



Mission Statement

The Worcester County Historical Society is a 501-C3 non-profit organization dedicated to discovering, preserving and disseminating the rich natural and cultural history of Worcester County and the State of Maryland.

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Please check your mailing label!

Is your address correct?

If you have email please share with us. And let Mabel know at info below. Thank you.

Please send dues to:

**Worcester Co. Historical Society
PO Box 111
Snow Hill, MD 21863**

Submit articles or information to:
Worcester County Historical Society
Mabel Rogers, Editor
11238 Adkins Rd.
Berlin, MD 21811
thimbly@comcast.net

Worcester County Historical Society

Fall Edition 2 October 2024

**Send in your
registration
today!**

Fall General Meeting

Courtyard by Marriott

Captain's Table

Sunday, November 3, 2024

12:30 PM Gathering

1PM Lunch

Choice of:

Grilled Chicken Sandwich

Cheeseburger

Fried Fish Sandwich

All above served with French Fries, Cole Slaw and Pickle

Or can chose Blackened Shrimp Caesar Salad

Dessert

Lemonade, Tea and Coffee

\$40 per person

2PM Program

Speaker Lisa Challenger



The featured speaker at the Fall Luncheon is Lisa Challenger whose topic is "Preserving and Celebrating the Unique History of Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore." Lisa Challenger has worked in the tourism field for 37 years, 31 of which were dedicated to Worcester County Tourism. Upon retirement, she became the Executive Director of the Beach to Bay Heritage Area, one of 13 state-certified heritage areas in the state of Maryland. Beach to Bay is a non-profit serving Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset Counties.

Museums of Worcester County

- **Calvin B. Taylor House Museum**
- **Costen House Museum**
- **Delmarva Discovery Center**
- **Furnace Town Historic Site**
- **Girdletree Barnes Bank**
- **Julia A. Purnell Museum**
- **Ocean City Lifesaving Station Museum**
- **Queponco Railway Station**
- **Rackliffe House**
- **St. Martin's Church Museum**
- **Sturgis One Room Schoolhouse/Heritage House**

Ribbon Cutting Museum of Ocean City

The former Bank of Ocean City Building, located at 217 South Baltimore Ave, has been transformed into the Museum of Ocean City. This 1910 building, with its unique architectural features, has undergone a complete restoration and now features a second-story porch, hardwood floors, original molding, and two historic vaults initially used by the Bank of Ocean City.

Visitors can tour the newly renovated space and learn about the buildings history by visiting the exhibition ;Lot 48: The Story of The McGregor Building; and The Bank of Ocean City; A full exhibit installment is scheduled for January 2025. In addition to the Lot 48 exhibit, the first-floor exhibit hall will house an Indigenous Peoples and Native Wildlife exhibit, a Hotel and Restaurant exhibit, and a Downtown Ocean City historic people and places exhibit.

The Museums second floor serves as a research and artifact storage space. It holds much of the Museum Society's artifact collection and houses office space for museum staff. Starting May 2025, the public can make an appointment to use the research room and have access to our library, historical records, photographs, and postcards.

In the beginning.. In 1910, Charles McGregor laid the foundation for the building. In the summer of 1911, McGregor's store opened for business, offering shoppers a selection of fancy groceries, mens clothing, and accessories. By 1912, several general stores had opened in the area. Ocean City's small population and summertime crowds did not generate enough business to support Charlie's establishment. In the summer of 1913, Charlie was forced to sell McGregor's. In 1914, five local businessmen attempted to open a bank in Ocean City. They applied to the State Bank examiner for permission to open the "State Bank of Ocean City" but this request was denied for unknown reasons. In 1916, another group of businessmen successfully opened the Bank of Ocean City in the former McGregor building. This new group consisted of L.D. Lynch, Thomas W. Taylor, John M. Mumford, William B. Powell, and Charles T. Jackson. It remained the Bank of Ocean City for over 100 years.



Other Historic Sites in Worcester County

Germantown School Community Heritage Center

10223 Trappe Rd
PO Box 24
Berlin, MD 21811
410-641-0638

Marva Theatre Performing Arts Center

103 Market St.
Pocomoke City, MD 21851 410-957-4230

Please visit the museums and historic sites in our county.

Christine Okerblum, Curator Ocean City Museums
Please visit to learn more about the Museum of Ocean City and its history.
<https://www.ocmuseum.org/moc-questions>

Taylor House Museum Berlin, Maryland

The Taylor House Museum continually works to share the stories of Berlin. On December 8th, 2022 I was honored to defend my doctoral dissertation at the museum. The dissertation was titled “Getting Those Stories Told; Utilizing Social, Community, and Artifactual Literacies to Share Local Black Historical Stories”. It told the story of the process of creating our exhibits on Rev. Charles Albert Tindley and Bridgetown in partnership with local community members. Because the community and Berlin itself was



so interconnected with the research, the Salisbury University dissertation committee suggested we hold the dissertation defense at the museum. It was the first time that a dissertation defense was held at an off-campus location.

I am sharing this experience because it is another example of the special nature of Berlin. Our history is an important part of our collective culture, from the buildings on Main Street that are listed on the Maryland Historical Register to the Taylor House and Germantown School Museum, we understand the need to tell our complete and diverse history. We look forward to sharing our stories with you all.

Melissa Reid, Calvin B. Taylor House Museum

Don't forget to :

Set your clock back on November 3, 2024 (Fall back)

Send in your registration for the Fall meeting on November 3, 2024

YOU ARE NEEDED!

The Maryland Women's Heritage Center and the Worcester County Library will be looking for volunteer researchers who will be identifying and researching local women of history. This is an opportunity to do local history research in Worcester County. A monthly “Researchers Meet Up” will begin in November at the Snow Hill Branch. For more information, e-mail history@worcesterlibrary.org.

Fall General Meeting

Worcester County Historical Society

To: Worcester County Historical Society
PO Box 111
Snow Hill, MD 21863

Please find my check for ___ persons x \$40.00 per person for luncheon at the Courtyard by Marriott Captain's Table for the fall meeting of the Worcester County Historical Society . Please make checks to Worcester County Historical Society (WCHS). **Deadline October 20, 2024. Also include your choice for a meal. PLEASE be considerate and send in your reservation early! !**



Name _____ Phone # _____

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you there.

Rest in Peace

Kathy Pierce Fisher



Ellen Katherine Fisher, age 80, passed away peacefully on Friday, September 13, 2024, in Berlin, MD. Born in Ocean City, MD, she was the daughter of the late Thomas Earl Pierce and Imogene Taylor Pierce.

She was a graduate of Stephen Decatur High School in Berlin, MD. She went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Salisbury University and a master's degree from Bowling Green State University in Ohio, both in education. She taught for 2 years at Snow Hill High School. She left teaching to be a full time stay at home mother to her son, Robert. Later in life, she became the Executive Director for Furnace Town in Snow Hill, where she retired after 30 years of service. She is survived by her son, Robert and his girlfriend, Michelle; grandchildren, Cassidy, Ashlea, and Madyson; and sister-in-law, Patricia Parker. She was also survived by her caregiver and friend, Laura.



In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her loving husband, Robert A. Fisher in 2023.

Editor's note: I grew up with Kathy Pierce Fisher in Ocean City. She was always a gentle soul and great friend. She loved Worcester County and it's rich history. She is now with Bob and smiling as we continue their legacy and honor them. Nominations will soon open to honor our next recipient of the Bob and Kathy Fisher Spirit award.. Look for it in our next edition.

From our President: Jefferson Moak

We look forward to seeing you at the Fall luncheon where we will be hearing from Lisa Challenger on historic preservation efforts on the lower Eastern Shore. The Historical Society had a booth at the Blessing of the Combines in August 2024 in Snow Hill where it had a display on aspects of the history of agriculture in Worcester County as recited in the last newsletter. We are planning for a repeat appearance at the 2025 Blessing of the Combines. More details will be made available later. We discovered that the WCHS owns half of one of Mason-Dixon markers located near Selbyville. We are looking for volunteers who might be interested in spearheading and working on cleaning up the site, which has become overgrown.

Worcester County Historical Society

PO Box 111
Snow Hill, Maryland 21863

2025 Membership

(Dues period January 1-December 31, 2025)

Thank you for choosing to be a member of the Worcester County Historical Society.

Your membership will help support our efforts in Worcester County. You might also wish to volunteer at one of our county's 12 museums or WCHS at a time that is suitable for you.

Renewal _____

New Member _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL DUES	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
<i>Individual</i>	\$10.00/year	_____
<i>Family</i>	\$15.00/year	_____
<i>Business/Patron</i>	\$25/year or \$100/5years	_____
LIFETIME	\$150.00 (ONE TIME)	_____
<i>Donation (501C-3 deductible)</i>		_____

NAME _____

Mailing address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Telephone Home _____ Office _____

Email address please _____

Check here if you wish to only receive electronic newsletter (newsletter will not be mailed) _____

Your membership is welcome, Dues period January 1 through December 31, 2025

Please make your check payable to the Worcester County Historical Society (WCHS) and mail to:

Treasurer, WCHS

Worcester County Historical Society

PO Box 111

Snow Hill, MD 21863

Feel free to include any comments or suggestions regarding the WCHS. Thank you.

Join Worcester County Historical Society

Do you love history? Do you have friends who love history? Do you have other family members who love history? Why not invite them to attend a meeting of the Worcester County Historical Society?

Gift membership into the organization would be a great way to introduce a family member or friend to the local history and time shared with other history buffs!

There is a membership application located elsewhere in this publication and we would love to have you **give it to a friend**. Make copies and share. Thank you for helping WCHS grow and continue to work to maintain and preserve local history.



Visit our webpage!

www.historicalworchester.org



Snow Hill, MD 21863

PO Box 111.

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