

**The Hereditary Order
of the Signers of
the Bush Declaration**
22 March 1775
Aug. 2009 Newsletter

The Signer

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President's Letter

The Hereditary Order of the Signers of the Bush Declaration had another successful Annual Meeting and Dinner on March 22, 2009. This was our 5th Annual Meeting and the meeting was held 234 years after the signing of the Bush Declaration in Harford County. The Bush Declaration is a statement of elected members of our community confirming that they were ready to take the necessary steps to separate our *body politic* from that of Great Britain.

The thread that holds us together as members of the HOSBD is that each of us had an ancestor who was one of the original signers of the Bush Declaration. Much has changed in Harford County since the notes from this committee were written in 1775. In the 1800's as Abigail Adams traveled to Washington, DC, she remarked in a letter to her sister that the journey was not to her liking because of the great forest between Philadelphia and Baltimore. The physical terrain of Harford County has changed a great deal in just the past 100 years. Many of us have memories of the way things "*used-to-be*" and I am reserving space in our newsletter to share some of the memories. My cousin, Woody Hamilton, whose family owned a farm on Thomas Run Road, wrote a journal about his childhood memories and I have included a short selection from his journal. If you have memories that you would like to share with us please write them down, send them to me to be included in our newsletter.

Vitale's remains a great place to have our annual meeting and dinner. A special thanks to Circuit Court Judge William O. Carr who spoke to us about the judicial system in early Harford County. I would also like to thank my daughter Catherine for providing our guest with a gift of a luggage tag with the HOSBD signet on it. This luggage tag is very attractive and definitely a keeper. Donna Edwards deserves to be praise and thanks for her continuing work on and publication of our newsletter.

Our organization lives through a one-time dues offering, a small profit on our logo paraphernalia, and donations. Our members are not bothered by an annual payment of dues or an annual fundraiser. We do not answer to a national organization so we do not have the paper work, which is associated with national groups. Contributing to our group by helping out on the executive committee, holding an office, attending or contributing to our annual dinner meeting is an easy task. I know that many of our members live a great distance from Harford County but with new technologies you can contribute a great deal. We need more people to step up and take a role in the operation of our group.

Carole A. DeRan
President General

For changes and corrections to your name or mailing address please write to:

Carol Anne Michael *Secretary General*, 9 Emala Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21220 • candleladydol@aol.com



The Hereditary Order of the Signers of the Bush Declaration

Carole Absher DeRan, *President General*
1418 Overlook Way
Bel Air, MD 21014

The 5th Annual Dinner Meeting

Photos compliments of Catherine DeRan



More photos inside

Short Stories

By Woodie Hamilton

(Woodie Hamilton wrote a journal about his growing up years living on a farm on Thomas Run Road, Bel Air, Maryland. The following excerpt describes the time period c. 1925.)

“Two Favorite Memories of the Home Where I Was Born”

There are always situations that occur or special happenings that are carryovers into adulthood and are never forgotten. While living in this small, simply built structure one of the things we looked forward to was the picking of wild mushrooms in their perspective season. I can remember walking with my mother (each of us with buckets); through the fields which were just white with mushrooms and in no time you had a supply enough to last for a few days in the future. The fields actually were so thick with them that you stepped on many of them while gathering them. The terrain reminded one of an extensive span of small tents closely spaced together.

The autumn season was especially picturesque due to the surrounding landscape with was densely populated by the sixty acres of woodland at our back door. We had full benefit of the splendor of the changing colors displayed by the foliage of so many varieties of trees.At this time the persimmons were hanging from the many trees and the ground was covered with black walnuts, trees of which we had many. The most remembered joy as a youngster was the arrival of frost for it designated the time was at hand when the burrs of the chestnut trees would open and display the rich brown nuts within. Mother would obtain two long poles ...and, we would make our rounds in the woodland to the various trees. To obtain the nuts from their berth we would take the long poles or sticks and flog the burrs from the trees. This is an experience which will never come again.

www.bushdeclaration.org

Fellow members of HOSBD,

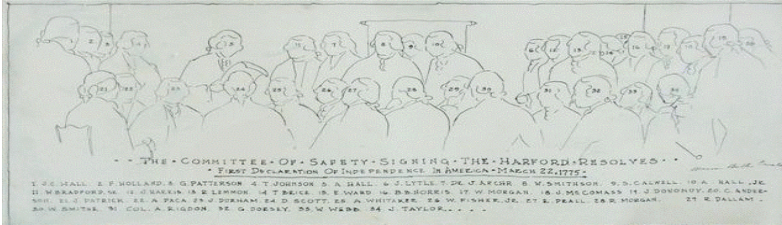
We have placed two markers at this time. The first was place at the grave of Dr. John Archer a signer and the second at the grave of Frank A. Smithson a memorial member. These markers can also be used to historically mark the home of a signer. At this time we still have eight bronze HOSBD markers. The markers on hand are \$125.00 plus \$10.00 shipping. When it comes time to reorder the price of casting has gone up over 50%. If you are thinking of placing a marker now or in the future, now is the time to make that purchase. For purchasing please contact: me at wsmithso@peoplepc.com or 410-836-3433.

William Smithson
Treasurer General



This marker is mounted is concrete and level with the ground. They can also be mounted on a metal rod or attached to a stone.

Merchandise



The pen and ink below the painting is the legend that was done at the time of the painting.
Is a list of who is supposed to be in the painting.

“Signing of the Bush Declaration”

A Full Color Copy of the 1934 mural. Original hangs in the Courthouse, Bel Air, Maryland

8 ½ x 11 = \$7.50

11 x 17 = \$15.00

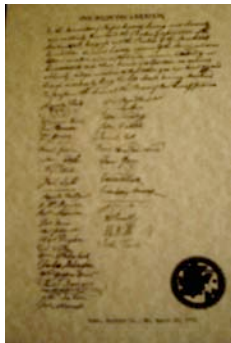
(Postage paid)

Bush Declaration

\$6.00

(Postage paid)

Copied on 8 ½ x 11, parchment paper, suitable for framing.



HOSBD Marker

To be used to historically mark the home of a Signer, it can also be used to mark the grave of a Signer or deceased member of our society.

Only \$125 each

Plus \$10 shipping
(if needed)



INSIGNIA

Has an antique gold finish with a red and gold ribbon.

Only \$25

each
(Postage paid)



Supplement Stars

For those of you who have more than one qualifying ancestor, submitting supplements is a great way to honor them. Show your pride with Stars. Stars are to be worn on the ribbon of your metal.

\$7.50

(Postage paid)

POLO SHIRTS

Poly-Dri quality white knit polo shirts by Timberline with full color HOSBD logo to the left of buttons.

Specify: men's or women's shirt

Specify size: S M L XL

One shirt: \$25 plus \$5.00 P/H

Two shirts: \$50 plus \$7.50 P/H

Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery

Send check payable “HOSBD” to:

William Smithson, Treasurer General

4219 Paddrick Road, Darlington, MD 21034

Questions? Contact Treasurer at: wsmithso@peoplepc.com

HOSBD 5th Annual Dinner Meeting - Minutes

The 5th Annual Dinner Meeting was held March 22, 2009 at Vitali's Restaurant in Edgewood, MD.

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 p.m. by President General, William Smithson.

The Maryland Society SAR Color Guard presented the colors.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Genealogist General, Henry C. Peden, Jr. The Bush Declaration was recited in unison.

Members and guests were welcomed by President General William Smithson.

Officer Reports were given by Vice President General Carole DeRan, Secretary General Carol Michael, Treasurer General Christopher Smithson, and Genealogist General Henry C. Peden, Jr.

Committee Reports were given by Chancellor General Craig DeRan, Chairman of the By-Laws Committee, Treasurer General Christopher Smithson, and Membership Committee Chairman. Nomination Committee Chairman, Chancellor General Craig DeRan presented the slate of Officers for the coming year at which time the officers were sworn in.

After a few closing remarks by the President General Carole DeRan, the business meeting was closed.

The Honorable Judge William O. Carr, the guest speaker was introduced by Chancellor General Craig DeRan. Judge Carr gave a presentation on "The Early History of Harford County's Judicial System"

Respectfully submitted
Secretary General Carol Michael

New Members

We are pleased to WELCOME the following new members!

(Since January 2009 Newsletter)

William Stevenson Archer II
2239 Price Road
Darlington, MD 21034
Member No. 91
Approved 15 Feb 2009
Signer Ancestor: John Archer

William Ernest Brandt
3501 E. Joppa Road
Parkville, MD 21234-3312
Member No. 92
Approved 4 Jun 2009
Signer Ancestor: John Durham

Martha Ellen Copes Girard
211 East Mason Ave.
Alexandria, VA 22301
Member No. 93
Approved 9 Jul 2009
Signer Ancestor: Daniel Scott

Proposed Bylaw Change

To be voted on at Annual Meeting.

RESOLUTION AMENDING BYLAWS/CONSTITUTION

RESOLVED: That the Bylaws/Constitution of the Hereditary Order of the Signers of the Bush Declaration, an unincorporated Maryland association, be amended as follows:

THAT Article IV, Section 2 of the Bylaws/Constitution, which reads as follows:

SECTION 2. The President General, Vice President General, Secretary General, Treasurer General, Genealogist General of the Society shall live within 150 miles of Harford County, MD

Be deleted in its entirety, and the following sections be renumbered as appropriate.

Craig H. DeRan, Esq.
Bylaw Chairman

5th Annual Dinner Meeting

March 22, 2009

