



The Archivists' Bulldog

*Newsletter of
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Archives Says Farewell to Two Long-Time Employees: Pat Melville and Lynne MacAdam

by Mimi Calver

Saying goodbye is always hard, especially when it is to two long-time and much admired employees. This summer the Archives had to bid farewell to two such staff members who are retiring.

First, on June 6, Pat Melville was honored at a catered lunch in the Search Room that was attended by over 80 friends, family, and staff members.



After almost 40 years of service in nearly all aspects of the Archives, Pat's retirement will make a huge dent in our institutional memory.

Over the years, she has held such titles as Director of [Reference Services](#), Director of [Appraisal and Description](#) and editor of the [Bulldog](#). She also wrote many of the articles that appeared in the Bulldog, including articles on unusual tidbits found in the records and a series featuring the development of the roads of Maryland. As a personal farewell gift, Ed Papenfuse gave her a bound copy of all the articles she had contributed over the years.

Another highlight of the lunch was a presentation by "Mr. Pat," aka Bob Melville. He shared photographs from Pat's life at the Archives, including many from her days at the old [Hall of Records on the campus of St. John's College](#). Finally, Pat was presented with a variety of gifts from the staff, including a flat screen monitor for her home computer, some American Express gift certificates and framed prints.

On July 10, another long-time and much-loved employee was honored: Lynne MacAdam, who retired on August 1 after 25 years of service. Lynne began her career as a researcher on the [Legislative History](#)

Project. In the 1990s, she showed a real affinity for the emerging technology of the computer and Internet. She became the Archives' Webmaster and helped to put the Archives in the forefront of the electronic world.

Fortunately for many of us, Lynne was always happy to share her computer knowledge with us – and helped us out of many a jam. Her extensive knowledge of the records from her LHP research days and her familiarity with the electronic world, Lynne really has been our “Jack of All Trades” and she, too, will be greatly missed.

Lynne was also honored at a catered lunch in the Search Room, attended by staff, family and friends. She was presented with a spa package to ease her into retirement as well as a framed print of the Annapolis harbor and American Express gift certificates.



Hall of Records Commission Meeting – June 20, 2006

by Leslie Frazer

The spring meeting of the [Hall of Records Commission](#) was held at the [Maryland State Archives](#) on June 20, 2006. [Chief Judge Robert M. Bell](#) presided, and opened the meeting by welcoming the newest member of the Commission, [Steve Cassard](#), Secretary for the [Department of General Services](#).

[Dr. Edward C. Papenfuse](#) noted the significance of the day, June 20, as [Maryland Charter Day](#). On the 20th of June, 1632, a Charter for the state of Maryland was issued. It was the beginning of representative government in America and was embedded in the Republic Charter. He distributed to members and attendees a pamphlet entitled, [The Charter of Maryland](#), which represents the very first printing of the Charter in English. He also gave the members of the committee the printed version of the [2006 Maryland Manual](#), which describes [Maryland State Government](#) as a slice in time.

Staffing News

Dr. Papenfuse introduced several new staff members. Reginald Shorter, hired to be the Archives' Deputy Chief Information Officer, comes to the Archives from the [Department of Labor, Licensing, and](#)

Regulation where he was the Director of Communications. Kim Moreno was selected to be the Director of Appraisal and Description, after having taken a short break in the historical research field.



Pat Melville, the former Director of Appraisal and Description, departs the Maryland State Archives after almost 39 years of service. She was primarily responsible for the effective way in which the Archives managed, described, and added value to records. Dr. Papenfuse presented to Pat Melville a token of appreciation from the Hall of Records Commission and the Friends of the Archives – a commissioned replica of the Cecil Calvert Medal c. 1632

Maryland's Bill of Rights

Dr. Papenfuse showed the Commission a legal copy of Maryland's Bill of Rights and discussed a recent court case in the State of North Carolina concerning an alleged official copy of North Carolina's Bill of Rights purported to have been stolen by a Confederate soldier and found among manuscript papers.

Recently, the qualifications of the handwriting expert who read the annotations on the back of the recovered Bill of Rights have come into question, and the court now questions whether this Bill of Rights belongs to North Carolina, or may belong to Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, or New York. The interesting point is that North Carolina's copy of the Bill of Rights has a transcription error in it that is not in any other copy of the Bill of Rights: in the original Eighth Amendment, North Carolina's copy says "where" as opposed to other state copies that say "wherein." With certified copies of all of the other states' Bill of Rights, the Archivist for the State of North Carolina will be going back to court with proof that the Bill of Rights in question is the official copy for the state of North Carolina.



Ms. Elaine Rice-Bachmann described the unveiling of a bust of Thurgood Marshall at the Baltimore Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, so named by the Legislature earlier this year. In June 2006, an interpretive exhibit in tribute to Thurgood Marshall opened in Terminal C at the airport. The bust is a replica of the statue in Lawyer's Mall and is a link between the memorial in Annapolis and

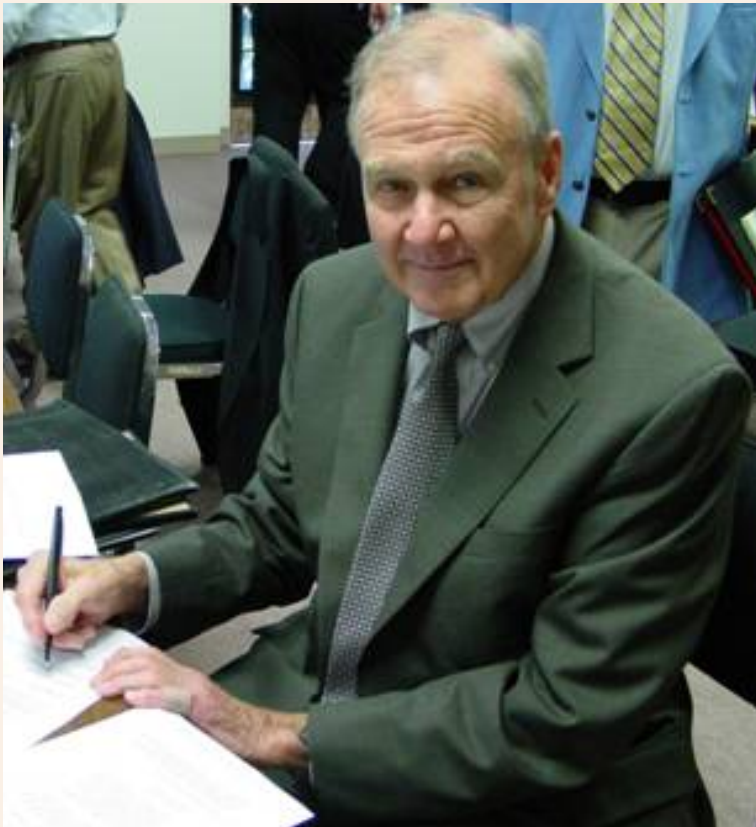
the airport. The bust was paid for with donations received by the Friends of the State Archives. The Friends will transfer ownership of the bust to the [Artistic Properties Commission](#) so that it will be on the State's inventory and the Artistic Properties Commission will care for the preservation of the statue.

News from Friends of the State Archives

The Friends of the State Archives are very active, thanks in large part to the [recent acquisition of George Washington Resignation Speech](#). The Archives hosted a meeting for the Friends' Board of Directors in April. The Directors expressed great enthusiasm for the acquisition of historic documents, accompanied by a clear mandate to use this as a way to promote educational outreach for the Friends. The group is actively seeking donations to augment funds for the acquisition of the Resignation Speech and the Marshall tribute. The Friends are also seeking funds to support other projects, such as conservation of a [portrait of Leonard Calvert](#), [Governor Harry Hughes'](#) memoirs (scheduled to be published this fall) and a children's book about the [Wye Oak](#).

The George S. Wills Collection of the Citizens Commission

Dr. Papenfuss thanked Dr. George S. Wills for bringing to the Archives his collection and memories of the work that his group, The Citizens Commission, accomplished in the restructuring of the General Assembly.



The Citizens Commission started in 1966 as a special study by the Young Democratic Clubs of Maryland, receiving support and guidance from [Senator Joseph Tydings](#) and Speaker of the House of Delegates [Marvin Mandel](#). Shortly afterward, the Commission expanded its membership to include the Young Republican Clubs in Maryland as well as business, corporate, labor, and civic leaders. The Citizens Commission sought to reform and modernize the Legislature in order to create a more vigorous government for Maryland. In addition, the Commission served as a notable example of bipartisan cooperation.

[Judge John Carroll Byrnes](#), a guest of the Hall of Records Commission, took a moment to praise Dr. Wills for all his hard work as a major civic leader in the state of Maryland. He described Dr. Wills as a very serious scholar who has made great contributions to the state.

The [George S. Wills Collection of the Citizens Commission on the General Assembly \(MSA SC 5653\)](#) contains speeches, reports, press releases, newspaper clippings, correspondence, photographs, and other material relating to The Citizens Commission on the General Assembly of Maryland from 1966 to 1972. The collection also contains the personal scrapbook of Dr. Wills, as well as his doctoral dissertation, [The Reorganization of the Maryland General Assembly, 1966-1968: A Study of the Politics of Reform](#) (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University, 1969).

Underground Railroad Research Project

Ms. Kara Carter gave the Commission a preview of material that will be posted online at [Mdslavery.net](#) as part of The Underground Railroad project. She demonstrated how the site tracks the stories of individual slaves through [Runaway Ads](#) in newspapers and links them to [interactive maps](#) showing property owned by slaveholders. Each map showing property ownership and place names has been indexed; clicking on a name will show if the property owner had any runaway slaves.

The goal of The Underground Railroad Project is to tell the stories of slaves in Maryland and to show how the geography, laws, and communities of Maryland as a slave state aided or hindered escape. The staff hopes to use every fragmentary record available to more fully document Maryland's Antebellum African-American community.

Other Projects

Dr. Papenfuse provided the Commission an update on other current projects. The Archives has made enormous progress with respect to posting land records online via [Mdlandrec.net](#). Before the next Hall of Records Commission Meeting, the Archives will have placed online for every county at least sixty years of all land records with accurate indices related to those land records. By July 2008, all Maryland land records will be online.

Dr. Papenfuse related to the Commission that approval was received for the Archives' twin proposals to create a new storage facility and to expand the [Hall of Records building](#). When completed, all archival material will be stored in a climate-controlled environment. The expansion will also include more space for interpretive exhibits and the care of artistic property.

THE ARCHIVISTS' BULLDOG

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The Archivists' *Bulldog* is issued monthly to publicize records collections, finding aids, and other activities of the Archives and its staff.

The Editor welcomes editorial comments and contributions from the public.

The Maryland State Archives is an independent agency in the Office of the Governor and is advised by the Hall of Records Commission. The Chairman of the Hall of Records Commission is the Honorable Robert M. Bell, Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals.

The Archives maintains a web site on the Internet at <http://mdsa.net>

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