

2007 Annual Report



THE HERITAGE AREA OF
ANNAPOLIS,
LONDON TOWN,
AND SOUTH COUNTY

Arundel Center
P.O. Box 2700
44 Calvert Street, MS 1106
Annapolis, MD 21401-1930
Ph/Fax: 410-222-1805
Heritage_Area@aacounty.org ♦ www.fourriversheritage.org



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia A. Barland, Chair
Matthew Grubbs, Vice-Chair
Timothy Connolly, Treasurer
Alexis Henderson
Donna C. Hole

COORDINATING COUNCIL

Linnell Bowen
Maryland Hall for Creative Arts
Judith Cabral
Kunta Kinte-Alex Haley Foundation
Glenn Campbell
Historic Annapolis Foundation
Connie Del Signore
*Annapolis & Anne Arundel County
Conference & Visitors Bureau*
Richard Franyo
Eastport
Hilary Gonzales
Watermark
June Hall
Shady Side Rural Heritage Society
Anston Hines, Ph.D.
Smithsonian Env. Research Center
Jefferson Holland
Annapolis Maritime Museum
Ann Jensen
Sands House Foundation
Stewart Knowler
West Street/Murray Hill
Gertrude Makell
*Galesville Heritage & Community
Organization*
Michael Miron
City of Annapolis
Honorable Ellen Moyer
Mayor, City of Annapolis
Wendi Perry
Banneker-Douglass Museum
Jean Russo, Ph.D.
Annapolis History Consortium
Honorable William H. Sanders III
Mayor, Highland Beach
Melanie Teems
Chesapeake Bay Trust
Donna M. Ware
Historic London Town & Gardens
Arthur S. Drea, Jr.
Counsel

STAFF

Donna Tully Dudley
Executive Director
Carol Benson, Ph.D.
Heritage Programs Coordinator

FOUR RIVERS CELEBRATES A LASTING IMPACT ON OUR COMMUNITY

As Four Rivers enters its seventh year since certification, we celebrate the lasting impact our organization has had on the community. Since 2002, Four Rivers has directed \$1.7 million in Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) funding to regional projects totaling more than \$6 million. "Four Rivers is an outstanding economic development partner. We are delighted to bring funding into this area to help preserve and interpret our wonderful regional heritage," said Four Rivers Executive Director Donna Dudley. "We appreciate the generous support of MHAA, as well as that of Anne Arundel County and the City of Annapolis."

FOUR RIVERS AND PARTNERS RECEIVE \$252,500 IN MHAA GRANT FUNDING

Four Rivers was pleased to bring \$252,500 in MHAA grant funding into the community to support preservation and heritage tourism-related projects in the heritage area.

The Annapolis Maritime Museum received \$100,000 in capital grant funding to support the reconstruction of the McNasby Oyster Company building in Eastport. Damaged by Hurricane Isabel in 2003, the reconstructed McNasby's will be a 7,000 square foot museum with exhibits, classroom, meeting room, and public amenities, showcasing the area's rich maritime heritage.

The City of Annapolis was awarded \$42,500 to support the development of an interpretive plan and outdoor exhibits for the Maynard-Burgess House on Duke of Gloucester Street. Dating from the late 18th century, the Maynard-Burgess House is the only known surviving home of a pre-Civil War free black family in the Historic District.

Annapolis received an additional \$10,000 for the restoration of the historic Southgate Memorial Fountain on Church Circle in the heart of the Historic District. Inoperable for many years, the Fountain will be cleaned, repaired, repointed, painted, and retrofitted with a recirculating water pump in time for the 300th anniversary of Annapolis' charter in 2008.

In addition to grants to its partners, the Four Rivers Heritage Area received \$100,000 in MHAA operating and program assistance.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS TAPS TIM CONNOLLY AS TREASURER; SIX JOIN COORDINATING COUNCIL

In 2007, Four Rivers was pleased to welcome Tim Connolly, Executive Vice President of the Historic Annapolis Foundation, as Treasurer of its Board of Directors, and also welcomed Glenn Campbell, Anston Hines, Jeff Holland, Hilary Gonzales, Wendi Perry, and Melanie Teems as new members of our advisory Coordinating Council. We look forward to further growth in 2008!

2007 COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS

- ❖ Four Rivers, the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society, and Preservation Maryland sponsored a day-long Disaster Preparedness Workshop on February 1, 2007, at Historic London Town and Gardens. The workshop drew more than 45 attendees from small museums and historic sites across Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania to learn the basics of disaster planning and recovery.
- ❖ Four Rivers hosted the second Heritage Area Interpreters Seminar, “Making Heritage Connections,” on March 3, 2007, in the CALT Center at Anne Arundel Community College. The program was attended by more than 50 heritage professionals, docents, and guides from heritage sites and heritage-related organizations, and interested members of the general public. The seminar is designed to raise awareness of regional history and heritage-related activities among our guides and interpreters, to share information and to enhance their historical knowledge and interpretive skills.
- ❖ This summer, Four Rivers was pleased to join more than 18 local historical, cultural, and environmental organizations in planning and participating in the Captain John Smith 400 Festival on July 14-15 at City Dock, celebrating the reenactment of the voyage made by Captain John Smith in 1608 to explore the Chesapeake Bay. Eighteen crew members spent a total of 121 days on the 28-foot reproduction of Smith’s shallop, in an educational initiative developed by Sultana Projects, Inc., and funded in part by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.
- ❖ The Four Rivers summit meeting for site directors and managers was held Thursday, December 6, at the Captain Salem Avery House Museum in Shady Side. Twenty-one individuals representing 20 different organizations attended this fourth annual heritage networking meeting. Executive Director Donna Dudley reviewed criteria for grant applications to potential funding sources, including the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority and Four Rivers’ own Mini-Grant program. Plans for an expanded “Maryland Day” collaborative outreach program to be held on March 30, 2008, were outlined. Participants shared news, plans for upcoming programs and events, and potential partnership opportunities in an informative round-table discussion.

2007 MINI-GRANT AWARDS

Made possible for the fourth year through funding from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, Anne Arundel County and the City of Annapolis, Four Rivers continued its successful mini-grants program in 2007. These small grants assist heritage-related organizations within the heritage area to develop new projects, programs, exhibits and activities that incorporate regional interpretive themes, foster collaborative partnerships and encourage heritage tourism. After a competitive process, nine mini-grants of up to \$2,500 were awarded for projects totaling more than \$65,814, bringing the total number of mini-grants awarded by Four Rivers to 33.

- Annapolis Maritime Museum, for an oral history project involving workers at McNasby’s Oyster House, a component of a large, interactive exhibit under development
- Charles Carroll House of Annapolis, for development and printing of a new self-guided tour brochure
- City of Annapolis, for (1) a walking tour brochure on five archaeological exhibits in preparation for Annapolis Alive (Annapolis Charter 300), and (2) archaeological monitoring of excavation work related to the restoration of the Southgate Memorial Fountain
- Deale Area Historical Society, for exhibit preparation
- Highland Beach Historical Commission, for development of a photo exhibit at the Frederick Douglass Museum & Cultural Center, in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution, on life in Highland Beach
- Shady Side Rural Heritage Society, for a new brochure on the Captain Salem Avery House
- St. John’s College, for preservation of the Last Will and Testament of Francis Scott Key
- West/Rhode Riverkeeper, for development of a professional outreach brochure

FOURTH ANNUAL HERITAGE AWARDS

Four Rivers hosted its fourth annual heritage awards ceremony at Historic London Town & Gardens on November 7. The annual awards program recognizes exemplary individuals, organizations, exhibits, programs, and products that contribute significantly to the community by interpreting, promoting, preserving, researching and/or supporting our historical legacy.

Heritage Product Award: Capital City Colonials for their Annapolis Food & History Tour, which combines costumed guides, historical venues, and culinary delights; and **Highland Beach Historical Commission** for a new photo exhibit, Scurlock-Beach Connections, developed in conjunction with the Smithsonian's Museum of American History, in the Frederick Douglass Museum and Cultural Center in Highland Beach.

Heritage Initiative Award: Annapolis Maritime Museum and **Chesapeake Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse Society** for their innovative public tours of Thomas Point Shoal Light. Lighthouse Tour Manager **Tom Stalder** was also acknowledged with an award for his dedication to the development of the public lighthouse tours.

Heritage Partnership Award: Shady Side Rural Heritage Society and **Shady Side Elementary School** for "Shady Side's Got History?" a year-long collaborative program and exhibit on community history at the Captain Salem Avery House; and **Annapolis Maritime Museum** for their leadership in coordinating the broadly collaborative Captain John Smith 400 Festival in Annapolis last July. **Sultana Projects, Inc.**, was acknowledged for vision and leadership in the development and implementation of last summer's bay-wide Captain John Smith 400 shallop voyage.

Heritage Professional Award: Donna Hole for her years of service to Annapolis as the first Chief of Historic Preservation, and **Carol Treiber** for her dedication to our cultural heritage as the Executive Director of the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County.

Legacy Award for preserving a traditional craft or livelihood: **Chesapeake 20 Association** for preserving and educating the public about the historic Chesapeake 20 sailboat, originally designed in the 1930's by Galesville's Captain Dick Hartge.

Four Rivers' most prestigious honor, the **Heritage Award**, for significant and long-lasting contributions to local history and heritage was presented to two dedicated individuals who have devoted years of time and effort to their community's heritage—Galesville's **Jack Smith** and **Roberta Cassard**.



Above left: From left, Dr. Theodore Hudson, Geneva Hudson, Jean Langston, and Ray Langston of the Highland Beach Historical Commission. **Above right:** From left, Gertrude Makell and Roberta Cassard of the Galesville Heritage Society; June Hall of the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society; and Sarah Sheckels of the Shady Side Elementary School.