Academy, nearby the Nottingham Lots, but located in the Friendship Lots I believe, near Barnes Corner! In the end of the ongoing border dispute, part of the Nottingham lots, a small part, would end up in Pennsylvania and the remainder would be considered Cecil County, Maryland. It is interesting that during this time, Joseph was likely watching from afar, knowing there were industrial decisions to be made yet unsure where best to invest his money.

What is clear is this; he like so many early on acted in ways beyond that of an average farmer or planter. His children and grandchildren later would contribute in the various ways a new and emerging country needed by way of industry, farming, fisheries and tavern owning, milling, blacksmithing and lumbering.

They were Presbyterians. Daughters married ministers and teachers of notorious fame, sons intermingling with some of the earliest iron forger's of our country, and people involved at every level of politics, but this family are just not in the records! There's also many close relationships to Quakers including marriages.

James Barnes is Joseph's son born about 1731 in Nottingham, Chester County who ultimately named the lot by way of his inheritance when Joseph died in the year 1753. James passed in 1795. There is a great possibility that this James owned a place on the river called Fite's Eddy just below Muddy Run, but that may be tough to prove. All there is to go on as of now is a

tavern petition and a tax record with that name on it.

His son James was born 1757 and married Rosanna Johnson in 1783 in Cecil County and together they move to the Susquehanna River to property he acquires of the heirs of William Mitchell in 1785. He operates a mill it appears he inherited through the Johnson family that according the to will of her brother William Johnson (of West Nottingham Hundred) was already in operation and local history indicates was a lumber mill. This is sensible given the location being where the creek feeds into the river making it the ideal location to both capture and send logs for transport to Baltimore. This would necessitate an ordinary or tavern house for the raftsmen and subsequent workers, as it would likely employ and be needed by many. He is listed on one record as a "cooper". He dies in 1827.

The next generation was James who was born in 1790 and married first Eliza and secondly, her sister Eleanor McSparran, after her sister's death. Naturally they were neighbors during his early years and the many stories between Eleanor and James and their

RAFFLE TICKETS THE

Historical Society of Cecil County

Just a peek reveals
a basket of treasures,
Gift cards and tickets
whatever's your pleasure.
A sample of
our area's favorite things,
Hours of pleasure
is what they will bring.
October 14th
will pick a lucky winner.
Get those tickets sent quick
and win some free dinners.



Raffle tickets are \$1 or 6 for \$5.

Drawing will be held on October 14th at
FAMILY HERITAGE DAY
WEST NOTTINGHAM ACADEMY

Additional tickets can be purchased and all proceeds benefit the
Historical Society of Cecil County.
125 East Main Street Elkton, Maryland 21921
410-398-1790

The poster features a background image of a cemetery with various tombstones under a cloudy sky. A semi-transparent white box in the upper left contains the event title and sponsor. On the right side, three portrait photos of men are arranged in a vertical stack. The title text is in a large, black, serif font, and the sponsor text is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

Elkton Cemetery Walk A Living History Politics Then & Now

Sponsored by: Historical Society of Cecil County

First Friday, September 7th

Tours Depart: 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00

Tickets: \$8.00 - Advanced, \$10.00 - At the Door

Reservations: Cecil County Arts Council - (410) 392-5740

It's been said that the more things change, the more they stay the same. This can especially be true when it comes to the subject of politics. The Historical Society of Cecil County thought it might be poignant to feature former politicians at this year's Elkton Cemetery Walk. Who better to play the part of our deceased dignitaries than current political members of our community?

So join us and come take a walk with History. Meet some of Elkton's former Mayors from the early history of the town and some suffragettes too. Discover the challenges these notable figures faced during their time in office - Could they be similar to the trials today's officials manage?

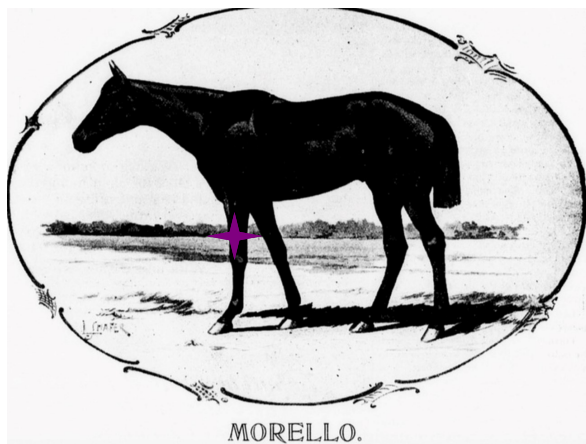
Our Re-enactors will include: Cecil County Circuit Court Judge Will Davis, Elkton's Mayor Rob Alt, Elkton Planning Commission member Ed Ginder and members of the Friends of Cecil County Heritage Troupe.

Guests will begin their tour at the Historical Society and be led on a guided walking tour through Elkton Cemetery.

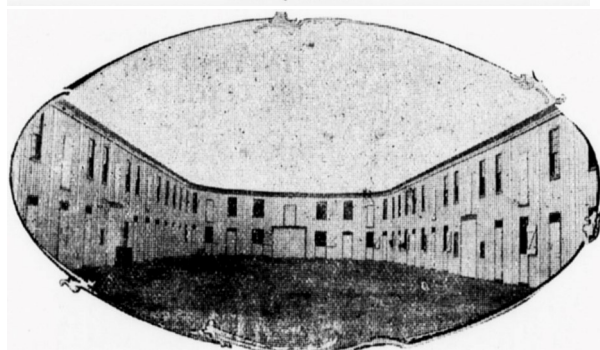
Note: This walking tour takes place over uneven terrain in the evening/dark - A tour guide and flashlights will be provided. Tours last approximately 45 minutes. Join us following the tour at the Historical Society for refreshments and more in depth conversation about the historical men and women featured on the tour.



William Rogers did remain at the farm for the next few years, cutting costs and corners to carry on some breeding and racing. But the property soon passed through a quick succession of at least seven outside racing people, including a notorious St. Louis-based bookie, each time selling for less money. The signal moment marking the end of Elkton's brief fame as a horse-breeding and -racing center came in January 1906 when "The large hippodrome building which was erected by the late William M. Singerly on the Elkton Stock Farm, has been torn down and the material shipped elsewhere for its re-erection." Today, the Triumph Industrial Park occupies part of the land where hundreds of fine horses once roamed and ran. ✨



MORELLO.



HIPPODROME COURT-YARD.



IN THE HIPPODROME.

PUBLIC SALE OF SINGERLY STOCK FARMS

In Elkton,
Ceel Co.,
Maryland.

To take Place at the Court House in
Elkton, Md., Monday, Feb. 5, at 11 a. m.

These Farms have been divided into three parts, and will be offered first, separately, and then as a whole, and if the amount bid for the three parts as a whole exceed the aggregate amounts bid for the farms separately, the whole will be sold to such a bidder.

The Singerly Farms

Consists of 313 acres, 1 road and 11 perches, and are situated about one and a half miles from Elkton, in Ceel county, Maryland, on the P. W. & R. R. R., and about one and a half miles from Child's Station on the R. & O. R. R. To any one interested in stock raising or breeding this sale must prove of interest.

The Late W. M. Singerly

Of Philadelphia, to whom they belonged, spared no expense to make them in every particular and detail as complete and convenient for the breeding, raising and training of stock as possible. There is on the place stabling capacity for about 120 head of stock, all box stalls, ample shedding and barns for storing feed, etc., a half-mile race track and a hippodrome or covered building for exercising stock in inclement weather. There is an abundant supply of excellent water in all the buildings, and the Little Elk Creek, a good sized stream, runs along nearly half the place, forming one of its boundaries. The fields and pastures are well fenced and all of the buildings are in excellent repair.

A New Frame House of 12 Rooms

With all modern conveniences, is situated several hundred yards from the barns, stables, etc., and there is also a nice house suitable for overseer or manager. On another part of the farm is a substantial

Brick House of Nine Rooms

With other barns and out houses; these buildings are also supplied with water by a windmill. Altogether these farms can not be surpassed for beauty, convenience and completeness.

The Land is Mostly Meadow Land

And the soil extremely fertile, and well adapted for pasturage. It is no exaggeration to say that these farms are in every detail as well equipped and suited for stock raising and breeding purposes as any farms in the east.

PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE are each one hour distant and Wilmington is a half-hour away.

Terms of sale are one-third of purchase money in cash, one-third in six months and one-third in twelve months, or all cash at purchaser's option.

A deposit of \$500 required on day of sale.

Possession will be given March 15, 1906.

Plans describing this property can be seen at the office of John H. Wirt, Esq., Elkton, Md., and W. L. Martiny, Esq., Attorney, The Equitable Building, Baltimore, Md.

For further information regarding the sale, apply to the undersigned:

JESSE FLINGLUFF, Special Master,

922 Equitable Bldg. Baltimore, Md.

SHOCKLEY & SMITH, Auctioneers, Elkton, Md.

Barnes Family...continued from page 8

10 children must have been happy as they were repeated often. The family and their respective business were well known and they seemed to be liked throughout the community, for this I have little doubt as remarked in his obituary. James had grown up on the Fulton farm when the Swift family had the home and dairy business and became the first postmaster there. He would also buy a farm in 1839 where the monument today depicts the Revolutionary War heroes mentioned.

In 1840 he rebuilt the mill left to him by his father. He was also the owner of The Black Bear Tavern on Route 272 during an interesting time. The General Marquis de Lafayette, accompanied by a military escort while on his way to visit Port Deposit and eventually Baltimore in 1824, arrived at the tavern in a stage coach decorated in red, white and blue bunting, drawn by a beautiful span of coal black horses who were raced by a group of locals on horseback. He commented of his driver, wiping the sweat from his brow "I'm glad that he is such a good driver, had he not been, perhaps I would not be here!" That story must have been repeated for years by the thousands who came to the roadside to greet him!

What is interesting about this family to me is the many ways in which they touch on early industry, legislation or close family who were involved in government or church affairs and the closeness they shared with so many of illustrious fame such as the Harlans, McSparran's, Swifts, Longs and Latta's, Moore's and Miller's, Ross, Read, Smith, Peale and Fulton family as well as the Taylor, Frazier and other families of iron forging.

In family lore, which I am now researching, it has been told that we were French named De Berne and during the Battle of Hastings our men were armourists, engaged in metallurgy. It is possible the name is derived from Old English beorn (warrior or bear), which is in turn of Old Norse origin. Certainly makes me wonder, given the name given for the tavern!

Other topics discussed were that we were somehow related to Fitch, who was also known for steam innovation as well as

Rumsey who ironically enough was the brother in law to a Joseph Barnes who lived in Maryland. More ironic is the fact we are related to the Smith family who were the cousins of Robert Fulton's wife!

There are many connections I am still seeking to provide evidence for that I am hopeful will connect the many stories throughout history to our own, even the "Indian Princess" although no such thing exists... Sorry!

Mason and Dixon did stay at our Harlan family residence during that time they surveyed the border starting in New Castle. We are related to the Ross family, who as you know had a member elope with Betsy who became our flag creator! And that makes us descendants of Signers' of the Declaration of Independence which was a surprise to learn. Our family was apparently well connected and knew people, who knew people like George Washington and Ben Franklin, yet I am frustrated by so little records on the Barnes family to convey a broader topic to truly allow you to get to know our family. They are aloof! But with luck, and the ongoing digitization efforts underway, it won't be long before I hope to have a more complete picture of what life was like for this family who started in the colonies at the very beginning, during that time of Indians, trading and merchant ships. Days when you travelled by water, then roads on horseback before carriages if you were lucky enough, then trains long before vehicles. A time when family and neighbors meant everything. A time when news travelled fast and hard work paid off and church mattered. Those were the days of the Barnes family of Maryland and Pennsylvania.



Canvasback drake, George Washington Barnes, Havre de Grace, Maryland

Items Donated to the Society: October 2017-August 2018

By Carol Donache, Librarian

Beers, Thomas – Seventy-one telegrams 1862-1864; Civil War ribbon.

Hill, Wayne - Book, Long Walk through War by Klaus Huebner; WWII jacket, hat and cap worn by Klaus Huebner.

Viars, Eileen – Triex Soccer team uniform and newspaper photo of same.

Crothers, James – Charter, By-Laws, and Rules and Regulations of Rose Bank Cemetery booklet; Crothers Insurance Agency ledger 1937-1948; three insurance documents.

Lassen, Christina – Two black and white photographs of Herbie and Johnny Egner on Deep Run Farm.

Theobald, Charles – Militia enrollments in triplicate for George Lotman, Peter Anderson and Lesley Neal, 1917; Scrapbook of Joseph Offner documenting his time at the North East Civilian Conservation Corps camp ca. 1938.

Fazio, Anne – Three pamphlets from St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church in Port Deposit.

Fowler, Corby – Three diaries for the year 1862; photograph of unknown man.

Cordill, Cody – Elkton High School sports jacket.

Jamar, Phyllis – Documents and photographs of the Jamar family of Elkton.

Polk, John – Ten volumes of Delaware will and administration books; History of the Churches on the Delmar Circuit volume.

MacIntyre, Carol – Bicentennial Pewter commemorative plate.

Shagena, Jack – Women for Federal Reg. minutes 1974; Franklin Hall pewter plate; suburban map 1923; Bethel Bridge lighthouse 1996 invitation; McKeown notecards; Nowland House notecards; Snodgrass postcard; Chesapeake City walking and shopping guide; Cecil County calendar of events 1998; 1994 map of Chesapeake City; 17 binders of research for C & D canal book.



Beers Ribbon

Emery, Charles & Barbara – cannonball.

Johnson, Phillip & Ruth Ann – Legal documents; Books: Elsie Dinsmore, Golly It's Been Fun; Jacob Tome Institute publications; West Nottingham church cookbook; 4 photographs; transcription of letter; history of Lombardville.

Snyder, Karen – Family papers of the Queck family; Photo of Queck's Bakery, postcard of Elkton.

Patchell, Janet – Two issues of the North East High School newspaper from 1967.

Lamb, Roger – Scrapbook of clippings; presentational flag.

Ort, Larry – Personal World War I artifacts of John "Pat" Maloney.

Cole, Judith – Documents related to the Gilpins Falls Covered Bridge restoration project.

Collins, Dale – Elkton photograph; booklet Cecil County in the Revolutionary War; Guide for Living in Cecil County; county Master Development Plan; Elkton map of 1907; newspaper clipping.

Dickerson family – Wall clock from Frazer's Drug Store.

McCool, Alice – Framed photo of Elkton Armory; photo and military items of Victor & Ralph McCool; Photo of Company E and Victor McCool's military pins.

Majewski, James & Kim – Quilt; Book: A Maryland Album: Quiltmaking Traditions; Duyckinck Auto calendar 1945; Thermometer advertising Anderson Building Materials, Rising Sun; Original and reproduction can labels from local canneries.



Maloney insignia



Johnny Egner