



Letters From Linden & Postscripts

**CALVERT COUNTY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY NEWSLETTER**

Winter - Spring 2022



A Note from the Director

Members and friends of Calvert County Historical Society we are enthusiastically looking forward to a very full and exciting 2022.

Within this Newsletter is our proposed schedule of activities, events and programs for this year. Many of the events are open to the public, some are free and then a few others are for CCHS members and their invited guests.

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Harriet Elizabeth Brown

February 10, 1907 - January 1, 2009

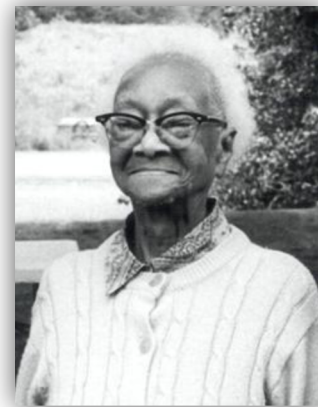
Harriet Elizabeth “Libby” Brown was an early civil rights pioneer who fought for African-American teachers’ pay equality in Maryland in the 1930s. Her successful case against the Board of Education of Calvert County enabled all teachers and school administrators in her county to access equal salaries no matter their race. The impact of Brown’s case was not limited to Calvert County, however, as the repercussions of the pay equalization settlement would eventually resonate throughout the United States and drive the civil rights movement.

Miss Brown was born in Baltimore, Maryland to William and Mary (Smith) Brown in 1907. She was raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and attended the Philadelphia Normal School. She later moved to Maryland, where she earned her Bachelors of Science in education from Morgan State University, and then received her Masters of Education from the University of Maryland.

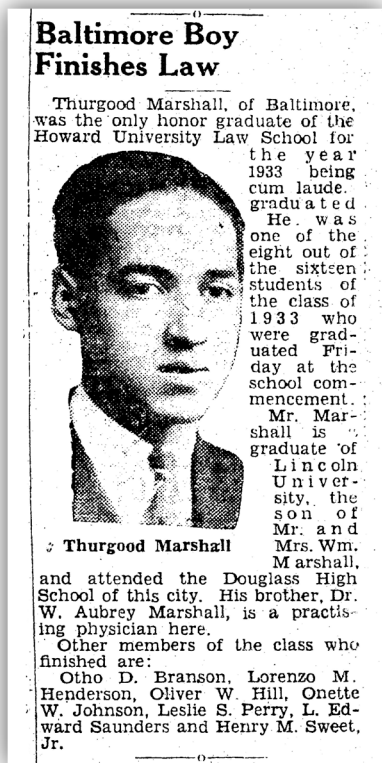
With a passion for teaching, Brown began working in Calvert County Public Schools in 1931; however, when pay discrepancies between white and African-American teachers came to her attention in 1937, she sought justice. After working in Calvert County schools for six years, she learned of pay discrepancies between herself and her white teacher friends. Brown, who

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possessed a principal's certificate and, at that point, eight years of teaching experience, found that her annual salary of \$600 was far below her white peers' salary of \$1,100. Brown saw this discrepancy in pay as a clear violation of the 14th Amendment, the landmark stipulation in the U.S. Constitution that granted all people of color equal rights under the law.



Miss Brown, circa 2000



In the summer and fall of 1937, Brown began reaching out to a network of advocacy groups, including the Maryland State Colored Teachers Association and the NAACP, who pointed her in the direction of the future **Supreme Court Justice, Thurgood Marshall**. At the time, Marshall was a 29 years old attorney who had recently been hired by the NAACP, because of his successful work in fighting for pay equalization for teachers of color.

Marshall filed a petition for Brown's case in the Calvert County Circuit Court on November 11, 1937. Marshall sought a writ of mandamus, a superior court's order to a lower court, board, corporation, or person, commanding it or them to do or not to do an act as the law requires. The mandamus would demand the Calvert County Board of Education to create an equal salary scale for teachers and administrators without distinction as to the race of the teachers or the school where they taught. Only a short while after the suit was filed, the Calvert County Board of

Education and the county commissioners settled with Brown and Marshall outside of court and agreed to equalize salaries on December 27, 1937.

Both Brown and Marshall were not interested in settling the case for Brown alone; rather, they were determined to change the county and state standards for pay equalization. This successful case would set the precedent for pay equalization efforts. Two days after this case, Maryland Governor Harry Nice would call for a statewide equalization of salaries, and in 1941, Maryland's Pay Equalization Law, would be enacted, which ensured that teachers and administrators would receive equal pay regardless of their race or the race of the school where they worked.

Brown ultimately worked in Calvert County Public Schools for more than 30 years. She moved from a teacher to a principal and would see the other Brown v. Board of Education case take place and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 enacted. In writing about her experiences on the case, Brown humbly said that she felt honored to have participated in such a transformative moment in history. She passed away at the age of 101 on January 1, 2009, and is buried at the Southern Memorial Gardens in Dunkirk, Maryland. She is proudly recognized as a member of the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame.

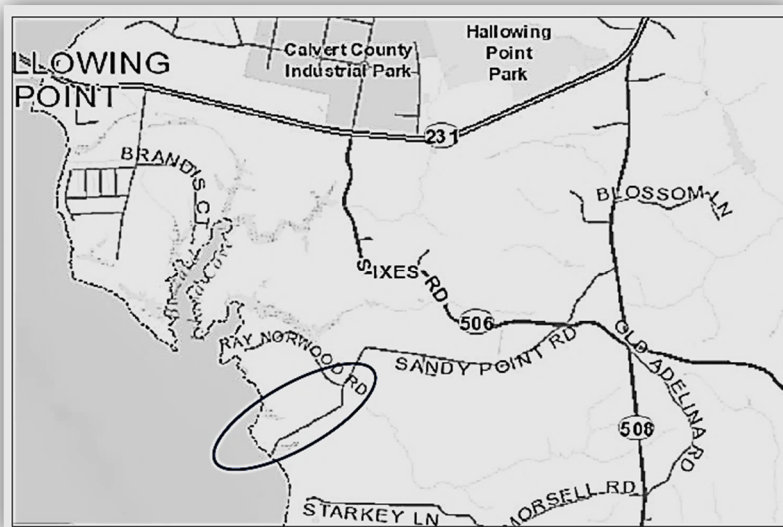
March - Upcoming Brown Bag Lunch!

Author, James Foster
Ice on the Chesapeake Bay: A History

James Foster is a lifelong resident of the Chesapeake Bay region. ... He had the opportunity to study satellite images of the Bay during the intensely cold winter of 1976-77 and has written several scientific articles that deal with ice and snow in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This is his first book on the Chesapeake Bay.

**In person, Brown Bag Lunch, Presentation and book signing
March 10th, 12:00 – 1:15 P.M.**

Location: Linden, 70 Church Street. Prince Frederick, MD 20678



CAMP WOOLSTON

1937-1943

Prince Frederick (Sandy Point)

By Mary Rockefeller

A summer camp existed in Calvert County for a short period of time and is largely unknown. Very little information has been found thus far and if anyone knows more, the Historical Society would appreciate hearing from you.

Camp Woolston was owned by Samuel Woolston Lippincott and his wife, Helen Lawrence Lippincott of Baltimore and operated as a private girls' camp from 1937 to 1943. Mr. Lippincott was the retired president of the Terminal Warehouse Company in Baltimore.

On July 1, 1936, Goodman and Belle Goldstein sold Samuel W. and Helen L. Lippincott twenty-four and one-quarter acres of land located along Sandy Point Road and ending at the Patuxent River (deed AAH/36/239).¹ The property is now within the Prince Frederick ZIP Code. The lot was a long, rectangular-shaped parcel that widened out somewhat as it reached the Patuxent River. Its boundaries adjoined the lands of Goodman Goldstein, Cephas H. Bowen, James Henry Hutchins, James F. Hall, and others. Goldstein had purchased the land from Grover C. and Edna Young in

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Save the Dates!

Calvert County Historical Society

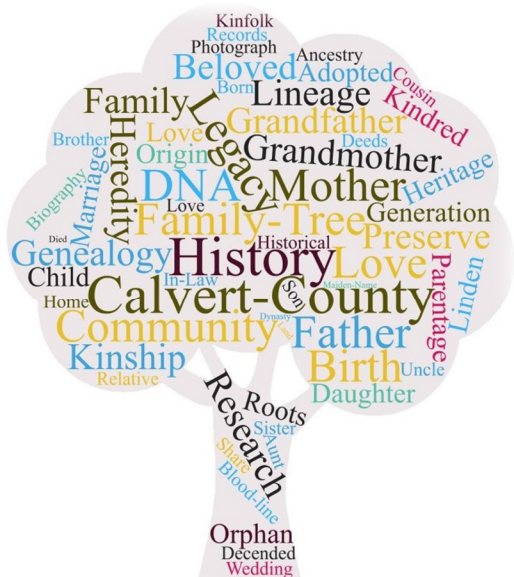
TENTATIVE 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The schedule below may need to be altered in the future due to unforeseen circumstances. Always check event dates/times on our website: www.calverthistory.org for the most up to date information, dates and possible program notices.



March 10 th	Brown Bag Lunch: Ice on the Chesapeake
Month of April	Genealogy & Family Research classes
May 1 st	Spring High Tea – “May day” theme – Membership Event
June 9 th	Annual Dinner/Auction - Membership Event
June 19 th	Front Porch Concert - Open to the Public
July 17 th	Front Porch Concert - Open to the Public
August 1 – 5 th	Kids History Camp – Registration Required
August 21 st	Front Porch Concert - Open to the Public
September 18 th	Front Porch Concert - Open to the Public
October 8 th	Calvert Quilt Show & Sale - Open to the Public
October 13 th	Brown Bag Lunch: Heritage Quilting
November 19 th	Hospice Wreath Event - Open to the Public
December 3 rd	Holiday Light Up Linden – Open to the Public
December 21 st	Winter Solstice – Open to the Public

CCHS staff and volunteers will all be adhering to all State and County health and safety requirements and procedures for future events. Face masks may be required and will be provided for our guests if they do not have one.



Genealogy Classes

The CCHS will be conducting a genealogical and family research class throughout the month of April, on four consecutive Fridays:

Dates: April 8th, 15th, 22nd and 28th
10:00 a.m., to 12:00 p.m.

The cost for the 4 classes is: \$15 for CCHS members and \$20 for non-members. **Class size is limited to 18 and will be filled on a first come first serve basis.** Reservations should be made by calling: (410) 535-2452.

Location: Linden – 70 Church St., Prince Frederick, MD., 20678

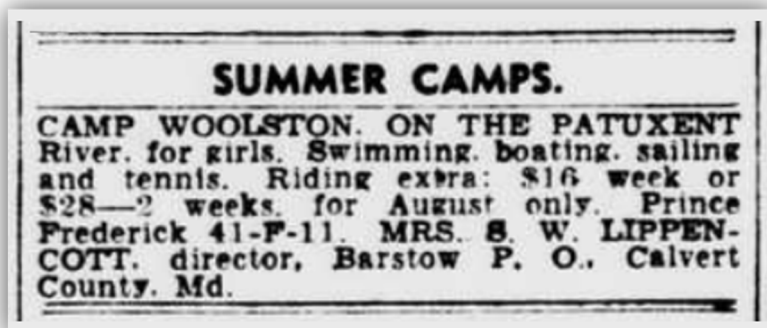
“Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much”

– **Helen Keller**

Camp Woolston continued...

1926. The camp was located on the end of property near the shore.

Little is known about this camp other than a few advertisements and articles found in newspapers. It seems to have been for girls from other areas, not those living in Calvert County.



The first ads found were from the *The Sunday Star*, Washington, DC, March 21, 1937, and *The Evening Star*, Washington, DC, August 4, 1938. The camp was for girls 7 to 16 years of age and included swimming, boating, sailing, and tennis. The cost was \$16 a week or \$28 for two weeks (equal to \$298 and \$522 in March 2021¹). Riding was extra. This was a rather expensive camp, and it is likely the participants were from fairly well-off families. Even though the area was still very rural at that time, Calvert has always been a beautiful county. Children from cities or more developed areas probably enjoyed a few weeks in a bucolic setting. In June 1941, a Sandy Point correspondent reporting for the *Calvert Independent* newspaper said that Camp Woolston would be opening for the summer season the following weekend. He also noted that “we neighbors are not allowed by law to set foot upon the camp grounds,” but he still welcomed the young ladies who would be attending the camp that summer.¹

Camp Woolston closed its fifth season on August 30, 1941. That particular year, it had about 40 campers from

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Baltimore, Frederick, Hagerstown, and Chevy Chase in Maryland, along with some from Washington, DC, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.ⁱ

At a closing party, 36 boys from Camp Conoy, a YMCA camp formerly located in the Lusby area, were invited to join the Camp Woolston girl campers for a costume ball. There was a grand march, costume judging, and dancing until 9:00 p.m. Of course, ice cream and cake were served. Everyone had a great time, and it was hoped the two camp groups could meet again. On December 12, 1942, a fire broke out on the second floor of the residential house at Camp Woolston. The Calvert County Volunteer Fire Department, under the direction of Chief Engineer Halson Young, was able to extinguish the blaze. While it was initially thought that the building could not be saved, the firemen were able to get it under control thanks to a new, well-equipped engine and skilled firemen. The house suffered only a partial loss, but damage was still estimated between \$1,000-\$1,500 (equal to \$16,497-\$27,745 in December 2021ⁱⁱ). The fire was likely caused by a faulty chimney serving the second floor of the building. On the day of the fire, Mrs. Lippincott was due to arrive at the camp, and Harry Robinson made a fire in the fireplace so that she could be comfortable when she arrived. At least part of the house must have been habitable and what a nice gesture from Mr. Robinson.ⁱⁱⁱ

The newspaper praised the firemen for their prompt and efficient work. In addition to Halson Young and Harry Robinson, the article also mentioned James Barnes, Owen Carroll, Ben Cochrane, and Lawrence Clark who worked hard to contain the fire.

Camp Woolston reopened in 1943 as evidenced by several personal notices from local newspapers in Frederick and Hagerstown regarding girls attending the camp. Nothing was found for 1944.

Samuel Lippincott died on September 17, 1944, and his wife became the full owner of the Camp Woolston property. On September 29, 1944, Helen Lippincott sold the Camp Woolston property to the Friendship House Association, Inc. of Washington, DC (deed AWR/3/224). A 1957 Calvert County aerial map of that area showed the Friendship House Association also using the property as a summer camp.^{iv} The property was sold by the Friendship House Association in 1976 and has since been lightly subdivided. The shape of the entire original lot is pretty much the same as when the Lippincotts first purchased it in 1936.

Please email any comments to: volunteer@calverthistory.org or call 410-535-2452.

**Calvert County
Historical Society**

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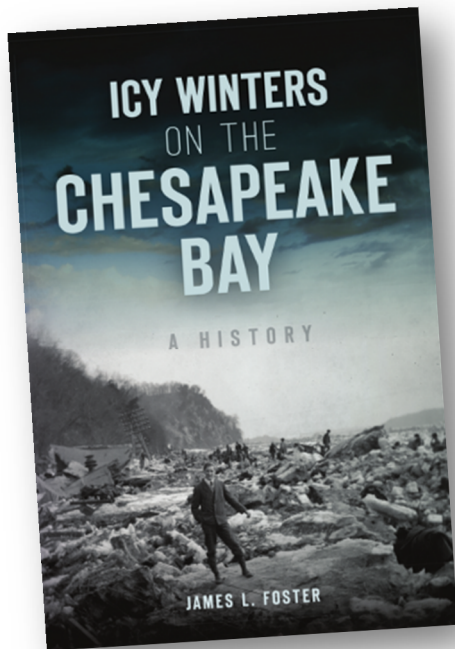
McWilliams

Russell Stewart

Greg Stottlemeyer

Nancy Thompson





Icy Winters on the Chesapeake Bay: A History

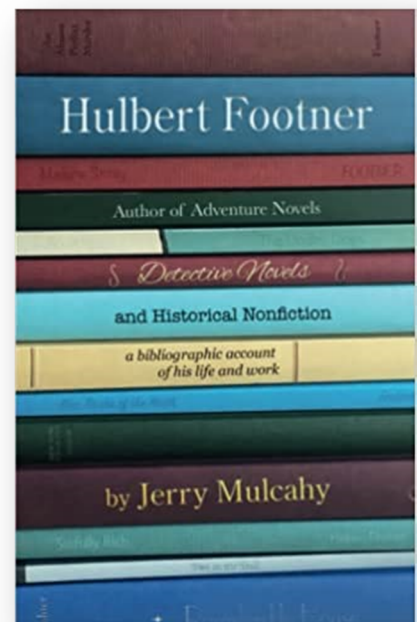
Sailing on the Chesapeake Bay's myriad inlets in summer, it is hard to imagine that, come January, icebreakers may be plowing the waters you cruised in July. When portions of the Great Shellfish Bay are iced up, the flow of commerce is impeded. At the turn of the nineteenth century, with the center of the new nation's government established in its arms, a frozen Bay meant that the United States' emergence to a status on par with the foremost nations of the world might be painfully slow. Author James Foster chronicles the disasters and pitfalls, large and small that come with the coldest of winters.

Signed Paperback - \$21.99



Hulbert Footner: Author of Adventure Novels, Detective Novels and Historical Nonfiction

This book contains a brief biography of Hulbert Footner (1879-1944.) Born in Canada, Footner moved to the United States where he wrote stories for popular American magazines, plays for theatres, and novels for devotees of detective and adventure fiction. He made enough of a living from the 50+ novels to purchase a waterfront property in southern Maryland, travel widely and then settle down to produce serious and well-received works of nonfiction. Canadians enjoyed his canoeing tales and stories about the Northwest, Americans his books about the regions and rivers of the mid-Atlantic, and mystery fans from everywhere, his creation of the characters of Madame Rosika Storey and Amos Lee Mappin.



Paperback - \$10.00

“Books are a uniquely portable magic.” – Stephen King



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Note from the Director continued...

We believe all of these offerings for 2022 will help us move in fulfilling our mission, attaining new members, sustaining our core values and preserving the wonderful heritage of Calvert County. We're looking forward to seeing you all in the months ahead!

– John R. Johnson, Director

Camp Woolston citations:

¹ Maryland State Archives, Calvert County Land Records 8/26/2021, <https://mdlandrec.net/main/>. ¹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, CPI Inflation Calculator 8/26/2021, https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm. ¹ Sandy Point Observations," *Calvert Independent*, 6/19/1941, p. 6. ¹ "Camp Woolston Closes August 30th," *Calvert Independent*, 8/14/1941, p. 2. ¹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. ¹ "Camp Woolston Partly Destroyed by Fire," *Calvert Independent*, December 17, 1942, p 1. ¹ Calvert County Government, *Historic Imagery Map*, accessed August 26, 2021, <https://www.calvertcountymd.gov/1537/Interactive-Maps>

Harriet Elizabeth Brown - Biography:
<https://msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc3500/sc3520/013500/013592/html/13592bio.html>

"The road to success is always under construction." ~ Lily Tomlin



Calvert County Historical Society

"Where Your History Comes Alive"

Our mission:

To collect, preserve, research and share the history of Calvert County.

Contact Us:

Calvert County Historical Society

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Email: cchsadmin@calverthistory.org

www.CalvertHistory.org



A Calvert County Historical Society membership helps support Linden, the Archives, and the numerous educational programs and workshops we offer. CCHS offers yearly student, individual, institutional, couple, individual sustaining and Partner in Preservation memberships.



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**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP**

We're happy to offer an online option link http://www.calverthistory.org/?page_id=1330 ← click here, to join and pay your membership dues securely via **PayPal** on our website. Or, fill out the form below and return with a check for your membership dues. *Thank you for your support!*

\$15

Student

\$40

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\$500

Lifetime

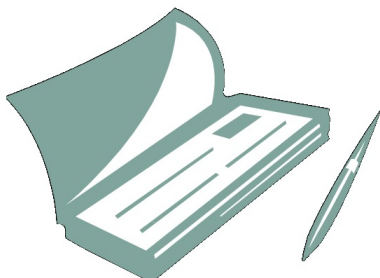
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The Calvert County Historical Society is recognized as a 501(c) (3) tax exempt entity. **Any donations made to benefit the CCHS are tax deductible.** CCHS will gladly provide a written receipt to accompany any cancelled check, an online PayPal donation receipt donation or cash donation made for your tax preparation purposes.



If you wish to join, pay your dues or make a donation by check, please complete this membership form above, and make your check payable to: **Calvert County Historical Society.**

Mail to, or drop it off at:

Calvert County Historical Society
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