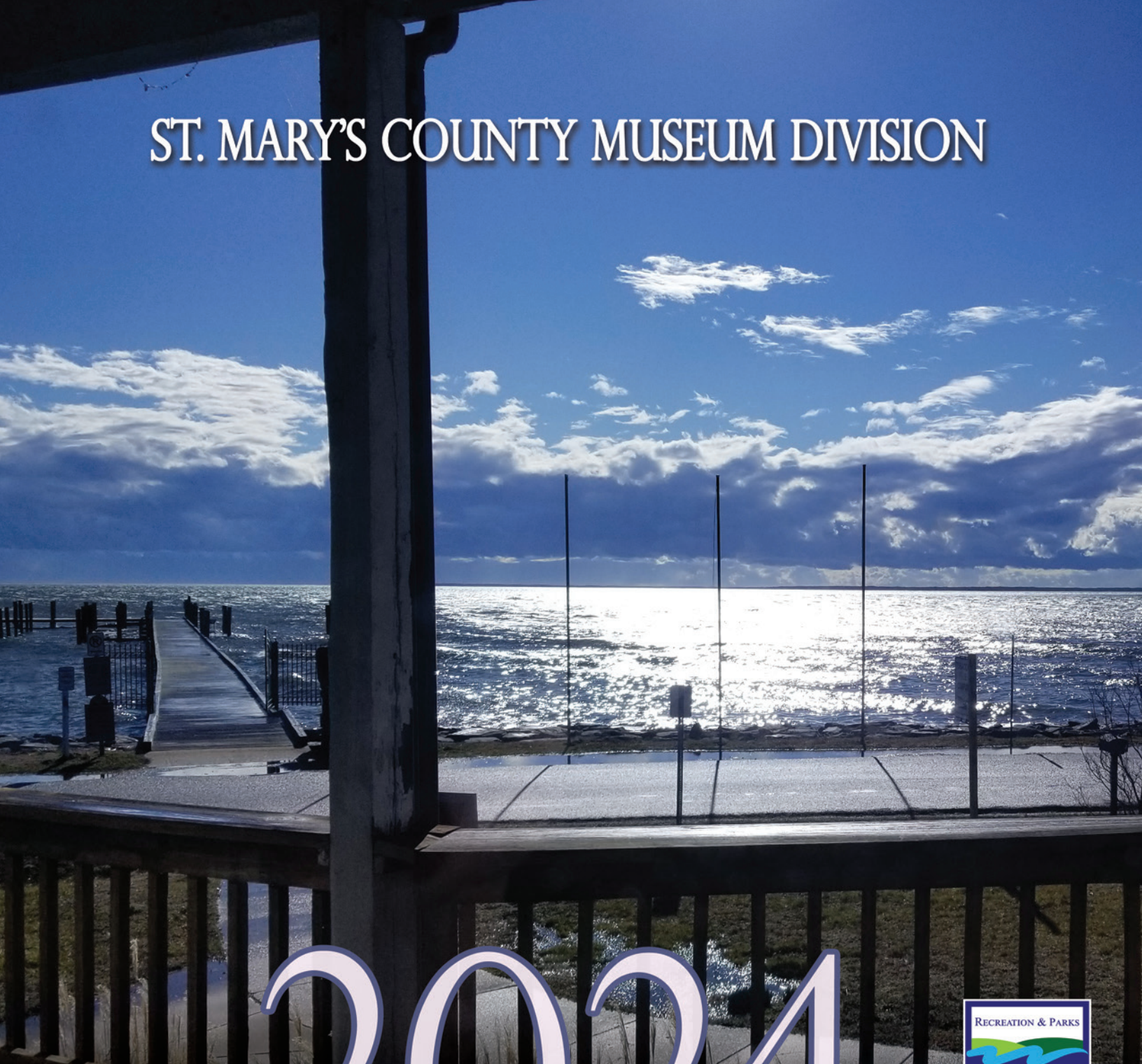


ST. MARY'S COUNTY MUSEUM DIVISION



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

ST. CLEMENT'S ISLAND MUSEUM, PINEY POINT LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM AND HISTORIC PARK, OLD JAIL MUSEUM AND DRAYDEN AFRICAN AMERICAN SCHOOLHOUSE

museums.stmarysmd.com

SOME UPS AND SOME DOWNS

2024 was a year of both accomplishment and of frustration. We awarded the contract for the new ADA compliant water taxi, with construction currently underway, and we should have use of it in late 2025. We also received the final permits needed to complete the shore erosion project at Piney Point, which will proceed in 2025. But we are still working through some issues with the new museum building project for St. Clement's Island Museum - which has not gone out to bid yet - but we are hopeful it will be issued early in 2025.

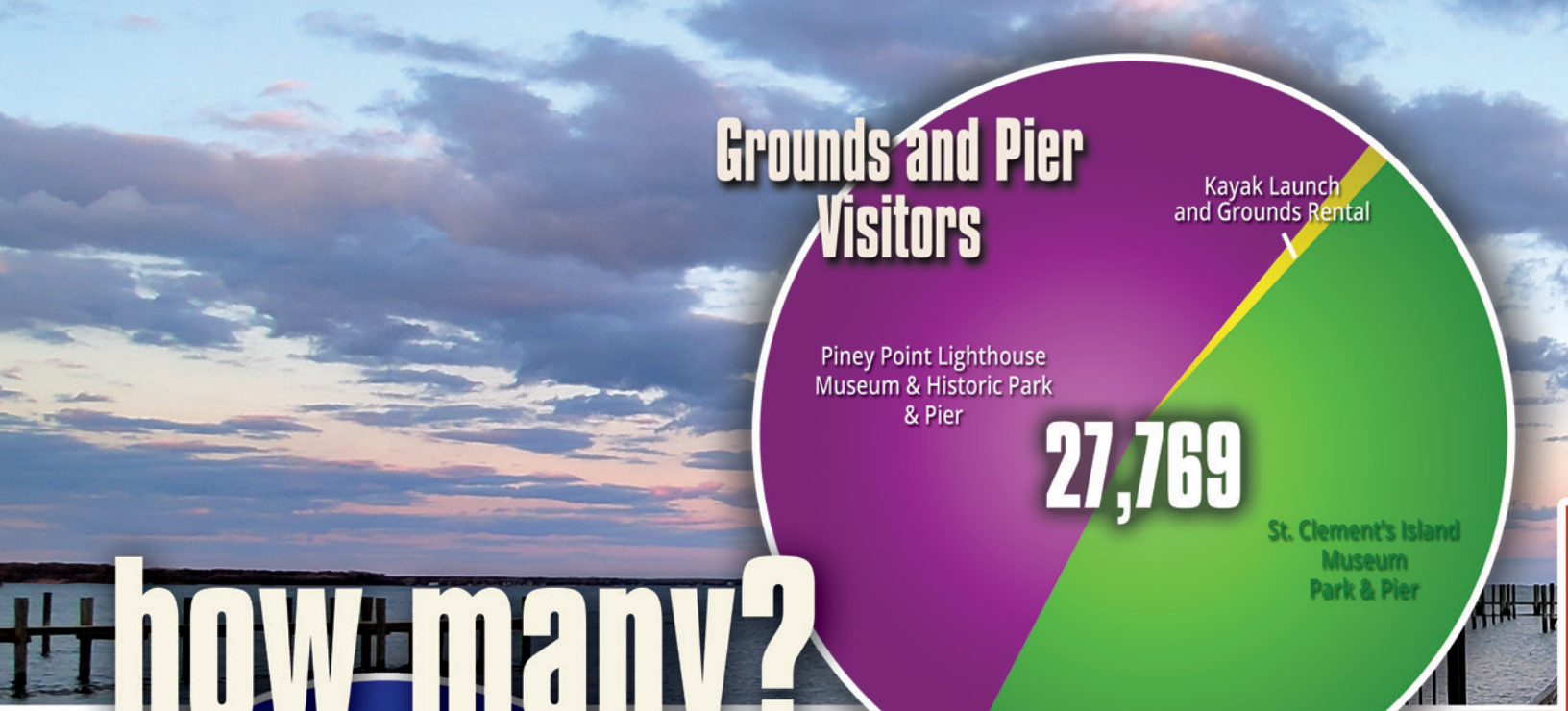
We also had some staff changes! We wish those who left us well and are very excited to welcome new folks. Janet Cooper was promoted to Friends Administrator and has brought a great deal of energy and enthusiasm to that position. She is working very closely with Olivia Flack, who has come on as the Education/Program Coordinator. Together, they have planned a wonderful year's worth of events.

Perhaps the biggest "up" of the year was the acceptance of my forthcoming book about the *Black Diamond* for publication by The History Press. It is in the final stages of preparation and will be released in April 2025 during the annual commemorative event. It will be for sale in the Museum Stores (and elsewhere) and some of the proceeds will benefit the museums.

By the end of 2025, we hope to have several large projects completed and/or well underway, so please "excuse our dust" as they say, and be sure to watch for updates, special events and other celebrations as we get all of our spaces into shipshape.







Grounds and Pier Visitors



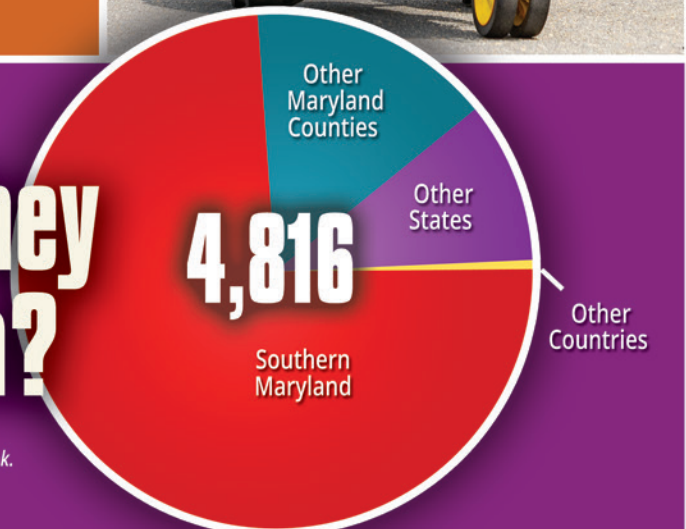
how many?



Museum Visitors and Outreach



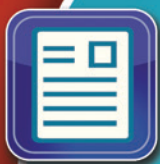
where did they come from?



**from the subset of visitors who signed the guest book.*

our visitors 2024

how do we keep in touch?



Newsletter
Subscribers



Facebook
Followers

15,159



Instagram
Followers



X Followers
(formerly Twitter)



how did they find us?

- Internet
- Word of Mouth
- Brochure
- Repeat Visit
- Road Signs
- Newspaper
- Visitor Centers

**shown in descending order*



museum events **events** off site events

Appraiser Fair at SCIM
Second Saturday Activities at the Museums
Community Day at SCIM & PPLM
Black History Month Open Houses at
USCT Interpretive Center
Maryland Day at SCIM
Monthly Open House at Drayden
African American Schoolhouse
Rebels & Redcoats at PPLM
First Landing Wine & Arts Festival at SCIM
Black Diamond Disaster Civil War Event at SCIM
Mobile Library Monthly Visits at SCIM and PPLM
Dinner & a Cruise Series at SCIM
Free Admission on Mother's Day to the Museums
Free Admission on Armed Forces Day to the Museum
St. Clement's Island Heritage Day
Story Time with the Public Library at PPLM
Free Admission on Father's Day to the Museum
Juneteenth Open House at Drayden
African American Schoolhouse
Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival at SCIM
Outdoor Adventures at Piney Point
St. Clement's Island Museum Art Kids Programs
National Lighthouse Weekend at PPLM
Children's Day at SCIM
FamilyFest on the Potomac at PPLM
Museum Store Sunday
Holiday Open House at SCIM & PPLM
Cookies & Milk with Santa Storytime at
USCT Interpretive Center
Evening Tides Candlelight Tour at PPLM
Holidays at PPLM
Christmas Doll & Train Exhibit at SCIM

*SCIM = St. Clement's Island Museum
PPLM = Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park
USCT = U.S. Colored Troops Interpretive Center
OJM = Old Jail Museum & Leonardtown Visitor Center

Leonardtown First Fridays at the OJM
Black History Month
Moll Dyer Day at the OJM
Tourism Day in Annapolis
Southern Maryland Legislative Reception
Cherry Blossom Festival
Leonardtown Car Show
Southern Maryland Equity in History Coalition
Launch Event
Flag Day in Leonardtown
Juneteenth Festival
Southern Maryland Equity in History Coalition
Teacher Institutes
Sunflower Festival at Serenity Farm
St. Mary's County Fair
Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours
Underground Railroad Month
Community, Culture & Cuisine Festival
Blessing of the Fleet
St. Mary's County Government Wellness Day
Community Health & Wellness Fair
Maryland Lynching Memorial Project Conference
Maryland Truth & Reconciliation Commission
Public Hearing
Christmas on the Square in Leonardtown



The St. Mary's County Museum Division is one of only two accredited organizations in St. Mary's County, one of only three in Southern Maryland, and one of only 23 in all of Maryland.



donations

A print of her original painting featuring St. Mary's County waterman Clemie Cheseldine, donated by Betty J. Fuqua

A collection of scanned images of the Palmer boat yard in Avenue, Maryland, donated by Brenda Burch

A collection of scanned photos and documents related to former Blackistone Lighthouse Keeper, Leonard Staubly, donated by Colby Darr

Research materials related to St. Mary's County, donated by Joseph S. Guy

exhibits

AT ST. CLEMENT'S ISLAND MUSEUM

Through Darkness to Light: Photographs Along the Underground Railroad traveling exhibit

The Beauty of Southern Maryland local artist pop-up art exhibit

Remembering the Seventh District featuring photos of the Seventh District, St. Mary's County, Maryland from the museum division photo collections

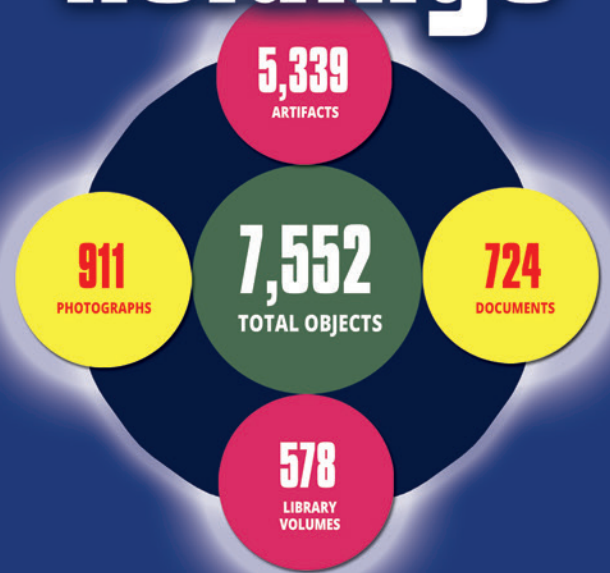
St. Clement's Island Museum Kids art exhibit

Oyster Exhibit featuring items on loan from Thomas Beckwith

Living and Playing in St. Mary's County local artist pop-up art exhibit

Christmas Doll and Train Exhibit

holdings



artifacts on loan

25 artifacts are on loan FROM other institutions
4 artifacts are on loan TO other institutions



volunteer hours

163 HOURS
ST. CLEMENT'S
ISLAND MUSEUM

335 HOURS
PINEY POINT
LIGHTHOUSE MUSEUM
& HISTORIC PARK

42 HOURS
DRAYDEN AFRICAN
AMERICAN
SCHOOLHOUSE

144 HOURS
TRUSTEES

56 HOURS
FRIENDS

THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!
740 hours = \$27,783

museum division board of trustees

This advisory group is appointed by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County, and serves to provide them with advice and assistance concerning the cultural and natural history of the region through the establishment and maintenance of museums.

Conner Wolfe, President
Michael Brown, Vice President
Michael Blackwell, Secretary
Kathy Bailey
Dr. Catherine Bowes
Robin Finnacom

Lynn Fitrell
Laura Friess
Caitlyn Hunter
Karla Langhus
Emily Lewis
Katherine Ross

2024 budget

(July 2023 - June 2024)

\$857,273

TOTAL BUDGET

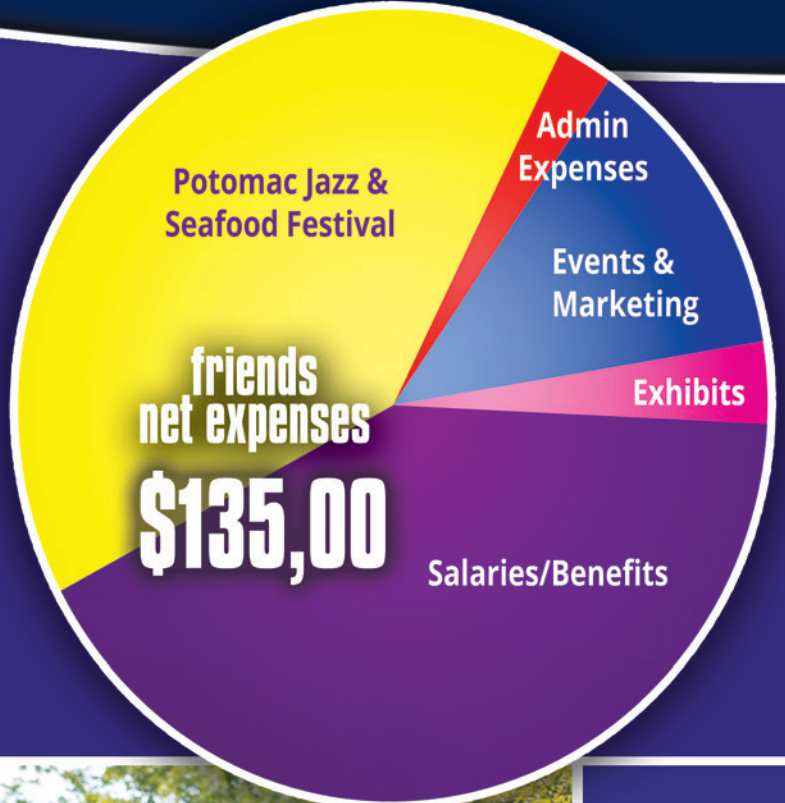
Salaries/Benefits

- Telephone/Postage
- Staff Development, Membership
- Utilities
- Minor Projects
- Advertising
- Contracted Services
- Vehicles
- Supplies/Materials
- Printing
- Insurance
- Maintenance



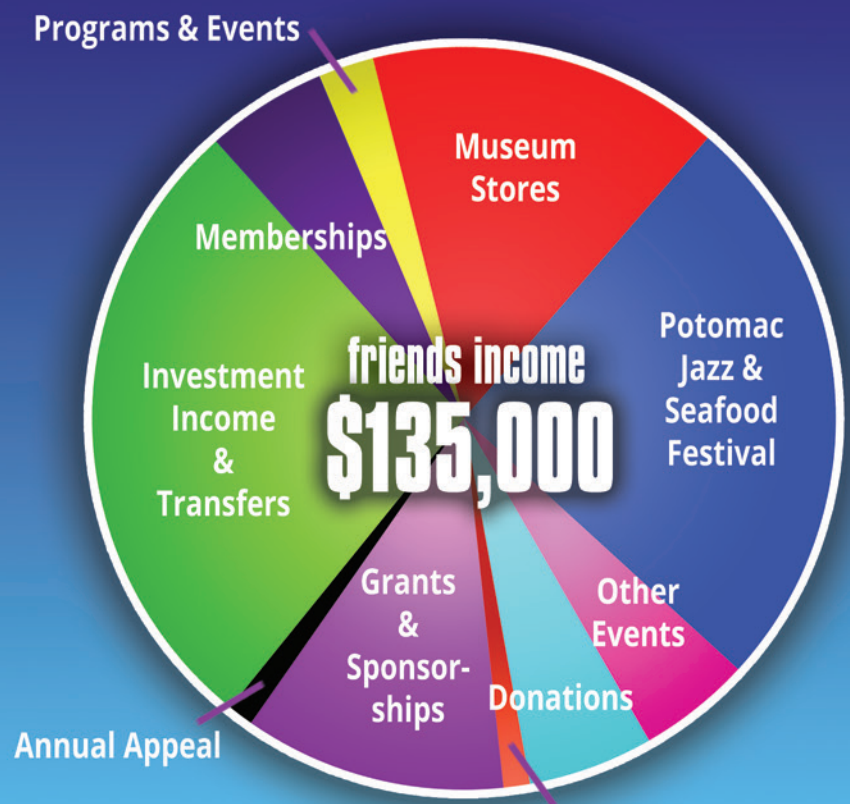
Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums

The Friends organization is the 501(c)3 arm of the Museum Division of the St. Mary's County Department of Recreation & Parks, whose mission it is to raise funds in order to support historical interpretation, education programs and special needs of the sites managed by the Museum Division of St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks.



friends board of directors

- Dale Springer, President
- Todd Morgan, Vice President
- Judy Sterling, Secretary
- Paul Nelson, Treasurer
- Ann Davis
- Gretchan Hardman
- Tressa Setlak
- Brian Williams



museum store gross proceeds

\$36,776

The Museum Stores are wonderful places to shop and offer a number of items of local interest, including a number of things made in the county.

Total sales for 2024 were 2% less than 2023 sales. This is in large part due to not participating in the US Oyster Festival which became impractical with their dramatic increase in vendor fees. We are looking for other events to make up this difference in 2025. The projected margins based on current inventory remain strong at 52%, which is up 1% over 2023.

memorial donations

We would like to thank these families for remembering the Museums and asking for donations to be made in lieu of flowers.

In Memory of Frank Branan Roys

Kenneth & Holly Alford

Nancy JW Bybel

Pregnancy Care Center of the Northern Big Country in honor of Lianne Tidwell

Cathleen Stup

In Memory of James Guy

Bill & Dot Guy

Shirley Dean

Crystal Lord/SSO Family

Patricia Smith

gifted memberships

Did you know you can buy a membership and give it as a gift?

One size fits all! Thank you to all who did this year.

Bill & Yvonne Eggleston gifted a Family Membership

Mike & Christina Barbour

Neal Dyson gifted three Family Memberships

Susan Gilman gifted an Individual Membership

2024 sponsors & in-kind donors

Antoinette's Garden

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 221

Angela Wathen Art

Bailey's Party Rentals

Ron Bailey Photography

Mike Barbour

The Bay Net

Black-eyed Susan Doll Club of Southern Maryland

Brother's Johnson, Inc.

Brudergarten Beer Garden at Shepherd's Old Field Market

Chesapeake Custom Embroidery

Chesapeake Orchestra

College of Southern Maryland

Cosmic Symphony

Country Inn & Suites

County Times

Delicados

The Enterprise

Fenwick Street Used Books

The Good Earth

Guy Distributing

Hammer's Antiques & Collectibles

Maggie & Anthony Hammett

Gretchen Hardman

Hometown Karaoke & DJ Services

Jazz in the Country

Kneaded

Leonardtown Cigars

Maryland Humanities Council

Todd Morgan

Nicoletti's Pizza

NSI

Parron Coin Co.

Patuxent Habitat for Humanity

Patuxent River Sail & Power

Squadron

Port of Leonardtown Winery

The Printing Press

Quality Street Catering

Real Food Studio

Salted Scoop

Seventh District Optimist Club

Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department

Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary

Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad

Shari Mesh Appraisal Services

The Slice House

SMECO

Southern Maryland Center for Independent Living

Southern Maryland Chronicle

Southern Maryland National Heritage Area

Dale & Lois Springer

St. Clement's Hundred

St. Mary's County Arts Council

St. Mary's County Health Department

St. Mary's County Library

St. Mary's County Recreation & Parks

Sweetbay Restaurant & Bar

W.E. Stone Photography

TDRI

Tobacco Barn Distillery

The Town of Leonardtown

Towne Florist

Visit St. Mary's MD

Viking Axe Throwing - Cori Erikson

Brian Williams

Ellen Duke Wilson

INDIVIDUAL

Kathy Bailey
 Debbie Bartlett
 Bettie (Sara) Broadhurst
 Mary Jean Davidge
 Judy Guy
 Darlene Guyther
 John Hartline
 Mary Ellen Heinze
 Sandra Curtis
 Frank Locke
 Claudia McAuliffe
 Virginia Petite
 Mary Ida Rolape
 Bliss Ryan
 Nicole Stewart
 Sarah Swales
 Anthony Ventre
 Joan Warczynski
 Kristine Willard

FAMILY

Jeff & Caryn Bacon
 Sam & Beverly Bailey
 Suzanne Baron
 Michael Blackwell
 Ann Covig
 Carol Cribbs
 Samuel & Marsha Dyson
 Neal Dyson
 Carl & Beth Dyson
 Tom & Ann Emery
 Merl Evans
 Rose Frederick
 Peter & Laura Halikman
 Timothy Hooyer
 George & Mary Kennett
 Mike & Kristen Knott
 Meg Leahey
 Duke & Kathy May
 Sean & Jennifer Newhart
 Ed Rule
 Phillip & Susan Stinchcomb
 Virginia Suites
 Alvonne Wimmer

HERITAGE

Frank & Christina Allen
 Jon & Pam Baake
 Michael & Christina Barbour
 Charles (Eddie) Bowling
 Teresa Butt
 Kathleen Cummings
 Jim & Jeanne Marie Dabney
 Marcia Doerr
 Peter & Mary Ann Friesen
 Sudan Gilman
 Chris & Gretchen Hardman
 Dan Ion
 Frederick Millhiser
 Dale Springer
 Frank Waikart
 Richard & Patricia Welch

PATRON

Samuel & Jan Brown
 Brian & Beth (Tolson) Bruffey
 Tom Cordell
 Susan Flemming
 Paul & Mellie Nelson
 Judith Sterling
 Brian Williams

BENEFACTOR

Karen Abrams & Jim Kenney
 Donna Brown & Robert Lindbland
 Eugene & Shelby Guazzo

membership by levels



Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museums



Join the Friends today. Benefits include free museum admission, the quarterly *Finer Points* newsletter, email updates for special events, NARM benefits, and a 10% museum store discount. Benefits vary by level and can also include guest passes and water taxi passes. To become a member of the Friends, download the membership form at: www.stmarysmc.com/recreate/friends.

CALL FOR EVENT SPONSORS

The Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums are looking for community businesses to help support our expanded educational and community-focused event calendar. **The Friends have introduced a new Business Membership program with sponsorship opportunities and year-round benefits.**

Sponsorships help to support our museums and our local history. Email Janet.Cooper@stmaryscountymd.gov for more information.



ST. MARY'S COUNTY MUSEUMS

2024 Annual Report

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