

February 2015

Volume XII, Issue I

## Membership Meeting February 19 at 7:00 PM St. Marks Church

## **President's Message**

**New leadership:** I am very pleased to announce that a new slate of officers and directors will placed in nomination at the meeting. Elections will be held the following month on March 12 at **St Marks.** Nominations, properly seconded, will be accepted from the floor on February 19. The slate of officers to be nominated by the **Nominating Committee** is as follows:

**<u>Directors:</u>** Charlotte Williams, Lizanne Davis, Alan Schneider, Dan O'Leary, Susan Scheidt,

Mike Fennessy, John Lehman, John McDaniel, Paul Collison

Officers: President, Susan Scheidt; 2nd. Vice President, Hilda Mathieu; Treasurer, Mike

Fennessy; Secretary, Sherrie Zabriskie.

Our first meeting of the year will concentrate on recent events and feature those involved as well as comments by the new leadership. Please pan to arrive at 6:45 to sign in and pay your dues so we may begin the meeting at 7:00.

<u>Hi-Land Farm and Firefighters Museum</u>. Scott Shearer's efforts to restore and preserve the farm and the buildings on the site known as **Hi-Land Farm** on Highland Road are a continuing process. Last year Scott gained the approval of a conditional use and the

necessary variances from the **Hearing Examiner**. This year he was served by **DPZ** with a list of dubious violations that lack specificity and evidence. He has been given 30 days to cure these so-called violations. **Greg Fox's Office** has been assisting in lifting this cloud. Scott and others will update and thank you who supported him during this bout with DPZ enforcement.

The Right of Petition thwarted by the Howard County Board of Elections, the Courts and Legal Ploys. Judge Tisdale, HC Circuit Court and the MD Court of Appeals, (COA): all ruled against the petition signed by almost 7000 citizens. Literally adding insult to injury, the pro-bono attorneys representing the petition have been fined and threatened with sanctions. We hope to have one or both of them speak about their situation.

#### **Highland Post Office**

The efforts of member **Steve Thomas** and others resulting in the meeting with the regional supervisor, **Edward Williamson** have yielded minimal success. The, PO official in charge has been changed; lack of a snow-plowing contract produced the "Ice Bowl;" and upkeep has been minimal. Steve continues to prod the PO by email.

#### **GHCA Website**

Chuck Gait, whose column appears in the Howard County Times, loyally continues as GHCA Webmaster. Visit the site, <a href="http://www.highlandmd.org/">http://www.highlandmd.org/</a> and send your comments or suggestions to Chuck at: Chuck.Gait@gmail.com

Membership Special Appeal: I ask every current member to bring encourage at least one neighbor to attend the membership meetings. and bring your dues to become a 2015. Please join or rejoin GHCA. New Dues Schedule: The GHCA Board has set the annual membership fee at \$25 for the calendar year. Now more than ever your participation and membership is needed to support the continued efforts of GHCA preserve our Highland way of life.

Name:	_
Email:	_ (very important! Save postage, and keep informed)
Address (only if not on your check)	

Make Your Check Payable to GHCA Mail to GHCA, PO Box 235, Highland, Maryland 20777

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