



# THE LAUREL LIGHT

March 2006 Volume X, Number 1

News from the Laurel Historical Society and The Laurel Museum

[www.laurelhistory.org](http://www.laurelhistory.org)

Email: [info@laurelhistory.org](mailto:info@laurelhistory.org)

## **Upcoming Calendar & Meeting Notice:**

**March 16<sup>th</sup> Tour and Lunch at Maryland Historical Society**

**April 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Celebration Gala honoring the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Laurel Museum**

**May 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Election**

**Museum Hours: Wed & Fri. 10 am–2 pm, Sunday 1pm-4pm Admission is FREE. Visit our web site for updated information about exhibits, programs and new special events:**

[www.laurelhistory.org](http://www.laurelhistory.org)

**For Information about Historical Society Events, membership or to leave a message for the LHS call 301 561 4252**

**For Museum Information or to reach the Museum Director, call 301 725 7975**

## **A Few Volunteers Needed**

**Docent -First Sunday of the Month  
1 PM to 4 PM**

**Museum Shop -One Friday a Month from either 10 AM to Noon or Noon to 2 PM**

**Gala - To Help Close Out Auction Tables by Circling Highest Bid  
Training Is Provided**

**Call Shari Pollard at 301-776-5229 of email [shari.pollard@verizon.net](mailto:shari.pollard@verizon.net)**

## **WALK INTO HISTORY!**

**See the enclosed flier and help create the Laurel Museum 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Brick Walk**

The Laurel Historical Society is Proud  
To Have

**The Citizens National Bank**

As a Community Business and Professional  
Partner.



*The Laurel Museum's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Don't miss this Elegant Evening*

*Terrific Music*

*Exciting Silent Auction*

*Saturday, April 1, 2006*

*Call 301 561 4252*

*You have until March 20<sup>th</sup> to make  
your Reservation and Entrée*

*Selection.:*

*Chicken Sinatra*

*Boneless Chicken Breast Pan Seared Topped  
With Fresh Steamed Spinach And Fresh  
Mozzarella Cheese Finished With Sherry White*

*Wine Reduction Wild Rice and Chef's  
Selection of Vegetable*

*Sesame Crusted Salmon*

*Wild Rice and Chef's Selection of Vegetable*

*N.Y Strip Grilled*

*Set Atop Red Skin Mash & Finished With A  
Tomato Horseradish Glaze*

*With Chef's Selection Of Vegetables*

*Do you have a **Laurel Treasure** in your  
attic? Think about giving it a new home  
by donating it to the "From Millhouse to  
Museum" Silent Auction.*

*Contact Doreen Nionakis 301-490-3400*

## **The Laurel Museum Celebrates 10 Years with “Stories from the Attic Exhibit”**

In honor of the Laurel Museum’s 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year, on February 5, 2006 we opened our latest exhibit, *Stories from the Attic: 10 Years of Collecting*.

For over 25 years the Laurel Historical Society has been collecting gifts from generous Laurel residents. From the nooks and crannies of local attics, basements, and long forgotten storage boxes, the Laurel Museum has been able to build a collection of objects, each with a direct link to the history of Laurel. Together, these objects enable us to tell the stories of Laurel’s past.

Laurel mills, both Avondale Mill and the Laurel Cotton Mill are featured. Objects relating to the merchants and service providers on Main Street illustrate another group of stories. The stories of Laurel soldiers’ participation in every military conflict of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries are on view. Laurel’s Trolley building at 6<sup>th</sup> and Main Streets has three stories to tell. The stories of Laurel women, both at home, at work and in the community are told. A large number of children’s items, from a Christening gown to games to school photographs, help to tell the stories of childhood in Laurel over many decades. Finally, stories from Laurel African American communities are told with personal remembrances and a remarkable early 20<sup>th</sup> century record book from the Rebecca Lodge located in the Muirkirk community.

We hope you will come to the exhibit with friends and family to view the generous contributions from the Laurel community that have made the Laurel Museum a reality. Please keep in mind that our collections are far from complete. The telling of each story is limited by the objects that we have to illustrate it. Donations in the form of photographs, papers, letters, objects, clothing or any object that relates to Laurel are always welcome. We also look for verbal

or written recollections about life in Laurel during any period of time. These remembrances are the glue that holds each story together and are essential for a complete telling of any story.

## **Proposed Bylaws Amendment**

The Laurel Historical Society, Inc.  
Proposed amendment to Article 5,  
Section 4. C. of the Bylaws

Society officers and some of the additional Directors shall be elected in even-numbered years. Other Directors shall be elected in odd-numbered years. *If a non-officer Director, initially elected in an odd year, is subsequently elected as an officer, he or she shall retain his or her odd year orientation by continuing on the Board for one year following his or her term as an officer.* The purpose of this provision is to provide continuity by having no more than *about one-half* of the directors beginning a term in any given year

\* \* \* \*

For example Mary is initially elected to the Board in 05. In 06 she is elected as an officer. Her term on the Board will expire one year after she completes her term(s) as an officer, i.e. 09, 11, 13, 15, etc. Consequently all Board members’ terms elected in an even year will always end in an even year and all those elected in an odd will expire in an odd year.

This amendment will be voted on at the Annual meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> prior to the election of officers.

### **The Laurel Light**

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## **Walking Tour Marker and Map Committee Progress**

Phase I of the City of Laurel Walking Tour Marker and Map has been completed with the arrival of the small and large bronze markers. These are to be placed on the buildings or the street and will be noted on a map of the 32 sites on or near Main Street from the Laurel Cotton Mill area to the Railroad Station.

It is planned to complete the tour route by continuing the path to the Foundry Building. From there it will go west on Route 1 and up Prince George and Montgomery Streets ending at Ivy Hill Cemetery. 12 more sites will be included. The prevalence and diversity of structures of historical or architectural interest reveal the changing character and varies stages of development of the town. It is impossible to include them all so this sampling is offered.

The committee expects to have the narratives and pictures ready for the printer by the end of March. So...plan a Spring Walk of our historic town, on your own or guided by a volunteer from the Laurel Museum. The Committee members are Betty Compton, Joe Robison, Sidney Moore, Jean Anastasi and Lou Ann Crook.

## **Tour of the Maryland Historical Society**

The second "In Our Backyard Tour" will take place on March 16<sup>th</sup>. It will include A group tour of the Maryland Historical Society's exhibit "Maryland's Finer Side" and lunch at Baltimore's Women's Industrial Exchange. The first tour in this series was to Poplar Hill at his Lordship's Kindness where 21 members enjoyed a private tour and a delightful tea. Thanks to Ivary Doles for her work on these terrific outings.



Governor Ehrlich presents the check

## **Laurel Historical Society awarded Grant**

Governor Robert Ehrlich visited Laurel on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2005. He presented a check for a grant to the Laurel Historical Society and toured the Laurel Museum. The \$3,600 grant from the Maryland Historical Trust will help pay for repairs to the brick wall in the Museum basement.

## **Baltimore Washington Chamber of Commerce meets at Laurel Museum**



The Laurel Museum hosted the BWCC February Mixer. Over 40 people attended the event, which gave the Historical Society an opportunity to introduce itself to many of the community's business leaders.

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