



The Slate

Spring 2022 Edition

Friends of the One-Room Schoolhouse, Inc.

P. O. Box 431, Port Republic, MD 20676-0431 • www.calvertoneroomschool.org

The One-Room Schoolhouse's Annual Summer Ice Cream Socials Are a Mid-Summer Treat for Kids and Grown-Ups!

"You scream, I scream, we all scream for ice cream!" When it is the delicious homemade ice cream from Mrs. Moo, everyone wants a scoop or two! But it just wasn't the ice cream that drew about 100 people to this annual event!

Yes, the yummy and local farm-fresh ice cream is pretty special, but homemade cookies, the Big Band Music, games for children, and a gathering of friends – old and new – and lovely summer weather made for a memorable way to spend an evening in August.

The Board of Directors and Friends of the One-Room Schoolhouse were very excited to once again host our annual Ice Cream Social last summer, on Wednesday, August 11, in fact, the 19th Annual Ice Cream Social.



MRS. MOO'S ICE CREAM ON A WARM SUMMER EVENING



THE CALVERT DANCE BAND SETS A FESTIVE MOOD

The Calvert Dance Band once again provided the music for the evening last summer. How could one not get up and dance when they played, *In The Mood*? Children of all ages enjoyed the variety of games.

As always, guests had tours of the Schoolhouse where Board Member Peter Cochran explained to visitors the artifacts collected over the years. (See page 6.) Once inside the Schoolhouse, it was amazing how many children wanted to play school!



Kids experimenting with "hula hoops" at recent Ice Cream Social

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2022

August might be a ways off, but mark your calendar for Wednesday, August 10, 2022. We hope to see you for the 20th Annual Ice Cream Social!

ORS Directors Decorated the School for Christmas 2021



After the 2021 Christmas Holiday decorating at the school, the ORS Board of Directors and the Friends enjoyed warm cocoa and cookies. Left to Right: Dave Campbell, John Yoe, Chloe Ewalt, Pam Mackall, Nancy Zinn, Carol Khalili, Peter Cochran, and Beverly Lusby. Missing from this photo is new Board member, Karen Williams, see below.

Meet Karen Williams, New Board Member

The One-Room Schoolhouse Board is excited that Karen Williams accepted our invitation to join the Board of Directors.

Karen's husband, Brian's family, goes back generations in Calvert County. The Williams Family also has a long history with Calvert County, Christ Church, and the Port Republic One-Room Schoolhouse.

Karen brings a wealth of experience as a volunteer in various capacities and spent 21 years teaching here in the United States as well as in Italy and Germany. Karen is very involved at Christ Church as a member of the Altar Guild and Bible Study Group. She accepted with alacrity the position of Chair of the Children's Toy Booth at the Tournament this past year.

Karen started coming to Christ Church when she met Brian and they married. The Williams Family donated the land and the One-Room Schoolhouse to Christ Church as well as some of the land on which the Parish House sits.

Karen shared, "It is an honor for me as an educator to sit on the Board of the One-Room Schoolhouse that has been such a part of the Williams family."



Restoration of a 1930 Teacher's Certificate

The One Room School has been fortunate to have received the original teaching certificate of Beulah Estelle Trott of the Smithville School, signed June 12, 1930, by Virginia Sollers and F.O. Day. Mrs. Sollers was the Principal of this school and Mr. Day was the county Superintendent of Schools.

This valuable, "one-of-a-kind" document reminds us of the strict standards for qualifying teachers of that era. It is old and worn, but has been restored and reframed to minimize future deterioration. It now hangs in the school where it can be seen by all.

New Heat Pump Helps Preserve Our Historic One-Room Schoolhouse

One problem with preserving a historic building like the One-Room Schoolhouse is the effect of temperature and humidity extremes as seasons change. Old buildings like this also tend to have a buildup of fine airborne dust, giving them a stale feel. This year a one-ton portable heat pump was purchased and installed on the back side of the building.

This has provided some relief from the buildup of excessive temperatures during the summer months, as well as the winter cold. It also circulates the air through two filters and dehumidifies during the summer months, giving the building a fresher feel and minimizing the problem of mildew and other forms of mold.

The One-Room Schoolhouse is an uninsulated building subject to direct sunlight all day, making it difficult to achieve temperatures we are accustomed to at home.

The new heat pump helped reduce the unbearable summer temperatures and humidity we experienced in the past. It is also moderating winter temperatures which otherwise could damage fragile heirlooms.

You will find that you will be more comfortable on your next visit to the school!

Security Improvements

The closing of the One Room School to fourth graders during to the Pandemic of the past two years has provided an opportunity to take care of major maintenance items, and make needed improvements.

Due to concerns that the back side of the building could provide a hiding place to facilitate harmful security breaches, the decision has been made to install outdoor security lighting. Two double flood lights have been installed in opposite corners of the building by David Swann of Swann Electrical, to illuminate all four sides when motion is detected.

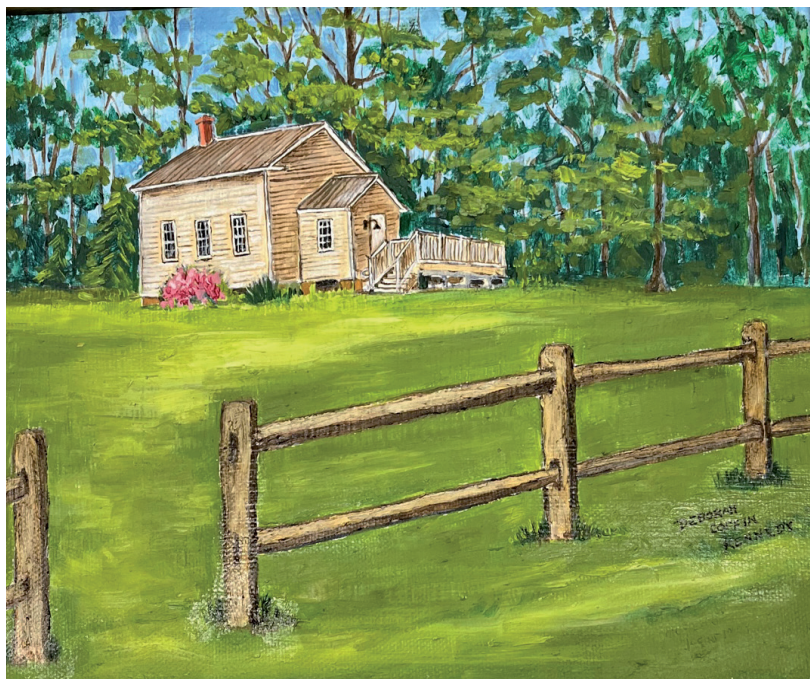
In addition to these, the porch light at the entrance has been modified to be illuminated from dusk to dawn. Although very bright, the lights being used are energy efficient.



Nancy Zinn Honored as Senior Citizen's Hall of Fame in Calvert County

Volunteer extraordinaire, Nancy Zinn, was recently recognized for her selection as Maryland Senior Citizen's Hall of Fame in Calvert County.

To commemorate this honor, Nancy was presented with a framed original painting of the One-Room Schoolhouse by local artist, Deb Kennedy, at right.



John Yoe, at left, recently inspected and repaired the "Seven Bridges Trail"

Repairs to "Seven Bridges Trail"

As a part of the curriculum for the 4th grade visits, students start the day with a walk through the woods as though they were walking to school before there were school buses. Our trail goes up and down hills, and over swamps and creeks. We call this trail the "Seven Bridges Trail" because there are seven bridges which go over these swampy areas, requiring frequent maintenance to ensure their safety.

During a recent Advent trail walk by church parishioners, they discovered that one of the longer elevated walkways was sagging dangerously on one side. It was so precarious that an unsuspecting person could slip and fall.

Within days, John Yoe was able to inspect the degraded condition and devise a permanent repair. The problem was identified on a Wednesday, and John made the repair on the next Sunday afternoon.

Starting at the end of the trail nearest the Parish Hall, it is the first long walkway you come to. Now this walkway, as well as the entire trail, is safe for all to use, and ready for school to reopen when the Covid moratorium is over. Thank you John!

Two “Friends” of the One-Room Schoolhouse Volunteers Recognized for their Service to the Community!

On Saturday, March 12th, the Calvert County Commission for Women (CCCW) and its community partner organizations celebrated ten amazing Calvert County women for their achievements and contributions to our community at the 19th Annual Women of the World Celebration. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the 2021-2022 event was held virtually again this year with the Calvert Library providing technical support.

Each year the Commission for Women awards four Outstanding Achievements Awards in four categories: Advocacy, Business, Service and Woman of Tomorrow. Six community partner organizations helped in the planning of WOW. Each recognized an outstanding volunteer who has provided leadership and many contributions to their organization.



Pamela Mackall

Pamela Mackall, retired educator and native of Calvert County, received the award from Concerned Black Women of Calvert County. Volunteering gives Pamela a sense of purpose. Wherever she volunteers, she is actively involved! She is a charter member of Concerned Black Women. Pamela served as Recording Secretary from 2015-2018. She has represented CBW in numerous capacities including voter registration drives, community day celebrations, Salute to Excellence, Health and Welfare Committee, Calvert Local Scholarship Application Committee, and Women of the World Planning Committee member for more than six years.

Pam enjoys serving in many capacities at her church, Brooks United Methodist. Her additional community service includes volunteering at Project Echo Thrift and Gift Shop, Calvert Education Association, CEA-R, Calvert Retired School Personnel Association, Relay For Life Event, and the Human Rights Committee for ARC of Southern Maryland.



Chloe Ewalt

Chloe Ewalt, retired educator, was the recipient of the award from the Calvert County Historical Society. Chloe was born and raised in Calvert County and her ties to the historical society and the historic “Linden House,” where the CCHS is located, were established even before she was born!

She was elected to the CCHS Board of Directors in 2007, serving on the finance committee. Chloe started two major fundraisers for the CCHS: Welcome Spring Tea (2008) and The CCHS Kids’ History Camp (2015). The Welcome Spring Tea continues to the present time because nobody says no to Chloe! She also served as CCHS president 2014-2015. Enthusiasm, dedication, and attention to detail have characterized every role Chloe has taken on in volunteering for CCHS.

Peter Cochran Found a Treasure Trove of “Historically Useful Items” in the School’s Trunk



- Carry Yoke
- Wash Board
- Long Handled Dust Pan/Tool
- Game of Pick-Up Sticks
- Antique Art Deco Metal Dominion Electric Toaster with Detachable Cord
- Hand-Crank Sifter
- Hand Crank Beater/Mixer
- Two Candle Making Molds:
 - 6-Tube Metal Mold &
 - 1 Wooden Candle Mold
- Two Wooden Duck Calls
- Two Bags of Marbles:
 - One bag of Glass Marbles and One Bag of Wooden Marbles
- Small Amish Doll
(No Face)
- Small Wooden Puzzle
- Piece of an Old Fireplace Andiron
- Wooden Baby Rattle
- Antique Hazleton & Co Bottle containing Pisco’s Cure for Consumption
(note, very valuable)
- Wooden Top
- Collapsible Metal Cup
- 1920’s Fiancé Lipstick Tube-Red
- Two Goose Quill Pens
- Wooden Spatula

See How You Can Become a “Friend” of the One-Room Schoolhouse, page 8

Thank You,
Mary Ellen Romney!
For Your
Longstanding
Support of the
One-Room
Schoolhouse



It takes a special person to shoulder two important jobs at the same time. That is just what Mary Ellen Romney did shortly after accepting a position on the newly created Board of Directors of the One-Room Schoolhouse. Mary Ellen had a double incentive, her grandmother, Marjorie Thomas Ross, was a teacher at Port Republic School #7 for many years, and her uncle, Waters Ross, was already serving as a Board member.

“Friends” of the One-Room Schoolhouse” Was Established in 1999 and Continues to Flourish

June 9, 1999 heralded the formation of the Friends of the One-Room Schoolhouse. This organization was created through the foresight of Elaine Cochran Dunkle. As membership grew there was need for a system of organizing membership, addresses, and donations. Mary Ellen answered Elaine’s call to take on the important position of Membership Chair. Mary Ellen concedes this task was indeed a challenge. In response, she developed a system that required her skills of organization and creativity. It is now a smooth and effective process. Certainly she has been a valuable Friend! Thank you, Mary Ellen!

Dear Friends of the One-Room Schoolhouse

With pleasure and satisfaction, we recognize and greatly appreciate the monetary support we enjoy from you, the “Friends.” You keep us growing! There is no stagnation despite a lack of students! We are actively improving the schoolhouse and are keeping the program alive and well, with teaching aids ready for the day of the students return.

We are assured that the Calvert County Public Schools will continue to strongly support the program despite the break in visits caused by the COVID 19 virus in 2020, 2021, and spring 2022. We are thankful for their continued support.

We reflect on invaluable gifts of a different nature. This year we have received important framed documents that: underscore the value of an education; preserve the faces of students who once received their education at one-room schools in this area of Calvert County; and preserve the geographic and historic nature of Calvert County in days when farmers and watermen provided income and food for their families.

Donations of time, talent, and energy are numerous, too numerous to list. Sometimes arriving at the moment of need, our many volunteers helped make the grounds, walkways, and the schoolhouse safe and attractive. We will be ready to once again provide 4th grade students the experience of stepping back in time.

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Schoolhouse, Inc.
Post Office Box 431
Port Republic, MD 20676-0431
Website: www.calvertoneroomschool.org
Email: admin@calvertoneroomschool.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Co-Presidents..... Chloe Ewalt &
Carol Khalili**
Secretary Beverly Lusby
Treasurer Nancy Zinn

DIRECTORS

**Peter Cochran, John Yoe,
Pam Mackall, David Campbell,
Karen Williams**

*Newsletter layout and design by
Frances Dunkle Poling
In honor of educators: especially
father, Maurice Dunkle,
and stepmother, Elaine Cochran Dunkle*

*****SAVE THE DATE JUNE 4, 2022*****

**Christ Church's Celebration of
350 years of continuous worship.
Festival activities focused on families and children.**

MEMBERSHIP IN THE "FRIENDS" OF THE ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE, INC.

The Friends of the One-Room Schoolhouse, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization formed to establish a partnership between the Calvert Retired School Personnel Association and others who are interested in preserving Port Republic School #7. Membership includes a newsletter, plus information on upcoming activities and events.

Make your tax-deductible check payable to "The Friends of the One-Room Schoolhouse, Inc."
and mail to Post Office Box 431, Port Republic, MD 20676-0431

___ Individual or Family \$20

___ Benefactor \$50

___ Sustaining \$100

___ Additional Contribution \$ ___

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

P.S: Please consider gifting a year of membership to a friend, neighbor or family member.

Port Republic School #7 Is on the Web

Website: www.calvertoneroomschool.org • Email: admin@calvertoneroomschool.org