



ST. MARY'S COUNTY
MUSEUM DIVISION

museums.stmarysmd.com

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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



2020: A YEAR OF CHALLENGE

2020 was a year like no other, to say the least. A deadly pandemic swept the globe, shuttering businesses and quarantining many. Yet we survived, and in many ways actually thrived. The temporary closures of the sites pushed us to explore new ideas and to become more creative and adaptive in all we did.

We adapted schedules to maximize the safety of our staff and visitors. Administrative staff (five full-time employees and two part-time (Friends) employees teleworked from March through May, and then began coming in one day a week in June. After about six weeks, the staff began coming in more regularly as the sites were opened.

Flexibility was key as the situation evolved. Museum assistants were laid off in March and the water taxi captains were not hired for the season, which normally opens March 25th. All were brought back in June when we began running the water taxi. With the addition of the Old Jail Museum in June, we needed to hire several new museum assistants in addition to bringing back all those already on the books.

We reopened sites gradually and safely. The St. Clement's Island Museum reopened in September, and Piney Point followed in November, just in time for the annual Holiday Open Houses and exhibits.

We used down time for upgrades! We made some exciting changes at Piney Point while we were closed to the public, including:

- installing new flooring on the first floor of the main museum building
- installing three new permanent exhibits in the main museum building
- completing the installation of a new temporary exhibit in the main museum building
- installing new interpretive panels in the Keeper's Quarters

Cover: The Old Jail Museum in Leonardtown is the latest addition to the St. Mary's County Museum Division properties. Back and front cover photos by Conni Leigh James

CHALLENGES AND GROWTH

We kept in touch with our community. Our biggest challenge was making sure the public did not forget us!

We strengthened our presence on social media in a variety of ways, including:

- Opening an e-store where we carry many of our most popular items and where the public can buy or renew a Friends membership
- Beginning the weekly *Wayback Wednesday* series of local history stories on Facebook
- Changing *Throwback Thursday* to a *From Our Collections* presentation of interesting and unusual items from the collections

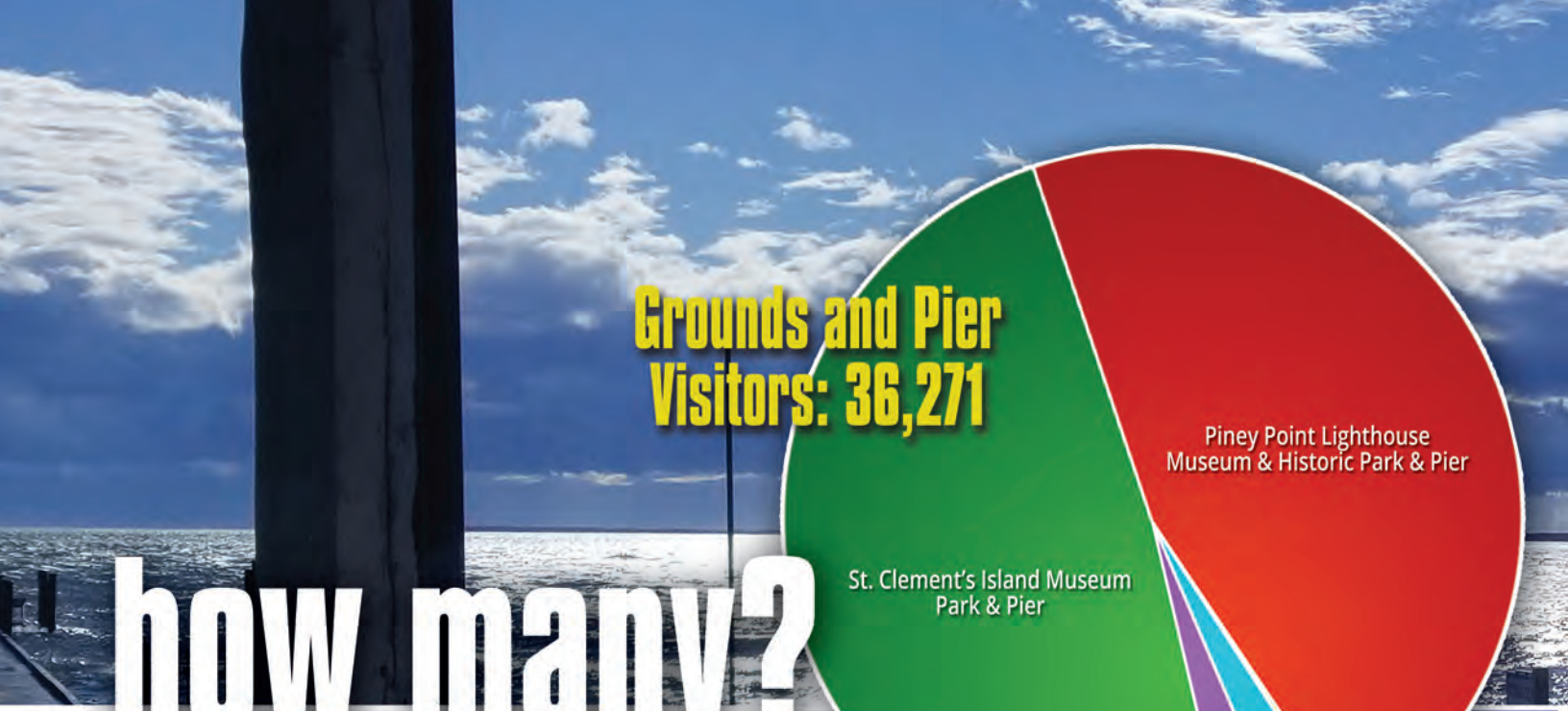
We gave quarantine-weary families an escape. Exploring the great outdoors was one of the few safe activities available during the pandemic, and that's where we shine! We encouraged people to get outside and enjoy the beautiful parks, piers, picnic areas, walking paths and grounds that surround the museums.

We added a new museum! Our greatest accomplishment was the addition of the Old Jail Museum to our property list.

- It was put under the Museum Division on July 1st as both a museum and the official Leonardtown Visitor Center
- It opened full time to the public in September and operates on the same schedule as the other sites
- It served as the host site for a *Business After Hours* event for the Chamber of Commerce and has been open for all of Leonardtown's First Friday events

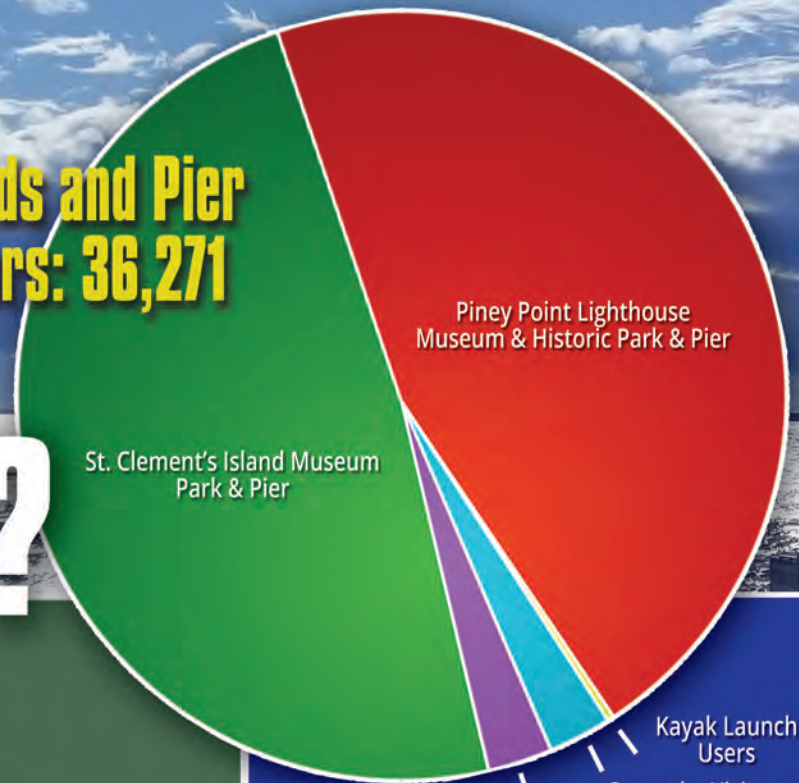
Thank you for staying with us and continuing to support the Museum Division.



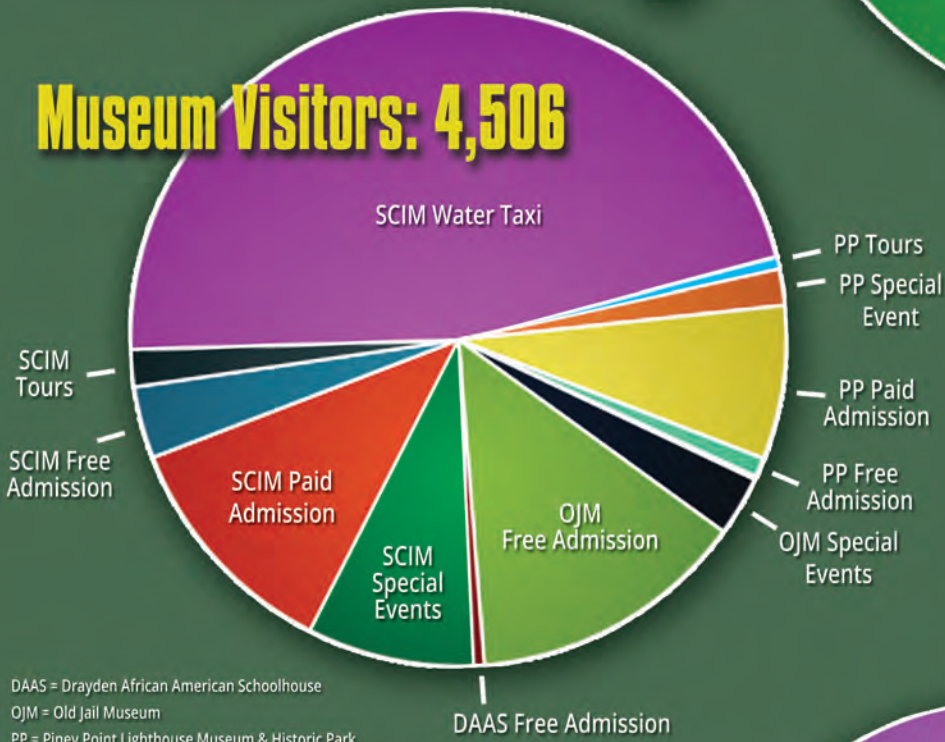


Grounds and Pier Visitors: 36,271

how many?



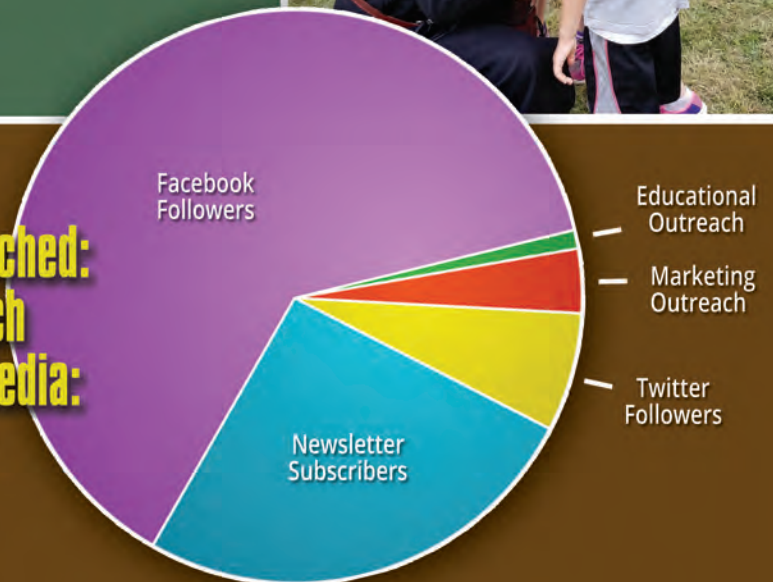
Museum Visitors: 4,506



DAAS = Drayden African American Schoolhouse
 OJM = Old Jail Museum
 PP = Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park
 SCIM = St. Clement's Island Museum

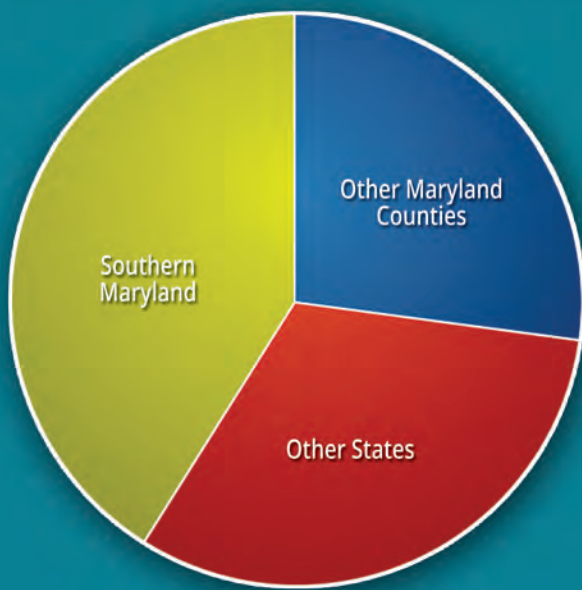


Others Reached: Outreach & Social Media: 222



our 2020 visitors

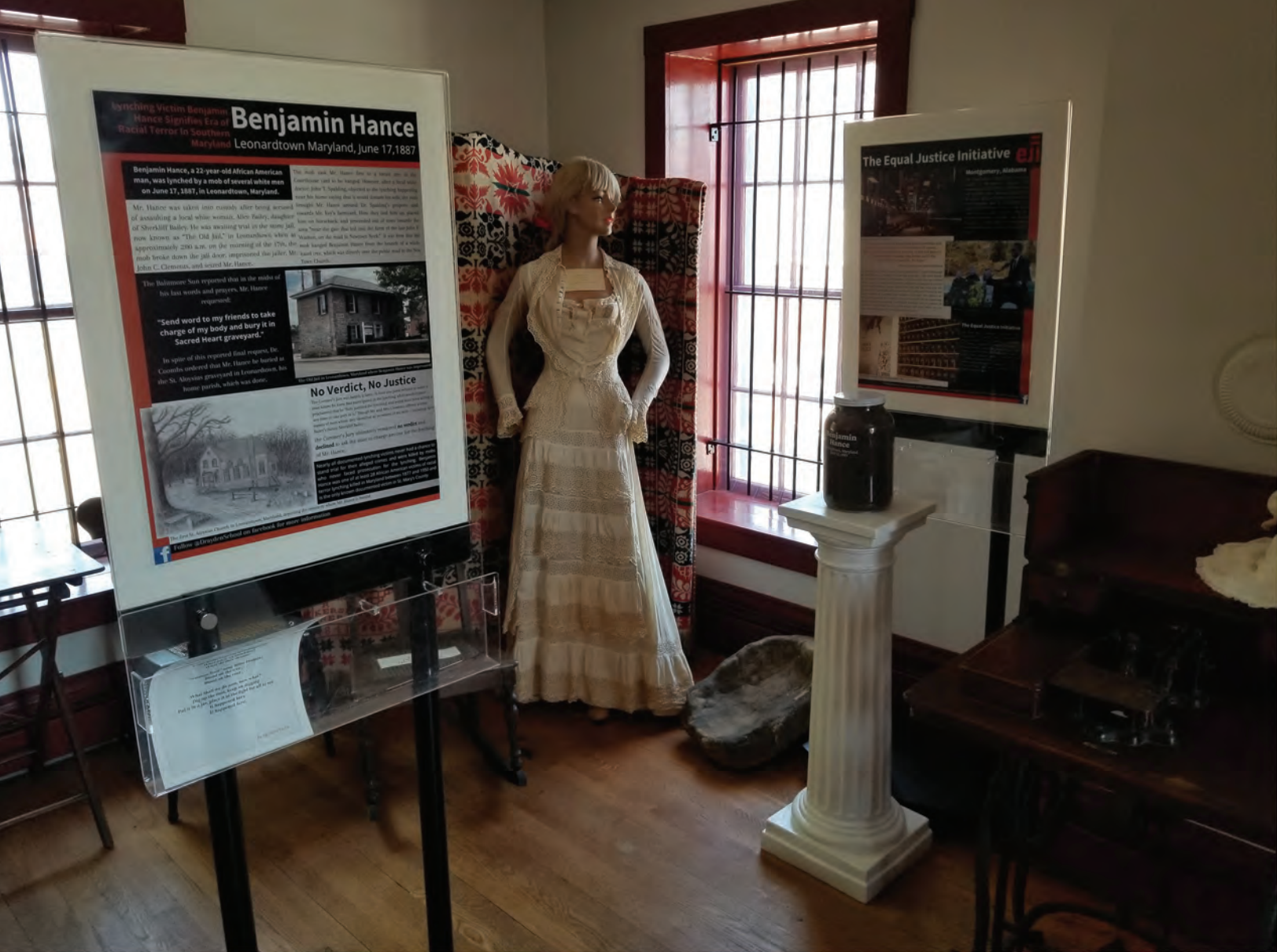
where did they come from?



how did they find us?

- Museum Brochure
- Internet
- Newspapers & Magazines
- Maps, Visitor Centers, Road Signs
- Repeat Visit
- Schools
- Word of Mouth





events exhibits

Appraiser Fair
 Artists' Reception
 One St. Clement's Island Dinner & A Cruise
 Christmas Open House
 Museum Store Sunday Outdoor Market

Christmas Doll and Train Exhibit
 Corinthian Yacht Club Exhibit
 Popup Art Exhibit of Local Artists



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.

in kind contributors

In-kind Contributors

Angela Wathen Art

Mike Barbour

Black Eyed Susan Doll Club of Southern Maryland

Trish Clark

Harriet Gossett

Hammer Antiques and Collectibles

Maggie and Anthony Hammett

Jeanne Huett

Mike Johnson

Dorie Lear

Laura Hammett Photography

Shari Mesh

Michelle Delane

Parron Coin Company

Piscataway Conoy Tribe

St. Clement's Hundred

Nicole Steuart

Pat Thomas

Monetary Contributors

Maggie and Anthony Hammett

donations

1920s winch and seine net roller, donated by Bill Haskell

A print of his artwork entitled the St. Clement's Island Lighthouse, donated by James Kinnett

Ledger, deeds, roster, diary, post cards, and other documents that belonged to a former resident of Piney Point, donated by Melissa McCracken

Legal documents, correspondence, and newspaper articles related to the donor's grandfather and father placing lawsuits against Steuart Petroleum, donated by Sheila McEntee

Two cadet uniforms and a pair of boots from the Charlotte Hall Military Academy, donated by Linda Reame

Collection of envelopes and postcards commemorating Maryland's 300th and 350th Anniversaries, donated by Martin Severe

Mug from The Jefferson Island Club on St. Margaret's Island in Avenue, MD, donated by Patricia Welch

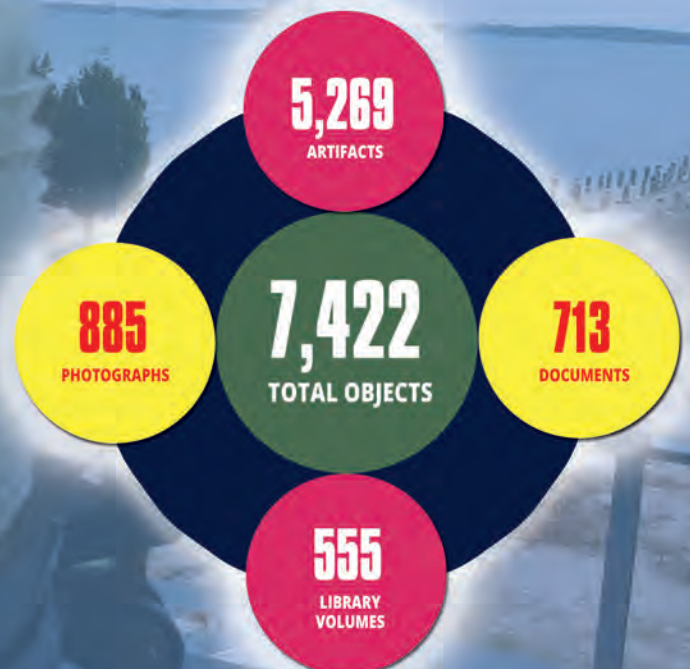
1910 Victrola, donated by Lynn Westrope

artifacts on loan

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

HOLDINGS

Our Holdings Have GROWN!
126 added since 2019





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.

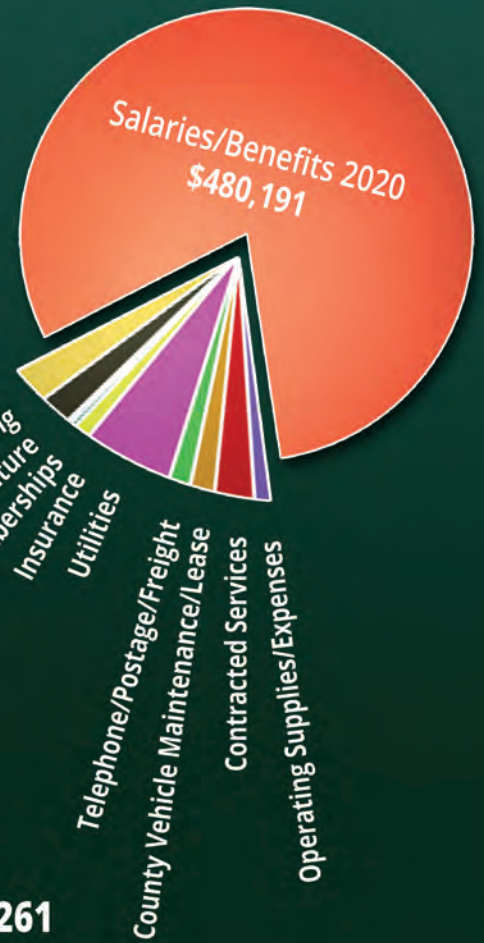
Dale Springer, President
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 Michael Blackwell, Secretary
 Peter Butt
 Amy Davis
 Dr. Regina Faden
 Victor Govier
 Karla Langhaus (replaced Peter Neus)
 Peter Neus (resigned 6/8/2020)
 Jeanette Petit



FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS = 3,005
 TWITTER FOLLOWERS = 319
 INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS = 2,033
 NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS = 1,230

County Funds Expenses

BUDGET



Total = \$576,261

Volunteer Hours



TOTAL: 371 HOURS

VALUED AT \$10,091

Down from 1,742 hours in 2019.

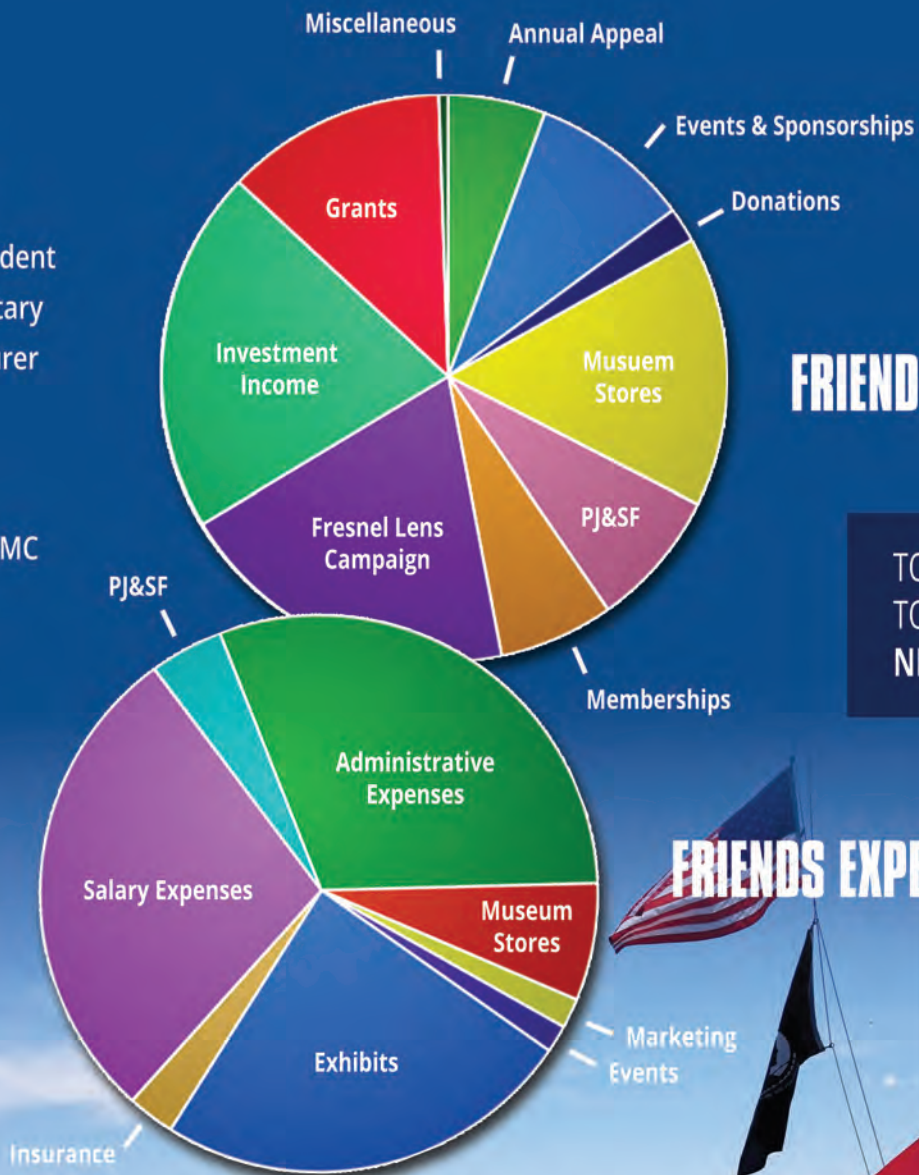


Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums

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.

Friends Board of Directors

- Dale Springer, President
- Judy Sterling, Secretary
- Paul Nelson, Treasurer
- Ann Davis
- Anne Emery
- Todd Morgan, Commissioner for SMC
- Tressa Setlack
- Brian Williams
- John F. Wood, Jr.



FRIENDS INCOME

TOTAL INCOME \$109,546
 TOTAL EXPENSES \$95,930
 NET INCOME \$13,615

FRIENDS EXPENSES

DONORS

Support the Museum Division...

Individual Members

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Grants Received

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NANCY EASTERLING REGINA FADEN DAWN LETTS SUSAN WOLFE

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HENRY I. GONZALEZ THE ARK AND DOVE SOCIETY

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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.stmarysmd.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 amber.puschinsky@stmarysmd.com for more information.





ST. MARY'S COUNTY MUSEUMS

2020 Annual Report

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38370 Point Breeze Road
Coltons Point, MD 20626