



Spring 2007 Newsletter

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WWW.OHMAR.ORG

**"VOICES OF THE CHESAPEAKE," OHMAR'S 2007
SPRING CONFERENCE, SET FOR CHESTERTOWN, MD,
ON MARCH 2 AND MARCH 3**

"Voices of the Chesapeake," OHMAR's Spring 2007 conference, will convene on Friday, March 2 and Saturday, March 3 in Chestertown, MD, and will focus on this unique and culturally rich area of the Mid-Atlantic region. The settlement of Jamestown in 1607 marked the beginning of a steady stream of willing and not-so-willing immigrants to the land that would eventually become the United States of America, reshaping forever the demographics of the continent. These immigrants, together with the original inhabitants of the region, left an indelible and historically significant imprint on the region around the Chesapeake Bay. Many oral history programs have studied the dynamic life of the region, and "Voices of the Chesapeake," tied to the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown, will highlight these fascinating and instructive efforts.

Rich in history, Chestertown's attractions
include a blend of past and present.

There could hardly be a more appropriate locale for the conference than Chestertown, the seat of Maryland's oldest county, Kent. Chestertown was founded in 1706 as a port of entry during colonial times. Rich in history, Chestertown's attractions include a blend of past and present. Its brick sidewalks and attractive antiques stores, restaurants and old inns invite visitors to wander the historic district and enjoy its interesting mix of architecture, ranging from Georgian mansions to Victorian-era homes. Chestertown is also home to Washington College, site of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

NEWS FROM THE REGION

NEW YORK

Columbia University recently launched a new Master of Science in Information and Archive Management degree program. It is a part-time program for working professionals currently employed in information environments who want to systemize and enhance their knowledge and skills. Included is a course on Oral Archives Program Management, available as an elective within the curriculum or as an individual course for non-matriculated students. For more information, go to: www.ce.columbia.edu/infoarchive or contact Sonja K. Semion at Columbia at 212-854-9780.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

ELAINE EFF TO RECEIVE 2007 POGUE AWARD

Dr. Elaine Eff, of the Maryland Historical Trust, will receive the 2007 Forrest C. Pogue award for her outstanding and continuing contributions to oral history on Saturday, March 3, at OHMAR's spring conference at Washington College in Chestertown, MD. The award committee cited Eff's substantial contributions as a folklorist and oral historian, her service to OHMAR as a board member and former president, and her mentoring of many substantial oral history projects.

Elaine Eff earned a doctorate in Folklore and Folklife from the University of Pennsylvania, after graduate work in museum studies at Cooperstown and exhibition coordination at the Winterthur Museum and the Smithsonian Institution. Her graduate work focused on the painted screens of Baltimore and resulted in a documentary film that she produced and directed, as well as numerous exhibitions and the creation of an organization devoted to preservation of this unique urban folk art.

Eff will reflect on her work in a speech to OHMAR's membership at the spring conference, "Voices of the Chesapeake," on Saturday, March 3.

At the Maryland Historical Trust, Eff authored a book, *You Should Have Been Here Yesterday: A Guide to Cultural Documentation in Maryland*, that has served as a handbook for those who want to learn how to use oral history and other methods to record the history of their communities. She contributed oral histories of a now-vanished generation of lighthouse keepers to Ross Holland's *Maryland Lighthouses of the Chesapeake Bay*. As the contact person for Marylanders seeking grants to support oral history and community history, Eff has mentored dozens of projects around the state. She also serves as co-director of Maryland Traditions, a partnership of the Maryland Historical Trust and the Maryland State Arts Council that seeks to discover and sustain traditional arts and culture.



Elaine Eff, 2007 Forrest C. Pogue award recipient.

Eff's selection fits especially well with the theme of OHMAR's spring conference, "Voices of the Chesapeake." She has advised, funded or directed many projects documenting the living culture and history of that region. Among her contributions was the development and crafting of the Delmarva Folklife Project, a multi-year initiative to preserve the history and folkways of this region. When it came time to create a public product that could incorporate the project's results, a steering committee on which Eff served developed the innovative publication, "From Bridge to Boardwalk: An Audio Journey Along Maryland's Eastern Shore." The packet includes CDs with interviews, historical recordings and music, along with a 76-page book containing a pull-out map, essays, photographs, and tips to finding local arts and cultural treasures. The recordings are keyed to the map so that tourists interested in hearing the authentic voices of the region can listen and learn as they drive the shore's by-ways.

Eff will reflect on her work in a speech to OHMAR's membership at the spring conference, "Voices of the Chesapeake," on Saturday, March 3. An interview with her, conducted by OHMAR's outgoing president David Winkler, will appear in the fall issue of the OHMAR newsletter. ■

The **Forrest C. Pogue Award** is named for the military historian Dr. Forrest C. Pogue (1912-1996) who pioneered the use of oral history interviews to compile battlefield histories. Pogue taught for several years before joining the historical section of the United States Army during World War II. He later was appointed director of the George C. Marshall Research Center and then directed the Marshall Library and Marshall Research Foundation. In 1974, he was named director of the newly established Eisenhower Institute for Military Research at the Smithsonian and continued in that position until his retirement in 1986.

sociation (1986-87) and on the council of the International Oral History Association since 2004. In 2009, he will serve as program chair for the Organization of American Historians meeting, and will work to integrate oral history throughout the program.

MARYLAND

Mame Warren, director of Hopkins History Enterprises at the Sheridan Libraries of the Johns Hopkins University and editor or author of several previous books, has edited a new book, *Our Shared Legacy: Nursing Education at Johns Hopkins, 1889-2006*, in association with the Johns Hopkins Nurses' Alumni Association. In this beautifully illustrated volume, Mame Warren, Linda Sabin and Mary Frances Keen weave a rich tapestry of the Nursing School's deep and fascinating tradition. The voices of generations of Hopkins nurses combine with a well-researched historical narrative to offer a stirring tribute to Hopkins nursing students and alumni along with unique insight into the history of an admirable and challenging profession. \$50 hardcover; can be ordered from Johns Hopkins: www.press.jhu.edu/books.

* * *

"The Student Oral Historian: Preserving the voices of the American Century," the 10th annual Oral History Coffee House, sponsored by the Advanced Placement United States History & America in the Twentieth Century World classes, will convene on Tuesday, February 27, 2007, at 7 p.m. at Saint Andrew's Episcopal School in Potomac. Since November 2006, students have been conducting oral history projects as a way of breaking "the mold of textbook-centered learning." Student participants will read excerpted portions of their projects, and student work will be displayed including power point and website presentations. Insights into World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam and Cold Wars will be offered, as well as information uncovered about civil rights

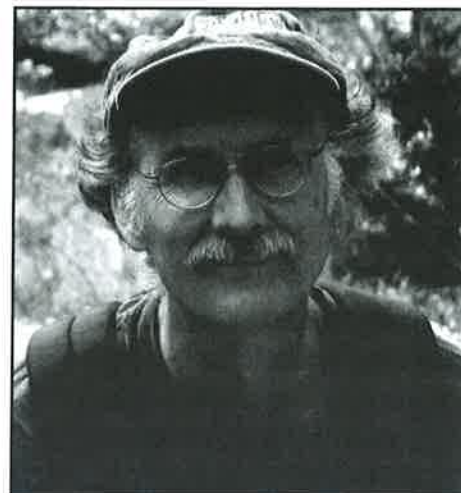
leaders, student protestors, survivors of the Great Depression and the Holocaust, and other important historical events of the last century. For further information consult www.americancenturyproject.org, or contact Glenn Whitman at gwhitman@saes.org.

* * *

"Life Stories: The Playshop!," a workshop designed by OHMAR board member Harriet Lynn of Heritage Theater Artists' Consortium in Baltimore, was presented in October 2006 in St. Louis, Missouri, as part of the Senior Theatre League of America's annual conference there. This interactive oral history workshop resulted in a performance piece based on the life stories of the participants who were led through a series of imagery, oral, written the theatre exercises. The penetrating vignettes were staged and placed into a performance piece, and resulted in a meaningful program for both participants and audience members. Ms. Lynn's Heritage Theatre Artists' Consortium, in partnership with the Friends of the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion, recently initiated a Baltimore Living History Theatre Series, which will evoke memories of Baltimore's rich and diverse heritage and culture during the time the Mansion was a center of Baltimore society. All programs are on Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. Performances are scheduled for March 25 and April 15. For information, contact Harriet Lynn at hlynn@umbc.edu.

PENNSYLVANIA

Charles Hardy III, known to many as Charlie, will assume the presidency of the Oral History Association in 2008. A member of the West Chester University Department of History since 1990, Hardy is an award-winning producer of radio, video, and web-based documentaries, including *I Can Almost See the Lights of Home: A Field Trip to Harlan County, Kentucky*, a 2.5 hr. essay-in-sound (*Journal of Multimedia History*, vol. 2, 1999), co-authored with Alessandro Portelli, which won the 1999 Oral History



Charles Hardy III assumes the presidency of the Oral History Association in 2008.

Association Biennial Nonprint Media award. Currently, he is supervising historian for www.explorePAhistory.com, a collaborative state history website that builds historical content and lesson plans around Pennsylvania's historical markers. Hardy, who served on the OHMAR board from 1991 to 2001, was The Forrest C. Pogue Award winner in 2001.

VIRGINIA

Braddock's True Gold, a history of 20th century life in the heart of Fairfax County as told through the words and memories of some 60 local residents, was published in June 2006. Written by Marion Meany and Mary Lipsey, the 168-page text, accompanied by a double-faced insert map created by John Browne of George Mason University and lovely photographs by Gilbert Donahue, offers a rich and rounded insight into almost every corner of the region's 20th century life. "This is community history as it should be written," Ross Netherton commented in his review of the book that appeared in the July-September issue of *The Courier*, the newsletter of the Northern Virginia Association for History, Inc. The book can be purchased at the Fairfax County Government Center's Publications Office, at the Museum Shops at the Fairfax Museum, the Manassas Museum, or the Fairfax Station Museum. ■

"VOICES OF THE CHESAPEAKE" REGISTRATION FORM

WASHINGTON COLLEGE
CHESTERTOWN, MD

FRIDAY MARCH 2-3, 2007

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

BEGINNERS ORAL HISTORY WORKSHOP

(CASEY ACADEMIC CENTER, WASHINGTON COLLEGE)

___ \$35 members/students; \$45 non-members
(separate from conference registration)

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

FREE WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC CHESTERTOWN

(CUSTOMS HOUSE ON CHESTERTOWN RIVERFRONT)

___ Enter number attending, please.

5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

FREE OHMAR RECEPTION

(CUSTOMS HOUSE ON CHESTERTOWN RIVERFRONT)

___ Enter number attending, please. Cash bar.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM

REGISTRATION

(CASEY ACADEMIC CENTER, WASHINGTON COLLEGE)

CHECK ONE:

___ 2007 CONFERENCE "VOICES OF THE CHESAPEAKE"

-OR-

___ ALL-DAY WORKSHOP: TEACHING ORAL HISTORY

\$65 members/students; \$85 non-members
(includes lunch)

2007 Membership:

___ \$25 is added to my registration fee to cover 2007 individual membership

___ \$75 is added to my registration fee for institutional membership

___ I am a Life Member of OHMAR

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Name _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Fax: _____

(N.B. We would like to publish this information in our 2007 Membership Directory to be distributed to members.
If you DO NOT wish this to appear, please check here: _____

Please make checks payable to: **OHMAR**

Mail to:

Constance Strickland, Assistant Treasurer, OHMAR
907 6th Street, SW #206, Washington, DC 20024

Payment must be received by February 27, 2007. Thank you.

REQUEST FOR COPIES OF LEGAL RELEASE AGREEMENTS USED BY PROGRAMS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE UNITED STATES

John Neuenschwander, Professor of History at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and, as the field of oral history's expert guru in its legal aspects, a frequent presenter at OHA meetings, requested that we publish the following request, and we've happily complied:

"As many of you know, I regularly comment and write about legal issues involving oral history. In this capacity I have found it worthwhile to conduct periodic reviews of the legal release agreements that oral historians are using. My purpose in doing so is not to provide a legal assessment for any agreement per se, but to review and comment on the most common types of agreements being utilized as well as any novel approaches or significant omissions/problems.

Before deciding to send me an agreement, either as an attachment or by regular mail, you should know that it will be handled pursuant

to the following conditions of confidentiality and use:

1. All agreements will be utilized in strictest confidence. No identification of an program of individual will be made in any commentary/analysis that is subsequently published.
2. No legal evaluation will be provided to any program or individual regarding the advantages and/or disadvantages of the agreement they provide. One will, however, be able to draw some conclusions in this regard from the overall review that will be published.

Thank you for your consideration."

John Neuenschwander, Professor of History
Carthage College, Kenosha, WI 53140
jneuenschwander@carthage.edu

OHMAR 2007 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership is for one calendar year. Benefits include newsletters, advance notice of OHMAR events, and reduced fees to conferences and workshops. In addition, individual, student and life members may vote, hold office, and serve on committees.

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Institutional Affiliation (if any): _____

_____ **Individual (\$25)**

_____ **Student (\$10)**

_____ **Institutional (\$75)**

_____ **Life (\$1,000)**

Please make check payable to **OHMAR**
Mail to **OHMAR**, c/o Constance Strickland, Assistant Treasurer
907 6th Street, SW #206
Washington, DC 20024.

Questions: cstrickland@navyhistory.org

Membership through December 2007.

OHMAR

Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region

Established in 1976, OHMAR is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and improvement of oral history in the Mid-Atlantic region, and serves both professional and amateur oral historians, librarians, archivists, teachers, folklorists and independent researchers in Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

Each year, OHMAR sponsors two public forums — a fall workshop and spring conference — and produces two newsletters, one in the early fall, the other in the early spring. The deadlines for ads and submissions to its Fall 2007 newsletter is **July 15, 2007**. Send all information to the newsletter editor: sharonzane@earthlink.net

Membership is for the calendar year. Benefits include newsletters, advance notice of, and reduced fees to, OHMAR events. For more information about membership, contact Constance Strickland at cstrickland@navyhistory.org.

OHMAR

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For further information:
www.ohmar.org