

2016 Annual Meeting

The Oxford Museum Annual Meeting was held on June 10 with nearly 100 members and guests attending. Outgoing president Pat Jessup reviewed the many successful Museum programs and activities of the past year.

Election of Officers:

Lisa Harrington, *President* Earl Sheck, *Vice President*
Liz Koprowski, *Secretary* Bob Valliant, *Treasurer*

New Board Member:

Jef Kinney was elected to serve a two-year term as a member of the Board of Directors. Jef has been a resident of Oxford for 11 years. His association with the town, however, dates back to the 1950s when his grandparents lived on N. Morris Street. Additionally, his family kept a sailboat at the Oxford Boatyard until 1972.

Jef grew up sailing on the Chesapeake Bay and developed an early interest in vessels that were native to the Bay and their use for commerce and leisure activities. His longstanding interest in the history and culture of the Eastern Shore drew Jef and his wife Mary to build their permanent home in the area. He continues his interest in history through docent activities at the Museum.

Jef initially worked in the family homebuilding business followed by over 25 years in mortgage finance as an officer of Fannie Mae. He is currently the principal and owner of Oxford Consulting, LLC and provides consulting services to the financial services industry.

Museum Survey:

The Board of Directors is conducting a survey of members regarding strategic objectives for the future. The survey and return envelope are included in the membership renewal mailing to facilitate response. Board members are being asked to rank proposed objectives in order of priority.

Membership Renewal

Memberships expired July 1. If you have not yet renewed, please return your completed forms or call the Museum Office. Your membership dues are used to meet our daily expenses, and we need your support. **Attention New Residents:** If you are new to Oxford, call the office at 226-0191 for your complimentary one-year membership.

Summer Hours at the Museum

Mondays—10 to 4; Tuesdays—10 to 3 (most Tuesdays); Wednesdays—10 to 4; Thursdays – Closed; Fridays—10 to 1; Saturdays—10 to 4; Sundays—1 to 4.

Docents Wanted! If you have a few hours a month to spend at the Museum, we can use your help. Training is provided and hours are flexible. Call the Museum office at 410-226-0191 to volunteer.

THE OXFORD MUSEUM, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lisa Harrington, <i>President</i>	Liz Koprowski, <i>Secretary</i>	
Earl Sheck, <i>Vice President</i>	Bob Valliant, <i>Treasurer</i>	
Simon Arnstein	Gordon Graves	Michelle Mactavish
Bruce Beglin	Pat Jessup	Kathy Radcliffe
Suzanne Beyda	Jef Kinney	Kippy Requardt
Stephen Goldman	Suzanne Litty	Beth Trujillo
Ellen Anderson, <i>Executive Director</i>		
Leo Nollmeyer, <i>Curator, Board Emeritus</i>		
<i>The Oxford Historian</i>		

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*A special place.
A special heritage.*

100 South Morris Street
PO Box 131
Oxford, MD 21654

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



1683

Summer 2016

The Oxford Historian

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410-226-0191 (phone), 410-226-0225 (fax)
www.oxfordmuseum.org, oxford_museum@verizon.net



Piga-figa-licious

March 21, 1863:
"No swine shall be permitted to run at large
in the streets of the town of Oxford..."

September 5, 2016: THE PIGS ARE BACK!

See **AUCTION ITEMS** on
inside left panel.

A benefit for the Oxford Museum* Pig Roast & Oxford's Finest Piga-figa-licious Dishes

DATE and TIME:

Monday, September 5 (Labor Day) - Noon to 2 pm

LOCATION:

Oxford Fire House

MENU:

Roast chicken, roast pork and "fig-a-licious" fixin's
Choice of iced tea or soda; Cash Bar—wine and beer
Highland Creamery will be on hand for its famous ice cream

MUSIC:

Deejay Chris Startt

TICKETS:

\$25 per person in advance; \$35 at the door
(Under 10 half price)

TICKETS AVAILABLE:

The Oxford Museum and The Oxford Inn/Pope's Tavern

*Proceeds fund Museum general operating expenses and programs.
Founded in 1964 this non-profit volunteer organization provides resources for
historical research and sponsors a variety of programs, activities and exhibits
to foster knowledge and appreciation of Oxford's people and history.

Hanks Award Presentation

For the tenth year, the presentation of the Douglas Hanks Jr. Oxford Preservation Awards was the highlight of the Oxford Museum annual meeting in June. Under the aegis of the Museum, the Award honors the efforts of its longtime member and supporter Douglas Hanks, Jr, who strongly believed in the Museum's mission to



preserve the heritage and share the stories of this unique waterfront community. The Museum family believes that recognition of preservation efforts promotes future preservation.

This year, the 2015 Hanks Award recognized two "in-town" residents, Suzanne Beyda and Howard Lapp, who each worked to preserve the town's beauty and history in unique and distinct ways.

Suzanne Beyda was recognized for the

restoration of her home at 223 South Morris Street. The house, known as the Margaret Delahay House, dates back to the 1860s and stands as a fine example of the type of home built in Oxford in the latter half of the nineteenth century. Suzanne was recognized for her willingness to work with the Oxford Historic Commission throughout the restoration. She is applauded for her retention of original materials and her use of historically accurate products. In particular she took pains to retain and repair the three-over-six historic windows on the south side of the oldest part of the house. To complete her project, she improved drainage in the yard and landscaped the grounds to create a property that will gain the attention of both motorists and pedestrians on Morris Street.

The question could be asked: Does Oxford's beauty bring artists to this small town or do local artists simply make us aware of how fortunate we are to live here? Either way, Oxford has had the unique luck—or more accurately, privilege—to have had several talented artists record life in town, thereby forever preserving the sights of Oxford from times gone by. **Howard Lapp** was recognized for his numerous paintings that so uniquely and faithfully capture Oxford scenes and characters. How many small towns have a mural in the center of town that reflects not only the look but also the feel of our heritage of work on the water? Howard continues to record on canvas Oxford historical buildings and events. His paintings can be seen in numerous homes as well as public places such as the town hall. Through his work, future generations will be able to more fully appreciate the historical community of Oxford.

Piga-figa-licious Auction Items

The following items (and many more!) will be on the silent auction. Many are group dinners and parties, board cruises, Newseum tour. etc. where couples might want to bid as a group. Talk with your friends now and plan to bid on these exciting group items. Other items include stay at Mayflower Hotel in DC, weekend apartment in DC, Orioles tickets, boatyard services, restaurant certificates, wines, BWI transportation and **more!**

• Italian Dinner for 6 (Loverdi/Sheck)	• Winter Supper for 6 (Rambo/Graves)
• Dinner for 8 Delivered to your Home (Harrington)	• Grand Banks Cocktail Cruise for 6 (Schmitz)
• French Dinner for 8 (Johnson/Bucher)	• Pontoon Cruises (2) for 8 (Beyda/Newton)
• Cocktail Party for 25 at Kinney's	• Cocktail Cruise for 8 – Fischer
• Dinner for 6 (Korab)	• Cocktail Cruise for 8 – Stephens
• Spellbound cruise for 8	• Newseum Tour for 4 (Goldman)
• Dinner for 6 at the Robert Morris Inn	• Lunch (2); Dinner (2) Inn at Perry Cabin

Museum Garden in Full Bloom

Here we are in the dog days of summer and while most of us are wilting and staying indoors, the Museum's garden is looking colorful and inviting as seen in these recent photos. .

Planned and planted a few years ago by the Oxford Garden Club, the garden showcases plants selected to perform well in this climate and with something blooming in all seasons. Currently the Shasta daisies and Rudbeckia are taking center stage. And you can't miss the colorful crape myrtle now in full bloom.

The Garden Club is working on a new design for the garden which could be installed starting this fall and next spring. Current design plans include a new focal point - a dovecote - with an herb garden at the base and native "cottage garden" perennials throughout. Existing plants will either be replanted in the new design or placed elsewhere on the grounds.

In the meantime, please stop by and thank the OGC volunteers when you see them out in the early morning deadheading plants, watering and weeding. We really appreciate the Club for making it such a lovely spot to sit and enjoy the view of Town Park and the river.



President's Message

More than a decade ago, I had the honor of serving as President of The Oxford Museum. At that time, the Museum moved out of its home in the old Oxford Town Offices, purchased our current building – the former Bringman's Market – and set up shop. That was a time of great transition for the Museum, needless to say.

Fast forward to today, and I find myself once again serving as President, and marveling at what's been accomplished. And in looking through these accomplishments – which include paying off our mortgage (huge thing!), cataloging and stabilizing our collection, and mounting regular exhibits that showcase the history and people of Oxford – I am struck by the fact that none of these could be accomplished without the support of our Oxford community.

So my first task as incoming president is to thank you for your loyalty and support. And I urge you to continue to support the Museum. We are a great small town with a lot of fascinating history – and the Museum is the steward of that history. My next task is to tell you about what we have planned for the Museum over the coming year. And to invite you to participate in what we are doing.

First – please renew your membership. The Museum depends on membership revenues, so please take a moment and send in your renewal.

Second – in your membership renewal mailing was a survey. We're asking you to vote on our strategic priorities. This is no small thing! The Museum Board held a series of workshops, facilitated by Stuart Parnes, to brainstorm about what direction we want to take going forward. The questions on the survey are the distillation of the workshop results. The Museum is your museum – so we want to make sure we are serving our community as it would like us to. So bottom line: Your vote counts.

Third – come to Piga-figa-licious and enjoy what has become a Labor Day tradition in Oxford. And don't miss our new exhibit, "Mapping of Oxford," which opens on August 10th.

Finally – if you're not already a docent at the Museum, please consider being one. It's not hard, and you meet interesting people from all over the world actually. Docent duties are only three-hour blocks of time – so it's not a huge commitment. Just contact the Museum to set it up.

Thanks again for your support. See you at Piga-figa-licious!

Lisa Harrington

The Mapping of Oxford Now Open

If you have ever wondered how Oxford developed over the years as one of the most important destinations in early Maryland, the Oxford Museum's current exhibit, **"Mapping Oxford,"** should appeal to you. This exhibit visually traces Oxford as it appeared in rare early maps spanning five centuries (16th to the 20th). They show how Oxford grew from a location unmarked by mapmakers in the late 16th Century to a town with detailed plat maps showing the location of specific homes and businesses in the early 20th Century.

Oxford began its existence as a town in the late 17th Century and was first depicted in 1671 as just a dot on the map. The Oxford Museum exhibit will display the only known original map existent showing early Oxford in detail, the 1707 parchment map which is part of the Museum's permanent collection. Maps showing Oxford from 1729 through the American Revolutionary War (1781) and on past the Civil War will also be featured in the exhibit. Current residents and others interested in Oxford will find the late 19th Century and early 20th Century detailed plat maps to be a source of the history of the town featuring the depiction of specific homes and businesses during that time frame.

The exhibit will continue until mid-November. Call (410) 226-0191 for hours and more information. Closed on Thursdays. Admission is free; donations are appreciated.



1780 Map of the Chesapeake Bay Area

Artifacts with Stories to Tell: Leo Nollmeyer's Town Talk

The Oxford Museum is full of artifacts from Oxford's history. But it takes a storyteller like Leo Nollmeyer to bring them to life. That's exactly what Leo did on August 9 in his Town Talk at the Oxford Community Center.



"I went through our collection and picked out 42 items, all of which had a story I could tell," Nollmeyer said. "The stories were either about the item or its involvement with people or events in Oxford's past."

The images ranged from photographs of the shards that started the Museum, to an arrowhead collection, the Town of Oxford seal, some portraits, carvings, packing house equipment, household items, military academy images, an oyster shell clock and more. The photos even included a price list for the Robert Morris Inn from the late 1960s, showing just how much inflation has affected the price of a dinner out.

"My goal with the talk was to showcase the Oxford Museum and give people a glimpse into the depth of our collection and the stories it represents," Nollmeyer concluded.



The Museum's Oyster Clock