“Walk in the Park”

The 1st Annual “Walk in the Park” was held Saturday morning, May 20th to benefit our parish’s Newtowne Manor House Preservation Project. The course was from St. Francis Xavier Church following the road into picturesque Newtowne Neck State Park. We want to thank Fr. Dan Carson for his guidance, the Newtowne Neck State Park Staff, all of our Manor House Committee members who helped out and sponsors including: GOLD SPONSORS- DeManss & Associates, Downs Plumbing & Septic, Leonardtown Ace Hardware, Precise Systems, Printing Press, The Dowdell Family, Sterling Insurance, PNC Investments, Fitzie’s Marina, Restaurant & Pub; SILVER SPONSORS- A & M Glass, Controlled Power, International Beverage, Bay Country Contractors, Patuxent Adventures, The Hair Company, Bill’s Bottom Feeder, Burris’ Olde Towne Insurance, Kevin’s Corner Kafe; PATRONS- St. Mary’s Historical Society, Towne Florist and Frank Greenwell Photography. The total cash deposited was $3,550.00. The tee shirt expense was $1,211.50. The net income was $2,338.50. A great time was had by all.

Georgetown University Visit

Fr. Dan Carson welcomed the Slave Descendants Group from Georgetown University on April 20, 2017. George Matisick gave a talk about St. Francis Xavier Church. A display of the Manor House was set up in the vestibule of the Church. Dr. Adam Rothman has asked the Manor House Committee to work with the St. Mary’s Historical Society and the Slave Descendants Group to help with the transcription of the Baptismal Registry 1819-1835. If interested, please contact Sarah Matisick.

Frank Greenwell Photography
Blessing of the Shed
On Sunday, May 21st, Rev. Dan Carson blessed the Manor House Shed dedicated in memory of Ronnie Delahay, Sr. with family and friends of the Delahay Family and the Restoration Committee members. Ronnie Delahay, Sr. was a founding member of the Friends of Newtowne Manor House in July, 2014. “You could always count on Ronnie for a truthful response even when you didn’t want to hear it.” The Manor House was the home of Ronnie’s grandparents, Frank and Ida Delahay in the late 1800’s and his aunt and uncle, Susie and Clem Delahay from the 1930’s to the 1980’s. Ronnie’s goal was to preserve and restore the 1789 historic Manor House for future generations.

Donations
Just recently, the parish Manor House Committee received another Manor House original piece of furniture from the Alvey family dated in the early 1900’s. The Howe family donated a wardrobe and two caned chairs for use in the Manor House.

Structural Engineering Study
Through Preservation Maryland and their 2017 Six to Fix Program, we have received the Structural Engineering Study by Keast and Hood. An interior and exterior survey of the entire building was conducted by the engineer, Mat Daw. The engineer concluded, “Overall, the Newtowne Manor House is in good condition.” Mr. Daw provided in the study repair priorities both short term and long term in order to facilitate future restoration efforts within the structure. Preservation Maryland contact Doug Harbit continues to work with the Manor House Committee members in the restoration project.

Oral History Project
The Oral History Project is well underway. The Manor House Committee hopes to publish a collection of the interviews with all proceeds going to the Manor House Restoration Project. We have a recommended list of 60 people for interviews. If you are interested in conducting an interview or being interviewed, please contact Lynn Delahay, 240-925-6485 or Sarah Matisick, 301-247-7416.