



Gala Held at Century-Old Home on Cummings Lane In the Village of Martin's Additions

On Sunday May 17 the Chevy Chase Historical Society held its annual Spring Gala at the home of Spence and Renata Patterson at 3502 Cummings Lane. The century-old old home was one of the first eight houses built along Cedar Lane in "Martin's Additions at Chevy Chase."

In 1896, Harry S. Martin, a prosperous District of Columbia realtor, began purchasing land along the lane from the Chevy Chase Land Company of Senator Francis G. Newlands. "Cedar Lane" was the name that Martin and local farmers gave the lane, on account of the venerable cedar trees that bordered it. For many years, Cedar Lane was the roadway to the Cummings farm, the last working farm in Chevy Chase. The residents of the lane never cared for the name, though, and their preference eventually resulted in the change to "Cummings Lane."

Both the previous and current owners have renovated 3502 Cummings Lane. The original "farmhouse" had just two dormer windows, and the porch extended from the west just past the front door. A spacious wing has been added on the west side with a bay window in the second story. A third dormer perfectly duplicates the early architecture. The renovations have updated the home, while retaining its architectural flavor.

The society very much appreciates the Pattersons' making their lovely home available to its members and guests for the Gala. We also sincerely thank our Gala Chairs Susan Bollendorf and Natasha Saifee and their committee, who creatively and tirelessly worked to produce an elegant and memorable spring evening soiree.

(Additional Gala coverage on pages 4 through 6.)

Celebrating One of America's First Streetcar Suburbs



CHEVY CHASE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday
and by appointment

The Chevy Chase Historical Society collects, records, interprets and shares materials relating to the history of Chevy Chase, Maryland, one of America's first streetcar suburbs. The organization provides resources for historical research and sponsors a variety of programs and activities to foster knowledge and appreciation of the community's history.

Recent Acquisitions

"Recent Acquisitions" is a regular feature in the Newsletter, describing documents and other items acquired for the society's Archive and Research Center

CCHS has acquired many items of interest in the past six months, including:

1. Descendants of Clift Rodgers Richards and Fanny Otis Richards donated digital scans of family images. Grandson Jonathan Richards donated four scans, including a photo on which he based a 1994 painting shown below. The photo was taken by Karl Hoffman and both images include, from left to right, Jonathan's great aunt Eleanor Richards, grandmother Fanny, great aunt Miriam Bartlett, grandfather Clift, and aunt Miriam Richards Hoffman. Of the painting Jonathan notes, "I've rendered [the photo] pretty faithfully except for having changed the subjects of the portraits on the wall. I have put my father (James Bartlett Richards) as a young man on the left, my grandfather (Lysander S. Richards) in the center, and myself on the right."



Clift and Fanny lived at 9 West Irving Street for 50-plus years, and were among the early residents of Chevy Chase Village. Fanny was a founding member of the Chevy Chase Reading Class, and both participated in the Chevy Chase Association's Literary Club. Clift's sister Eleanor Richards was a noted painter. Clift and Fanny's daughter, Miriam Richards Hoffman, who lived at 24 Hesketh Street for many years, is the subject of a CCHS Oral History. She donated several family photos, including a 1905 picture of the members of the Chevy Chase Reading Class.

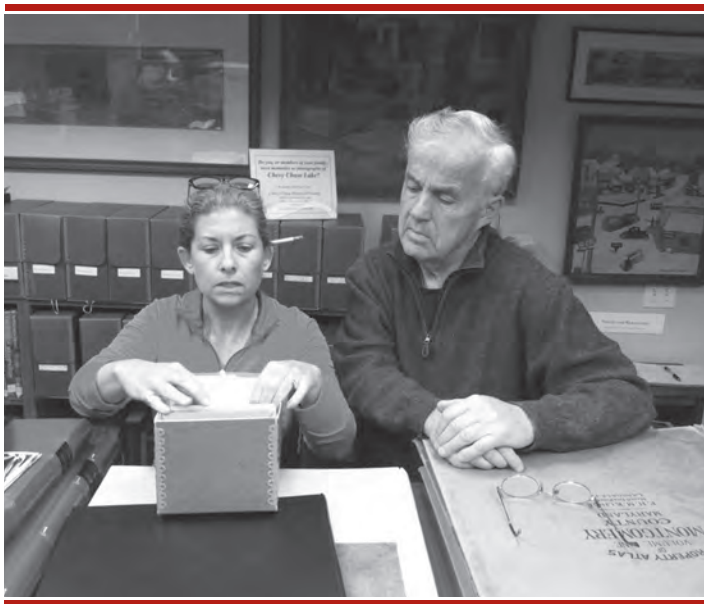
Jonathan's daughter India Richards has scanned additional family photos that we are in the process of adding to the CCHS photography collection. Together, these wonderful images will tell the story of an early Chevy Chase family. Learn more about them in our forthcoming CCHS "Chevy Chase Reads" Online Exhibit!

2. Thomas and Brenda Corbin donated a planning document binder originally prepared for the Special Exception Application, Campus of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Chevy Chase, Maryland, in May 1988. It includes various plans, maps, and studies prepared for the Montgomery County Board of Appeals, as well as a letter addressed to Dr. and Mrs. Corbin, thanking them for their support of the project. Planning documents such as these provide important documentation about local land use and we are very pleased to have this folder in our collection.

CCHS Chosen to Participate in National Museum Assessment Program

This spring CCHS is honored to be participating in the Museum Assessment Program (MAP). Through guided self study and on-site consultation with a museum and archive professional, participation will empower the society to better serve members and the broader community by helping us to meet and exceed the highest professional standards of the museum and local historical society archive field.

The MAP is funded by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and administered by the American Alliance of Museums. As part of the IMLS National Leadership program, the MAP advances best practices and fosters improvement in museums and other cultural institutions such as local historical societies. The MAP is a self motivated program -- application and participation is initiated by each local institution. Those accepted, like CCHS, invest considerable human and institutional resources in the assessment.



CCHS Vice President Susan Bollendorf and board member John Higgins team up at "MAP Self-Study Activity on Documentation"

The MAP is a confidential process of self study, peer review, and implementation. Museums and local historical societies like CCHS use the assessment process to strengthen operations, build capacity, and enhance communication throughout the organization and in response to community needs. MAP participants choose one of three categories for assessment: Collections Stewardship, Organizational, or Community Engagement. CCHS is taking part in the Collections Stewardship assessment process. The society will use the recommendations from our peer reviewer to help us update our Collections Management Policy.

Society Bids Farewell to Founder And Leader Mary Anne Tuohey



Photo by Bill Mills

In April, CCHS bid a bittersweet farewell to Mary Anne Tuohey as she moved to Boston to be near her daughter and grandchildren. Mary Anne provided the inspiration and leadership for the society's formation in 1980. When the boarded-up former trolley station next to Parkway Cleaners on Connecticut Avenue was to be demolished or sold, Mary Anne led a group of residents in an effort to buy the building and move it to a site on Brookville Road. Time proved too limited to raise the funds to acquire the building, but the seeds of an historical society had been sown and CCHS soon was formed.

Mary Anne was the first president, and in the 33 years since has continued to serve tirelessly in multiple capacities. She has been a member of the Board of Directors since its inception, chaired numerous committees, organized a wide variety of programs and activities, and hosted many events herself.

More importantly, Mary Anne's dedication to preserving and sharing the history of Chevy Chase has fueled CCHS' efforts for more than three decades. Her leadership, creativity, enthusiasm, and hard work have inspired us to continue to meet her high standards. Her gracious manner, quick wit, and big heart will be sorely missed by CCHS and the entire community.

To honor her many extraordinary contributions, the board named her a Director Emeritus, and planted a grove of dogwood trees in her honor at the north end of the Chevy Chase Village Hall – an appropriate location inasmuch as Mary Anne chaired the village committee that managed two renovations of that building. We wish Mary Anne all the best in her new home, and hope she will return to visit frequently!



Hostess Renata Patterson, Gala Co-Chairs Natasha Saifee and Susan Bollendorf, with Alex Triantiss



Step right up! Mary Anne Hoffman and Catherine Cecere sell raffle tickets



B-CC High School musicians jazz things up



Paul Foster and the wine cellar are party-ready



Champagne is served and hobnobbing begins



Oh, look – Jim and Beth Durham

Spring Showers Spare Society's Successful Spring Gala

Although dark clouds threatened rain on May 19, the weather "held" for CCHS' 2013 spring champagne supper at 3502 Cummings Lane. Hosts Renata and Spence Patterson have transformed their 100 year old home, originally a house on Chevy Chase's last working farm, into an elegant, modern family residence. Guests mingled and enjoyed drinks and dinner inside, outdoors beside the pool, inside the luxurious pool house, or on the spacious lawn. Alain Roussel and his staff from La Ferme Restaurant served ample champagne and a sumptuous buffet. Helene Sacks' striking centerpieces adorned the buffet and dinner tables. B-CC High School jazz ensemble members Bryan Dubrow, Chris Cook, and Sudin Amaty provided musical entertainment. The rich history of Cummings Lane and Martin's Additions was displayed in an artful exhibit by CCHS Archive and Research Center Director Gail Sansbury and Treasurer Carolyn Greis; CCHS volunteer Diane Riker wrote a captivating house history of No. 3502 that CCHS President Angela Lancaster presented to the hosts. In addition to the Pattersons and our Gala Co-Chairs the society is grateful to our "Sponsors and Friends" (see *acknowledgement on page 6*) and to all who attended this annual celebration of our historic community and successful fundraiser.

Photos by Bill Mills



A swell party in full swing



**Ellen and Stephen Conley,
former owners of No. 3502**



**President Angela Lancaster presents a plaque
and a house history for No. 3502 to the Pattersons**



The assembled throng applauds



**Greg Scott and Leon Nassar enjoy libations
and conversation**



A dapper Henry Gwiazda, with Helen Secret



The scrumptious buffet supper



Springtime dining *al fresco*



Ceci Cummings, Mary Miles Patton, Barbara Miles, and Margaret Ayers



Deanne and Mark Giaraputto en banquette



John and Frances Higgins find a bucolic spot to dine



Tony Marra, Burt Schorr, and Mary Sheehan had fun!

We are Deeply Grateful to the Sponsors and Friends Of the Chevy Chase Historical Society Gala on May 19, 2013

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An Open Letter from the Friends of Chevy Chase Circle

May 2013

Dear Citizens of Chevy Chase,

As the original organizers of the Friends of Chevy Chase Circle responsible for renovating and beautifying the circle beginning in 1991, we now are looking for an energetic and enthusiastic team to take the reins and begin the next stage of the circle's future. As one of the "gateways" to Washington, DC, we feel the circle needs attention and should be a source of pride for all of us who live here.

It was civic pride, a love of gardens, and a respect for historical provenance that inspired us and we hope there are others among us in our beautiful neighborhood who feel the same and would like to lead us going forward.

After the Chevy Chase Land Company repaired and rededicated the water basin of the Chevy Chase Circle fountain in 1990, our group formed in 1991 to continue the beautification process. We entered into an agreement with the National Park Service, that is responsible for planting and maintaining the circle. With subsequent fund raising, the group purchased new landscape materials -- pink carpet roses, white azaleas, and white sugar thyme crab apple trees, all planted by the Park Service -- a new fountain head, and an irrigation system. In addition, the Friends began the annual tradition of purchasing 2000 red tulips to be planted each fall by the Park Service in the garden beds around the circle.

In 2003 a set of Garden Club of America's entrance markers, celebrating the 200th Anniversary of George Washington's birth, were restored and placed inside the circle for safekeeping. These markers were an "integral part of the gateway development" of Washington, DC, according to an October 13, 1933 article in *The Evening Star* that described the original dedication of the Newlands Memorial Fountain in the circle.

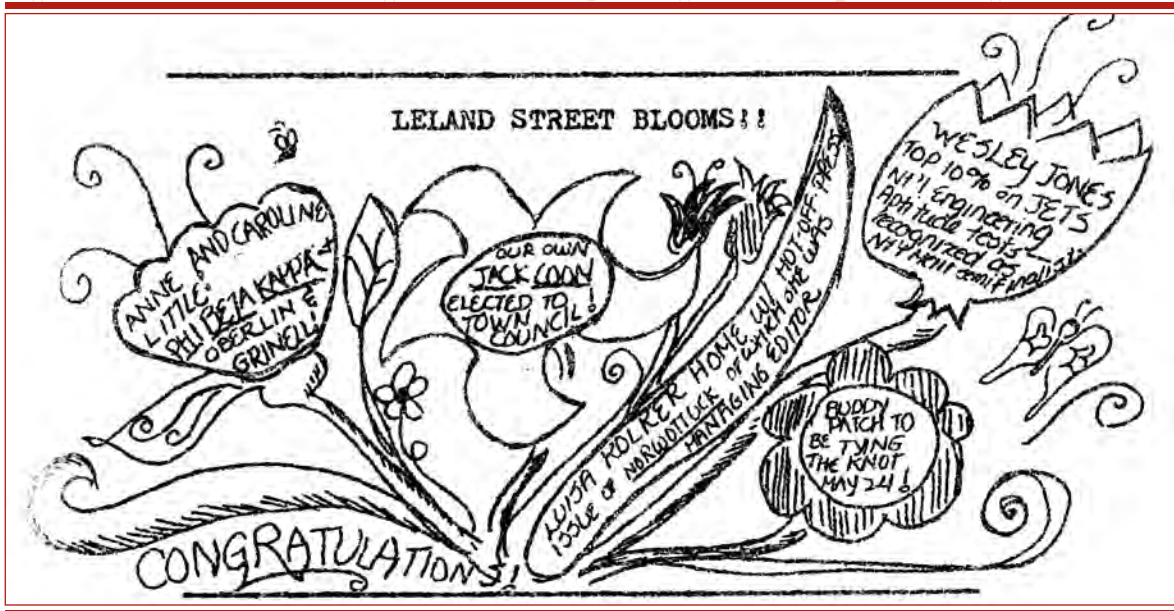
As we move on with our lives after 20 years of dedication, **we hope to find a few individuals who are interested in taking charge of the project.** If no one steps forward, we will of necessity dissolve our group and the maintenance of the circle will revert entirely to the Park Service. The annual planting will lapse and we fear that the circle will suffer.

If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please do not hesitate to call me at (301) 704-8693, Alicia Ravenel at (301) 657-8961 or Carol Coffin at (301) (656-6874). We hope to hear from you!

Sincerely yours,
Barbara Price, President
Friends of Chevy Chase Circle

MYSTERY!

Mystery is a regular feature in the Newsletter. We invite all sleuths to help CCHS solve "mysteries" contained in the society's archive.



Do you know any of the people named in this *Leland Street Sunday News* illustration from May 1980? We'd like more information about them and any of the other families that were loyal *Leland News* readers and reporters, for our new CCHS Online Exhibit called "Young Reporters," coming to the CCHS website this fall! Post on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/chevyCHASEhistory, send us an email at chevyCHASEhistory@msn.com, or call us at (301) 656-6141.



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