

THE ALLEN HISTORIAN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ALLEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 31, Allen, MD 21810

Web Address: allenhistoricalsociety.org

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George Shivers, Editor

Community Calendar

Saturday, September 10, 7:00am-2:30pm, beginning at Pemberton Historical Park. 16th Annual West Wicomico Heritage Ride. Cost: Adults: \$35 (\$40 after Aug. 5) Children (ages 8-18): \$15. Helmets are required.

Sunday, September 11, 11:00am - Annual Homecoming Service at Asbury United Methodist Church, followed by luncheon.

September 14-18: The Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture and the Wicomico Historical Society, Inc. are hosting a visit by the Maryland Dove to the Port of Salisbury (to be docked just east of Brew River Restaurant. The Maryland Dove is a full-size replica of a 17th century square rigged pinnance, and the original Dove was the ship that carried supplies and cargo, thus playing an important role in the settlement of colonial Maryland.

Sunday, Sept. 18, 3:00pm - next Allen Historical Society meeting. At Asbury United Methodist Church, Great Room.

Sunday, Sept. 18, 3:30pm - Rainbow Rally at Friendship United Methodist Church, Upper Ferry Road.

Sunday, Sept. 25, 3:30pm, The Divine Inspirations youth group will present a special service at Friendship United Methodist Church.

Saturday, October 1, - 4th Annual Historical Society Cemetery Walk and Dinner. Dinner at Community Hall at 5:00pm, followed by

Cemetery Walk at Asbury United Methodist Church.

Sunday, Oct. 2, Jones and Bounds Day at Friendship United Methodist Church. Speaker: Glendon Jones.

Saturday, Oct. 15 and Sunday, Oct. 16, Maryland Autumn Wine Festival, Pemberton Park. Sat. 11:00am - 6:00pm; Sun. 12:30pm - 6:00pm, Arts and crafts, live music, regional cuisine, and, of course, wines. Cost: Advanced single-day tickets, \$20 and a two-day pass \$30. Tickets purchased at the event are \$25. Children under 5 are free.

Saturday, October 22, 9:00am - 1:00pm - Asbury United Methodist Church Fall Festival/Bazaar at the Allen Community Hall.

Saturday, Oct. 22 - The Sons of Thunder from Head of the Creek will give a musical program at Friendship United Methodist Church at 3:30pm.

Sunday, Oct. 23 - A State Rally is being held at Friendship United Methodist Church during the morning services at 10:00am.

Sunday, November 13, Allen Lions Club annual Pit Beef dinner, beginning at noon at the Allen Community Hall.

Sunday, Nov. 13 is Family and Friends Day at Friendship United Methodist Church. It is being led by the Banks and Hitch families. 3:30pm.

Events of Interest at the Nabb Research Center:

Aug. 29, 2011 - May 25, 2012 - Main Street Salisbury Exhibit. Explores turn-of-the-century business district of Salisbury. Artifacts and photos. Nabb Center Gallery, Mon., Wed., Fri. 1-4pm or by appt.

Saturday, Sept. 24, 2:00pm Nabb Center, booksigning by Jason Rhodes, *Images of America: Salisbury*.

Beginning October 3, online exhibit titled "The Eastern Shore through the Eye of the Photographer," features images shot by well known photographer Orlando Wootten. <http://nabbhistory.salisbury.edu/archives/exhibits/digitalexhibits.asp>

October 17 - 21, "Firefest," at the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Salisbury. View images of the 1886 Salisbury fire.

Thursday, October 6, 7:00pm, Nabb Center. Discussion of the book *Gallows on the Marsh* by Brooks Miles Barnes, Ph.D. The book tells the story of the lynching of William Lee in 1906 in Somerset County. Discussion led by local historian Linda Duyer.

Monday, October 31 - "Haunted Eastern Shore," 7:00pm, Nabb Center. Author Mindie Burgoyne tells stories of Eastern Shore ghosts, taken from her book by the same title.

Saturday, Nov. 12, 10:00am- 5:00pm, Nabb Center, "The Civil War in Your Attic: Preserving the Legacy of Maryland and the Civil War Preservation Project. Appointments required. Call 410-543-6312, if you have original items from the Civil War period that can be digitized by the Maryland History and Culture Collaborative.

Monday, Dec. 5, 7:00pm. SU, Guerrieri Center, "Civil War Medicine and its Impact on Healthcare Today," lecture by Dr. William Campbell.

Other Events at Salisbury University:

Thursday, Oct. 20, Location and Time to be arranged. "PlanMaryland & the Eastern Shore, with MD Secretary of Planning Richard Hall. PlanMaryland is a state-wide plan to foster more sustainable growth. Hall will discuss many questions related to the plan as regards the Eastern Shore. Sponsored by SU Smart Growth Club and Wicomico Environmental Trust.

Saturday, Oct. 22, 10:00am - 3:00pm, observance of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War with Donald Whaley, Clara Small and Larry Whiteaker.

AHS Participates in Allen's Annual July 4th Celebration

Our heritage of diversity was the theme of the Historical Society's entry in the Allen July 4th Parade this year. Joe Ballou drove his pickup in the parade for us once again. On board were Julius Chandler in his Buffalo Soldier uniform, representing our African American heritage, Susan Huffman, daughter of Allen resident Norris Howard, in Native American regalia, and George Shivers, representing the European colonial presence. The Howards are members of the Pocomoke Occohannock.





Waiting for the Parade to Begin!

145th Reunion of the Buffalo Soldiers

Velmar Polk Morris, vice-president of the Allen Historical Society, attended the 145th reunion of the Buffalo Soldiers in Birmingham, AL from July 25 to August 3. She represented the local Thomas E. Elzey Chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers. Mrs. Morris is a granddaughter of Thomas E. Polk. The Thomas E. Elzey Chapter will hold its Round-Up dance on October 15 at the VFW in Salisbury.

AHS Receives New Members into the 1702 Honorary Society

On Sunday, August 14 at 10:30am Rosalie Fields and Melissa Bright were installed in the 1702 Honorary Society at Asbury United Methodist Church. The 1702 Society was created in 2008 to honor members of the community for their many contributions to the Historical Society and to the broader community. Following the brief ceremony in which proclamations were read, citing the accomplishments and areas of service provided by the honorees, there was a reception in the church's Great Room.

Rosalie Fields was cited for her many contributions to Siloam United Methodist Church and to the Siloam community, as well as for her service in more recent years at Asbury, where she sings in the choir and is a valued worker at all church dinners and bazaars, and in Allen generally. The proclamation in her honor further noted her extensive work in preserving historical and genealogical information about both the Siloam and Allen communities.



Melissa Pollitt Bright was honored for her past service to the local 4H organization, to Asbury United Methodist Church, where she has taught Sunday School and served on the Administrative Board, as well as for her role in founding the Allen July 4th parade and festivities and continuing to support that effort since the Allen Lions Club has assumed primary responsibility. Also cited was her dedication to the preservation of local history and traditions, expressed in her activities on behalf of the Somerset County Historical Society, as well as of our own Allen Historical Society, of which she is a charter member, Board member, and corresponding secretary. Her dramatic talents were also noted, as she has been a major contributor to our annual Cemetery Walks.

Huffington-Pollitt House Update

The Society has made significant progress in its efforts to restore the Huffington-Pollitt house to serve as our museum and headquarters. During the spring a committee was formed, consisting of Susan and Frank Knowles, George Shivers, Joe Ballou, John Shahan, Lin Davis, Doug Rayfield and John Culp to develop a plan for moving forward on the restoration. Thanks to an anonymous gift in December 2010 and to a legacy from the estate of Captain Lindley Allen Lentz, as well as to contributions from the extended family in memory of the late Ruth Keeler, fundraising had by then moved forward to the point where we felt we could take modest steps

toward rehabilitating the interior of the building.

Thus far the heating and air conditioning ducts under the house (damaged by the fire) have been removed. This was an important step, because it allowed us to see the condition of the understructure of the house. Indications thus far are that the area is in excellent condition, however, arrangements are in progress to have an engineering specialist examine it further.

Two electrical companies have examined the electrical system, and there also the news is good. While all wiring will, of course, have to be replaced in the fire-damaged kitchen area, as well as the bathroom above it, the rest of the wiring seems to be in good condition, so that it shouldn't be necessary to rip out all the interior walls.

With this knowledge we are now in a position to seek bids from contractors in the near future. Our plan at present is to divide the restoration into two phases. In the first phase we would do the necessary electrical and plumbing work, as well as rehabilitating the heating and cooling systems for the entire house, but our efforts at full restoration would concentrate first on the ground floor in order to make that usable as soon as possible. The second phase (as funds become available) will be the completion of the second floor rehabilitation.

It must be emphasized, however, that intensive fundraising efforts must continue if we are to complete even phase one. It is our intention to apply for foundation grants in 2012. In the meantime, contributions from the local community are most welcome!

New Exhibit of Native American Relics at the Passerdyke Cottage Museum

Several years ago the late Mrs. Murrell Simms donated a substantial collection of Native American relics to our museum. These included a variety of arrowheads, stone axes, etc. All were found on the Simms farm, on the banks of the Wicomico River, over the years. While we were able to display the collection, we had no knowledge about the items. This problem has now been remedied. Dr. William Schindler, an archaeology professor at Washington College, and the students enrolled in his archaeology field school this summer have examined the relics, provided us with proper classification, and where possible given us approximate dates of the periods to which they belong. The display is now housed in a glass case in our museum with the proper labels. We hope that our members and the broader community will visit the exhibit. Currently the museum is open only by appointment. Call George Shivers at 410-749-9064 or Joe Ballou at 410-548-9839 to arrange a visit. If possible, however, we will open the museum on occasional Sunday afternoons in the fall.

Our Fourth Annual Cemetery Walk Is Coming!

Once again Allen residents of yesteryear will return for a visit to entertain guests with their stories of life in our village in the 19th and early 20th centuries. This being the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, two of our guests this year will have connections to that devastating event. Mrs. Carrie Hayman Huffington (portrayed by Melissa Bright) became the bride of John Huffington, village blacksmith, who had served in the Confederate Army throughout much of the war, and she will relate his story as well as her own. Mr. Thornton Phoebus (portrayed by George Shivers), on the other hand, was a staunch supporter of the Union during the war and will relate his role in the occupation

of this area by Union soldiers. Also telling their stories will be Mrs. Hattie Boone (portrayed by Althea Chandler, her granddaughter), Mr. Peter Malone (portrayed by Rick Pollitt, his great-grandson), a much loved local carpenter, as well as a musician of note, and Captain Lindley Allen Lentz (portrayed by John Culp), who had a distinguished career as a ship's captain in the Merchant Marine. Phone Joseph Ballou 410-548-9839 or George Shivers 410-749-9064 for information or tickets or mail ticket order with check and return address to AHS, P.O. Box 31, Allen, MD 21810.

The Civil War in Allen

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War, also known as the War Between the States. While our village was not at the center of battles, its citizens certainly were not spared the effects of that war. As in most of Maryland, Allen's residents were divided in their loyalties. (It should be noted that the village was then known as Upper Trappe). The loyalties of the prominent Huffington family were universally to the Confederacy, although only one member of that family actually fought in the War for the Southern cause. That was John Huffington (born in 1839), who at the time of the war's beginning was a resident of the Rewastico area (now Mardela Springs). His uncle, Jonathan Huffington, and cousins William, James and Jesse, were all residents of the Upper Trappe area and members of Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church. The following citation from his obituary describes his participation in the Civil War:

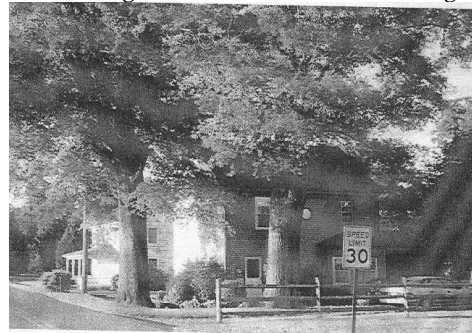
The son of a slave-holding parent at the outbreak of the Civil War he espoused the cause of the South and running the blockade to Virginia enlisted in Company F, Second Maryland Regiment and served with great gallantry until the close of the war. He participated in every pitched battle fought by the army of Northern Virginia after the Seven Days Battle around Richmond. He

was twice wounded, slightly at Gettysburg, where his regiment in a desperate charge on Culp's Hill lost over half its members; and again in the trenches around Petersburg he was severely wounded, and for a time it was thought he was fatally wounded on the second day of April, 1865.

After the war he married Caroline Hayman and in 1878 moved to Upper Trappe. From 1878 until Mr. Huffington's death in 1910 they lived in the house currently owned by Al Prestilio. Mr. Huffington worked as the village blacksmith.



John Huffington & his son J. Walter Huffington



Home of John & Caroline Huffington

At the start of the Civil War Jonathan Huffington and his three sons were among the largest slaveholders in Somerset County. The three Huffington brothers were older than their cousin John and did not choose to join the military struggle, but their sympathies were clearly with the South. One of their sisters, Hester Huffington Twilley lived in a house across the street

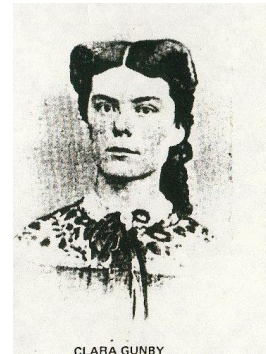
from the church and expressed her support for the South by providing a hiding place for draft dodgers and Confederate sympathizers were hidden from the Union soldiers who often camped on part of the church yard and bought eggs and other items from Mrs. Twilley's store.



Home of Hester Ann Huffington Twilley

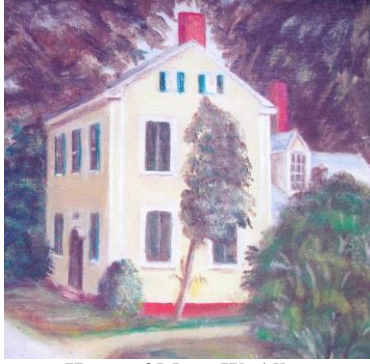
William, the oldest of the Huffington Brothers (born in 1816) was engaged to marry a fiery young woman, Miss Clara Gunby, from nearby Forktown (now Fruitland) toward the end of the war in 1864. The wedding plans, however, were drastically changed, when Clara Gunby defied the Union soldiers in Salisbury, refusing to honor the Stars and Stripes that were hung over the sidewalk. Eventually accused of treason and tried in Baltimore before General Lew Wallace (author of *Ben Hur*), she was exiled to the south, eventually making it to Richmond, VA, capital of the Confederacy, where she carried secret information to President Jefferson Davis, met with him personally and received his help in finding employment in the Confederate Treasury Department. Her diary entries from the period dramatically describe the fall of Richmond in the spring of 1865. During this time her fiancé, Mr. Huffington, was apparently completely distraught and even contemplated leaving the country for Europe, according to an entry in Miss Gunby's diary. (A transcription of her diary can be purchased at the Nabb Center. We also have a copy in our library at Passerdyke Cottage.) Fortunately for Mr. Huffington, the war ended before he had to take such drastic action and the couple were married in September of 1865. They resided on a farm along Cottman Road, near the village. Clara

Gunby, who was a talented painter, died on October 2, 1890; her husband on April 2, 1892.



Another Allen resident also used her home to hide those who wanted to avoid the Union soldiers who were stationed in the village. She was Mrs. Mary Allen, who at the time of the war had been teaching children in the village since 1835. Her residence, although considerably changed over the decades, still stands, currently the home of Diana Kiesling and her husband. The late Mrs. Loula Allen Lentz, a descendant, wrote the following in her family history titled *Our Heritage* (a copy of this volume can be found in the Passerdyke Cottage library):

Maryland was a border state; some of the young men joined the Union Army but most of them joined the Confederate Army. Conscription was used then and men who went to war and came back as deserters or for other reasons and also those who did not want to go at all, needed a place to hide. In her home there was a "potato hole" in the kitchen floor and the second floor in the back was built with dormer windows which left cubby holes under them; in these two places Mary Whittington Allen hid many a soldier. On occasions when the Northern Army marched through the village, plundering as they went, they never found the hidden men. (pp. 54-55).



**Home of Mary W. Allen
(as it looked in Civil War era)**



Mary Whittington Allen

Not everyone in the village, however, was a Confederate sympathizer. We find the following words in the 1885 obituary of Simeon F. Malone: "In politics he was an original Henry Clay Whig..." and that "... at the demise of the Whig Party he voted with the American Party until the war came on, when he was a staunch Union man."

Another prominent Union supporter was Thornton Phoebus. He owned the grist mill, as well as the house and farm off Cottman Road, where Arthur Widdowson now resides. He joined the Republican Party, supported Lincoln and freed his slaves. Since Upper Trappe was located along the main north-south route that connected parts of the Delmarva Peninsula, Union soldiers were placed in the village, especially at the mill dam, to detect and prevent smuggling, to guard the telegraph line, and to catch

deserters. Some of these soldiers were billeted in the Phoebus house. A funny story came down through the Phoebus family regarding Mrs. Phoebus. As she and her husband would sit in the evenings in their sitting room, Mrs. Phoebus would hear strange rattling sounds coming from the bedroom above them where the young Union soldiers were housed. Finally Mrs. Phoebus commented to her husband that she judged that those boys were good Catholics, since she could hear them praying with their beads each night. Mr. Phoebus had to disillusion his wife with the news that what was actually going on was that they were tossing dice!



Home of Thornton Phoebus

As one would expect the Union cause found strong support from the village's African American community. By the time of the war a large black community had grown up along what was then Old Knight's Road, now the Upper Ferry Road and by 1864 that community had founded a Methodist Episcopal church (Friendship). In 1890 there was published the *Enumeration of Union Veterans and Widows of Union Veterans of the Civil War*. That census included four members of the United States Colored Troops, who were living in Allen at the time. No doubt there were other African American residents who served in the Union Army, who were no longer living in the village by 1890. Those listed were Thomas J. Brown, a private in Company B, Regiment 30, who served for three years and eighteen days between 1864 and 1866. He was wounded by a shell in his left side. William Ellegood, also a private, served on

Company H, the Ninth Regiment between 1863 and 1866. Wesley Brewington served as a private in Company H, the Tenth Regiment, for one year, 1865-66. He received an axe wound in his left knee. Arthur King, a private in Company C, the Thirtieth Regiment, served from 1864 to 1866, and was wounded by a slug in the left leg. According to the Muster Roll of the Adjutant General, however, the above information is in error, for it indicates that Arthur King was recruited in October, 1863 at the age of 24 and served in Company I (Agnes Kane Callum, *Colored Volunteers of Maryland: Civil War, 7th Regiment*, 1990, p. 128).

After the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 (which, by the way, did not free slaves in Maryland, only those in the states in rebellion) Union Army recruiters began to recruit slave volunteers. Among those recruited were several slaves of Upper Trappe resident, James F. Dashiell. Among these was Henry Cottman, who served as a private for three years and was 20 years old at the time of his enlistment on October 22, 1863. He served in the 14th Regiment of the United States Colored Troops(Callum, p.99; Donna Messick, *Manumissions and Sales of Slaves Recorded in Land Records of Somerset and Worcester Counties, Maryland*). Several others of Mr. Dashiell's slaves enlisted during October and November of 1863. Moses and Sampson Cottman served in the 9th Regiment of the USCT, as did Edward Dashiell. All enlisted on October 22. Hamilton, Edward and Joseph Dashiell also enlisted in November of the same year and served in the 9th Regiment. Arthur King, another slave of James F. Dashiell, enlisted on October 23 and served in the 7th Regiment. Dennis Nutter and Joseph Piper served in the 9th Regiment and enlisted on October 22 and November 26 respectively. All were emancipated officially on November 21, 1864. Their owner operated the grist mill in Upper Trappe from 1844 until his death in 1863, the same year his slaves were enlisted.

Even after the Civil War ended in April of 1865, the divisions that caused it continued to have an impact in the village of Upper Trappe. In that year the Philadelphia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, North, sent Rev. J.M. Pumer to serve the churches in this district, including Asbury in Allen. The Rev. Pumer had served in the Union Army during the recent war and had been wounded in the leg. His feelings against the rebellious South were strong and apparently he expressed his views energetically from the pulpit. As a result, the southern sympathizers in the congregation saw to it that he was driven from the church and the community. Oral tradition says that they barred the door of the sanctuary to him at gunpoint. Soon thereafter with the help of lawyer John Crisfield the church negotiated its departure from the ME Church, North, to join the Virginia Conference of the ME Church, South.

The Drura Family of Allen

When our Society purchased the property on which the Huffington-Pollitt House stands, several of our members were aware of a graveyard which, we thought at the time, was on the property. Later investigation revealed that it was at the back of the adjoining property, owned by Conrad and Jamie Robertson. The owners were aware of the graves and had cleared them and set up the only remaining monument, which marked the grave of Stephen Drura. The presence of the family graveyard there makes us wonder if the HP House property once belonged to the Druras (sometimes spelled "Drury"). Your editor has done a little research on that family, the results of which follow.

Data from the 1850 census establish that Stephen Drura was born in 1776. According to Somerset County marriage records, he was married three times. His first wife was Leah Heath, whom he wed on December 31, 1818. Then on July 22, 1829 he married Luvenna Fields. She is buried

with him at the family graveyard behind the Huffington-Pollitt House. On February 19, 1850 he was married again, this time to Mary Eleanor Messick (Mezick), widow of Philip Messick of Allen. Mr. Drura died 8 years later on November 23, 1858. In his will he mentions his wife Eleanor, his brother George and a niece, Mary Ann Jones, wife of David Jones of Delaware. He also mentions a friend Sydney C. Long of Snow Hill.

I was able to find some record of George Drura as well. According to 1850 census records, he was born ca. 1780 and was a merchant living in Princess Anne district, household no. 1194. He was married twice, first to Harriet Benson on July 13, 1816. Twenty years later on September 29, 1836 he wed Margaret Long, who was with him at the time of the 1850 census. That census gives her age as 63, establishing her birth date as 1787. In 1860 George Drura was still living in the Princess Anne District, household #327. He is still listed as a merchant, but his wife Mary is no longer with him. In the household is a young woman, Elizabeth, age 30, perhaps a daughter by his first marriage and then four other young people, George, age 18, Charles, age 15, Mary, age 12 and Thebe, age 4. Also in the household is one Negro.

Your editor seems to recall years ago seeing a grave marker for George Drura in the same cemetery where Stephen is resting. There is, however, no longer any stone visible there with his name.

Upper Trappe in the Late 18th & Early 19th Centuries

Changing Times..., a history of Allen and vicinity written by your editor, was published for the Historical Society in 1998. Since its publication I have uncovered additional information regarding two of the individuals mentioned in that history. The end of Chapter One summarizes information from the 1798 federal census, the so-called

Glass Tax, which describes the village and surrounding area at that date.

Among those mentioned is George Kibble, who lived on the north bank of Wicomico Creek, a short distance from its mouth. According to the records of Stepney Parish (Old Green Hill Church), George Kibble was the son of William Kibble and Hannah Stevens Kibble, who wed on April 20, 1736. George was their second child and was born on January 17, 1744. His siblings were older brother William, born on September 21, 1740, younger sisters Ann and Sarah, born respectively on January 1, 1746/47 and on September 18, 1748. Baby brother John joined them on April 6, 1763. Brother William married Elizabeth Stewart on July 24, 1763. George Kibble's grandfather's name was also William Kibble. He died in April of 1727. His will mentions the following children: John, Abigail, William (father of George); Mary, Sarah, and Richard. The will was witnessed by George Dashiell, John Stevens and Robert Malone, all residents of the Upper Trappe area (Somerset County Wills, 1710-1729, abstracted by Leslie and Neil Keddie, pp. 22-23). George Kibble's will is dated May 5, 1817, proved on August 19, 1817. In it he mentions his wife Rosey, his daughters Biddy Cottman and Henny Kibble, as well as sons James and Alexander Kibble (Somerset County Wills, 1812-1818, p. 64).

George Bailey owned a tract known as "Bailey's Chance," patented in 1742. The late Jimmy and Lula Lee Fields lived on part of that tract. George Bailey's will is dated Nov. 11, 1742 and was proved on Feb. 21, 1746. In it he mentions his wife Mary, son George, Jr. and son Benjamin. The will was witnessed by William Knowles, Robert Malone and Clement Christopher (Somerset County Wills, 1740-1748, p. 41).

Tubman Lowes lived on a plantation near the Trappe in 1798. The census figures indicate that he was a major slave owner. He held 46 human beings in bondage. Stepney Parish records show that he was the

son of Henry and Esther Lowes and that he married Elizabeth Birkhead Bond on April 9, 1789. She was from Calvert County, the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Bond. The will of Henry Lowes was written on June 26, 1761 and proved on May 15, 1767. The will is interesting as regards his son Tubman, where he states, "although be now missing Yet in hopes it may be God's Good Pleasure that he may return in safety..." Should he return he was to receive "now dwelling plantation purchased from the heirs of Levin Gale and the lands and houses called 'The Prize House' or 'Lowes Point,' as well as a lot and houses in Princess Ann Town and lands and marshes mortgaged by Mercy Fountain and 1/3 of his father's personal property (Somerset County Wills, 1760-1769, p. 17). It's clear that Tubman did return to claim his inheritance. We can only wonder what mystery underlies his "disappearance."

The children of Tubman and Elizabeth Lowes were: Esther Tubman, born Jan. 29, 1790; Tubman, Jr., born Oct. 3, 1791; Benson Bond, born Feb. 2, 1793; Elizabeth, born Nov. 26, 1794; Dorothy, born Jan. 3, 1797 (died Oct. 1, 1797); and Mary Ann, born Nov. 24, 1799 (died Dec. 3, 1799). Stepney Parish records also show that Tubman Lowe's wife Elizabeth died on Nov. 28, 1799, four days after the death of their new daughter, Mary Ann. Death after childbirth was an all too frequent occurrence in earlier times. Tubman remarried on March 11, 1801. His new wife was Anne Hitch, daughter of Joshua and Mary Hitch. They had a daughter, Mary Anne, born on March 21, 1803. Stepney Parish Records include Tubman Lowes on a list of signatories to the following declaration: "I hereby do declare that I believe in the Christian Religion." This statement was signed in four different years: 1811, 1812, 1822 and 1828! The purpose of this oath is clarified later in the record in the Vestry minutes for August 5, 1811 which state that "Tubman Lowes was appointed as Register and was qualified as such by taking the oath required by law and

subscribing his name in the Christian religion (p. 287).

Genealogical Connections - Porter/Malone/Messick/Disharoon/ Allen Families

Simeon F. Malone (born 1852; died May 6, 1924) married Annie L. Porter (born April 16, 1857; died May 7, 1932). Children:

Ashland Francis Malone (born Nov. 23, 1876; died March 9, 1959)

Lillie Mae Malone (born Oct. 22, 1882; died Oct. 24, 1931)

Ashland F. Malone was well known in the village when your editor was growing up. For me he was always "Mr. Ashland." Whenever there were electrical or plumbing problems in our home, he would be called. I never saw him except dressed in denim bib overalls with a hat worthy of Gabby Hayes! He smoke a pipe and was known to imbibe in wine, never of the most expensive vintages! He could fix anything, is known to have been responsible for electrifying most of homes in the area, and was said to have owned the first automobile to reach the village. He also had the dubious honor of being the only person I know of to have gone on his honeymoon without his bride! He was determined to attend the World Fair in St. Louis in 1903, but his bride, Amy Brewington, did not want to go. So off he went alone! They were married on August 23, 1903. They had four children:

Anne B. Malone (born Sept. 28, 1906; died August 30, 1932)

Ashland F. Malone, Jr. (born March, 1909; died March 6, 1952)

Margaret E. Malone (born Nov. 28, 1912)

Dorothy Jeanne Malone (born April 6, 1920)

Mr. Ashland Malone's sister, Lillie Mae, married Philip Earl Messick, (born Oct. 16, 1882; died June 10, 1934). Their children were:

Martha Messick (born Aug. 26, 1909)
Philip Earl, Jr. (born Dec. 14, 1911)
Nancy (born March 13, 1915)

Martha Messick married Frank Hood, and I remember her well, as she was my mother's best friend. They exchanged letters throughout their childhood and teenage years, as Martha was in Allen only during summer visits with her grandparents, and during the rest of the year was in New Jersey. I still have many of the letters she wrote my mother, since my mother never threw anything away and I seem to have inherited some of that gene!

Another local family connection came with the marriage of Eleanora Disharoon (born Oct. 3, 1848; died Jan. 27, 1927), daughter of James Disharoon and Priscilla Porter Smith, to William Francis Allen (born Aug. 25, 1830; died July 13, 1898) on Oct. 10, 1867. W.F. and Eleanora Disharoon Allen lived in the home where the Taylors now live, next door to the parsonage, except at that time it stood very close to the road, directly across from your editor's grandfather's store (George Phillips store). For my mother Lillian and her younger sister, Polly (Pauline) Mrs. Allen was always Aunt Nora. The Allens' children were:

Grace Whittington Allen (born Dec. 31, 1875; died March 8, 1950)
Percy Francis Allen (born Feb. 11, 1879)
Amy Lillie Allen (born Nov. 11, 1884; died July 16, 1913)

Individual: \$15
Family: \$20
Patron: \$40
Sustaining: \$250

(Sustaining members receive 2 tickets to either our fall Cemetery Walk or our spring dinner.)

Join the Allen Historical Society: