



With appreciation for your support
of the Archives and best wishes
for the holiday season

From: Ed
To: Staff and the Friends of the Maryland State Archives
Re: A Holiday Message
December 9, 2010

At the Hall of Records Commission meeting today we noted for the record how grateful all of us in administration and on the advisory board are for the devotion of the staff to the work of the Archives, and the on going support of our Friends group.

I realize these are difficult times and that there are few signs that the coming months will be any better for the country. Thanks to you, the prospects for the Archives emerging from the current crisis are bright. By keeping our special fund income on track, neither staff livelihood nor essential archival programs will be at risk in the coming year, as long as we continue to economize and make best use of the resources we have.

I am particularly grateful to those of the staff (contractual and pin) who have not only performed your jobs well, but have gone the extra mile to help me and your colleagues above and beyond anything called for in your MS22's. We all know who you are and to you I want to extend a deeply felt thank you from all of us.

As you all know, I like to link what we do to a better understanding of how Maryland came to be. The image on the front of this card is taken from an alter piece honoring Anne who in the Christian faith was the grandmother of Jesus.

As a grandfather who increasingly appreciates the love and faith of our grandchildren, this image has special meaning to me as it clearly has a symbolic link to our past if you look closely in the lower left-hand corner.

The buttoned cross, while an important religious symbol, also represents the struggle of the Calvert's to establish a place in the new world that would permit any faith to be practiced as long as it did no harm to others. It also represents the eternal struggle of our mothers and grandmothers to teach us to pause and reflect upon what we are and what we ought to become in the spirit of contemplation, tolerance, and compassion.

May we continue to bring compassion, civility, and understanding to the workplace as we confront these trying times.