

THE CONTEMPORARY MARYLAND CONTINENTAL



Being the Newsletter
Of the Maryland
Bicentennial Commission

Volume 1, No. 3
Fall, 1973 Issue

VIDOCKLER CITED FOR LEADERSHIP

Bernard P. Vidockler, Chairman of the Social Security Administration's American Revolution Bicentennial Club was recently cited in the ARBC *Bicentennial News* as "an example of what can be done to further the goals of the Bicentennial by enthusiastic and imaginative government employees."

On September 17, the 186th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution, the Club held an open meeting in Congress Hall, Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia. Following a tour of the Park, the meeting reconvened in Independence Hall and using a quill pen, each member signed the Club's Declaration of Purpose, which reads in part:

WHEREAS federal employees will be involved in that celebration as spectators, planners and leaders and, WHEREAS action and leadership by federal employees and their agencies could set the pace for other organizations and groups, THEREFORE be it resolved that we establish an organization of Social Security Administration employees to encourage SSA employees, their families and friends to participate in the Bicentennial celebration and to strive to make the celebration individually meaningful in accordance with the goals and principles set forth by the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission or its successor.

Mr. Vidockler, a member of the Baltimore City Bicentennial Committee has held several meetings of the SSA group in the Baltimore area. These meetings, each attended by about 100 persons, have featured attractive exhibits by the U. S. Bureau of Printing and Engraving and by the National Parks Service. At one of the recent meetings, H. T. Dickinson, Professor of History at the University of Edinburgh, spoke on "The British

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MBC Holds First Statewide Bicentennial Meeting

Members of the Maryland Bicentennial Commission and those of the official Bicentennial committees of the State's 23 counties and Baltimore City met in Annapolis October 5, to discuss plans and programs for participation in the nation's Bicentennial celebration in 1976.

Governor Marvin Mandel expressed appreciation for the work being done throughout the State by various groups to make Maryland's Bicentennial program interesting and exciting. He told the approximately 200 representatives in attendance that Maryland doesn't have to "manufacture" anything for the Bicentennial celebration because so much of American history "happened" in Maryland.

The Honorable Louise Gore, Chairman of the Maryland Bicentennial Commission, took the occasion to introduce the newly-appointed Executive Director of the Commission, retired Army Lt. Gen. Claire E. Hutchin, Jr.

Others who addressed the morning session in the State House included Maryland Comptroller Louis Goldstein, the State's Attorney General Francis B. Burch, two Maryland members of Congress, Mrs. Marjorie S. Holt and Lawrence J. Hogan, Walter D. Orlinsky, President of the Baltimore City Council and General Hutchin. In his remarks, the latter "challenged" all Marylanders to pitch in so that the Free State's Bicentennial commemoration will be the "best" of all.

The afternoon's schedule included three workshops, "Heritage '76," "Festival USA," and "Horizons '76." The Heritage '76 theme focuses on activities which recall our Nation's heritage and give us historical perspective. Festival USA involves sharing with other Americans and the peoples of the world our

traditions, culture and hospitality. Horizons '76 includes activities through which we can commemorate our past by looking to the future as the challenge and the opportunity to set goals and achieve them in order to improve the quality of life.

Maryland Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., in remarks prepared for delivery before the group, indicated that he is hopeful that a new "streamlined approach" to the Nation's 1976 Bicentennial Commemoration, outlined in pending legislation, will expedite development of local observances. He also pointed out that "success depends, however, not on adequate assistance from Washington, but on local efforts as well."

A portion of the afternoon's program was held in historic Saint Anne's Episcopal Church, where the Honorable John C. Apostol, Mayor of Annapolis, spoke.

Representatives of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission were on hand to report on what that organization is doing and on activities of other states that are of interest to Maryland.

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Governor Marvin Mandel addresses audience at MBC meeting in House of Delegates Chamber, State House, Annapolis, Maryland.

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Published quarterly
by the
Maryland Bicentennial
Commission
for the citizens of Maryland

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EDITORIAL

The American Revolution involved a series of events in which 13 Colonies of the British Empire resisted unwarranted authority exerted over them.

In defending their liberty, the Colonies severed political ties with the British and took up arms. Then, as sovereign States, the former Colonies formed a new Republic under a constitution dedicated to preserving the blessings of liberty for themselves and for posterity.

The revolutionary process began about 1774, with the formation of Provincial and Continental Congresses. The transition from *Colony* to *State* to *Nation* came full circle with the formation of the Republic in 1789, under the Presidency of George Washington.

In commemorating this event, we have many goals, however, in revitalizing the spirit of the American Revolution, we must remember that these goals provide opportunities for a better understanding and appreciation of the *real* meaning of what happened 200 years ago.

Those of us of all ages, races and creeds are beneficiaries of a great legacy and should share with our fellow Americans in the forthcoming commemoration.

The Editor

HUTCHIN NAMED MBC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lt. Gen. C. E. Hutchin, Jr. (USA Ret.) is the new Executive Director of the Maryland Bicentennial Commission. Gen. Hutchin served as Commanding General, First U. S. Army, which had installations in a 15-State area in the northeast United States, with headquarters at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, from March, 1971 until August, 1973.

A graduate of the U. S. Military Academy and other military colleges, he is married to the former Katharine Steel of St. Petersburg, Florida and Nogales, Arizona. His interests include outdoor sports, especially swimming and tennis. He is also active in Sunday School, stamp collecting and in Scouting, — both Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting.

He and Mrs. Hutchin (Kitts) have long been active participants in community activities. He has served as Vice President of Area One — Boy Scouts of America (a four-State Area, including Maryland), as a member of the Baltimore Executive Board, BSA, and as Chairman of the Combined Federal Fund Campaign. Kitts serves on the Central Maryland Girl Scout Board, the Board of the Baltimore Regional Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Services to Military Families Committee.

General and Mrs. Hutchin have four children and six grandchildren. His office is at the MBC headquarters, 2525 Riva Road, Annapolis 21401. He may be reached by telephone in Annapolis by calling 267-5046.



MBC's new Executive Director C. E. Hutchin, Jr., when introduced to Bicentennial representatives at the State House, challenged them to make Maryland's Bicentennial the best in the Nation.

MBC Approves Grants to City-County Committees

The Maryland Bicentennial Commission has approved grants of \$500 each to the 23 County and to the Baltimore City Bicentennial committees.

The funds may be used for operating expenses such as stationery, postage and telephone calls. In addition, the funds may be used for a given project, or for "seed" money in a way which might generate additional funds supporting Bicentennial activities from a County, Baltimore, or from the private sector. The funds may *not* be used for entertainment purposes. While matching funds are not required, their use is encouraged.

Grant application forms have been sent to each of the Chairmen listed for the 24 Bicentennial Committees. Further information may be obtained from the Executive Director of the MBC in Annapolis.

VERRAZZANO FESTIVAL HELD AT OCEAN PINES

Some 5,000 persons attended a Maryland Bicentennial event, the Second Annual Verrazzano Festival, September 16, 1973, at the Ocean Pines Golf Club near Ocean City, Maryland.

The popular festival offered continuous entertainment, appealing to all age groups. The musical program had as its theme, "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." Dinner was served outdoors from 2 until 6 P.M.

One of the most enjoyable musical events of the day was a concert given by the United States Atlantic Fleet Band of 36 musicians — one of the most versatile of its kind in the country.

All profits from the festival were for the benefit of the Mentally Retarded Children's Center, Emergency Center Hospital Organization, Ocean City.

Mrs. Thomas F. Johnson was Festival Chairman, while Mrs. C. E. Mumford was Co-Chairman. A number of distinguished visitors and official representatives of foreign countries attended the event. MBC Chairman Louise Gore and members of the Maryland Bicentennial Commission also attended.

Vidockler Cited

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View of the American Revolution." Bicentennial Commissioner B. Floyd Flickinger addressed the members of the Club on several other occasions.

Historical Structures Tax Act Introduced

U. S. Senator J. Glenn Beall recently introduced legislation (S-2347), known as the Historical Structures Tax Act of 1973.

According to Senator Beall, the legislation is designed to achieve, by amending the Internal Revenue Code, three basic objectives:

- encourage the preservation of historical buildings and structures certified by the Secretary of the Interior
- encourage the rehabilitation rather than the demolition of existing structures
- encourage charitable transfers of property for use as parks, open spaces or other conservation purposes

Senator Beall emphasizes that the Bill coincides with our national objectives as expressed by the President and the Congress by contributing to strengthening our sense of national unity and purpose, preserving our history, reinvigorating our communities and making additional open spaces available for the use of the people.

The Bill seeks to encourage, through the constructive use of our federal tax system, the long range and highly desirable social goals which our nation has set for itself. Senator Beall invites comments on the Bill.

Bicentennial Bookshelf



"The Great Wagon Road — From Philadelphia To The South," by Parke Rouse, Jr., Executive Director of the Jamestown (Va.) Foundation, should be of particular interest to Maryland, Pennsylvania, the Carolinas and Georgia readers.

According to the book, a McGraw-Hill publication, few trails were more important in early America than the Indian route which extended east of the Appalachians from Pennsylvania to Georgia. The Warrior's Path had long been used by Iriquois tribesmen to the north to go south to trade, hunt or make war.

After a series of treaties with the Five Nations of the Iriquois, the English acquired the route and by the end of the Colonial era, traffic was greater than on all other main roads combined.

COIN DESIGN COMPETITION HELD

As this issue goes to press, the U. S. Department of the Treasury has announced that it will award \$5,000 to each of three winners of a national competition for reverse designs emblematic of the Bicentennial of the American Revolution, for the dollar, half dollar and quarter dollar according to Mrs. Mary Brooks, Director of the Mint.

President Richard M. Nixon signed the Bicentennial coinage design legislation on October 18, 1973. In addition to providing for new Bicentennial reverse designs as indicated — to be dated 1776-1976 — the Act also calls for the mintage of at least 45 million silver-clad Bicentennial coins. It is the first time in history that designs on circulating coins are being changed to celebrate an anniversary of American Independence.

Because of the historic significance of the new coin designs, Mrs. Brooks asked the National Sculpture Society to conduct a nationwide competition for the new designs. While the sketch competition closed on December 14, 1973, further information may be obtained from the office of the Executive Director of the MBC.

BICENTENNIAL COUNCIL MEETS IN HERSHEY

The Bicentennial Council of the 13 Original States met in Hershey, Pa. from October 26-28, 1973.

The Maryland Bicentennial Commission was represented at the meeting by Commissioners B. Floyd Flickinger and Joseph H. Cromwell, together with Commission Executive Director C. E. Hutchin, Jr. and Edward Symes III, of the Maryland Department of Economic and Community Development.

During its business meetings, the Council approved a number of far-reaching proposals and programs, which when implemented, will be of considerable help in Maryland and the other States involved. As a result of its action, The Council of the Thirteen Original States now has a specific program.

Dr. J. Duane Squires of New Hampshire is President of the Council and Clifford M. Clarke of Georgia is Executive Director. Mr. Flickinger, a member of the Council's Heritage Committee is also on a special task force engaged in preparing an overall summary of the Council's Bicentennial Program. Mr. Cromwell serves on the Council's Business as well as its Public Information Committees.

OPSAIL '76 SLATED

At a meeting on the MV "Port Welcome" in Baltimore Harbor on October 30, Captain Donald F. Stewart, Chairman — Opsail '76, announced plans for an imaginative Bicentennial project, "Operation Sail 1976."

In 1964, for the first time, many of the great training ships of the world sailed in company into New York harbor, with hundreds of thousands of people watching the spectacle and welcoming officers and crew members.

According to Captain Stewart, a similar event is being organized in conjunction with the celebration of the American Bicentennial during June, 1976. With the support of the U. S. Government and some international organizations, a group of private citizens, composed mostly of those involved in the 1964 regatta, has formed "Operation Sail 1976, Inc.," a non-profit body.

In addition to the official welcome in New York harbor, the ships will visit other major ports along the Atlantic seaboard. According to Captain Stewart, a Maryland-based sailing vessel, "The Freedom," will take part in a three-legged race across the Atlantic for The Bicentennial Cup.

Following remarks by Captain Stewart to the visitors at the meeting on the "Port Welcome," MBC Chairman Louise Gore and Commissioners William E. Brown and B. Floyd Flickinger spoke to the group. MBC Executive Director C. E. Hutchin, Jr. and Commissioner J. H. Cromwell were introduced. Other speakers included Walter D. Orlinsky, President of the Baltimore City Council.

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Included in the day-long program was Presentation of the Colors by the First Maryland Regiment, attired in Revolutionary War uniforms; Invocation by the Reverend Dr. Norman Van Brunt; the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Comptroller Goldstein; a rendering of "America The Beautiful" by the Parole Elementary School Chorus; and the singing of the State Song, "Maryland, My Maryland" by Charles R. Fields. Benediction was given by the Reverend James F. Madison, Rector of Saint Anne's.



JOHN H. JEFFRIES Heads Somerset County Group



John H. Jeffries, Chairman of the Somerset County Historical Society has resided in Princess Anne, Md. since 1935. Over the years, he has taken an active part in community activities, serving as a member of the Town Commissioners for two years and as President of the group for six years.

He is active in Scouting and holds the Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award. He also serves on the Parish Council of St. Elizabeth's Church, Westover, and is the representative for the Pocomoke area on the Bishop's Lay Council.

For the past 16 years, Mr. Jeffries has worked with other community leaders in making arrangements for the Olde Princess Anne Days Celebration, aiding Mrs. Jeffries, who is the founder and General Chairman of the well-known Eastern Shore event. For some time, he has contributed his services to help promote interest in historical preservation efforts on the Eastern Shore.

For the past four years he has served as President of the Association of Historical Societies of Maryland. He is engaged in engineering work for the C & P Telephone Company of Maryland. His office is in Salisbury.

Additional Bicentennial Committees Formed in Md.

At the time this issue went to press, the following *additional* County Bicentennial Committees have been formed. (The initial list of Committees was published in the previous issue).

BALTIMORE (County)
Edward D. Seidel
Executive Vice President
Baltimore County Chamber
of Commerce
Baltimore, Md. 21204
(tel. 828-9510)

CECIL
Judge D. E. Rollins
PO Box 1674
Elkton, Md. 21921
(tel. 398-2474)

DORCHESTER
Francis H. Royer
RFD Vienna, Md. 21869
(tel. 376-3431)

GARRETT
Thomas Butscher
Herrington Manor Road
Oakland, Md. 21550
(tel. 334-4550)

HOWARD
Mrs. Monica Rothe
9241 W. Stayman Street
Ellicott City, Md. 21043
(tel. 465-5533)

KENT
Allen L. Grimes
Chamber of Commerce
Chestertown, Md. 21620
(tel. 778-0416)

MONTGOMERY
Achilles Tuchtan
226 Glenmore Terrace
Rockville, Md. 20853
(tel. 424-8252)

QUEEN ANNE'S
Mrs. Sudler Cockey, Jr.
Love Point Road
Stevensville, Md. 21666
(tel. 643-6594)

TALBOT
Norman Harrington
Morris Street
Oxford, Md. 21654
(tel. 822-5538)



Dr. Norman Van Brunt, Chairman of the Baltimore City Bicentennial Committee, B. Floyd Flickinger, Bicentennial Commissioner and Chairman of the Historical Committee, and Robert Hieronimus, well-known Baltimore artist, present Mayor William Donald Schaefer with the art work for a Bicentennial project on which Mr. Hieronimus is engaged. The presentation was televised over WBAL in Baltimore.



MARYLAND BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Department of Economic & Community Development

2525 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401