

The Philanthropy of Mary Frick Garrett Jacobs

The most prominent woman in Baltimore society during Baltimore's Gilded Age, Mary Frick Garrett later Mary Frick Garrett Jacobs, reigned widely as the social queen of all Baltimore. For a more select group, she was revered as a kind woman and generous philanthropist. While Mrs. Garrett managed her various homes and many civic activities with expertise, she also memorably contributed to the support of several individuals and the enrichment of many.

A supporter of ordinary people, Mrs. Garrett always responded to individual offers of beautiful needlework from skilled, local ladies seeking a little income. When beloved housekeeper, Mrs. Dorsey, died, Mrs. Garrett paid for her funeral and headstone. She assisted her secretary Andrew Johnson with medical bills, an automobile, and a \$20,000 bequest. A childless woman who loved children, she expressed her delight in them at her annual Christmas parties for news boys and girls. Family and friends helped serve and entertain at this festive party which included vaudeville acts or magic show, a special lunch, and a stocking full of gifts. She herself led the children in the singing of carols. A similar spring party for the choir of Grace and St. Peter's church took place at her



Uplands home. Throughout her life, she filled Christmas and Easter services with a church full of flowers and Sunday music with an organist and harpist. She contributed the baptismal font, elegant vestments, and a \$200,000 bequest in her will.

Inspired by a hospital for poor children in London, she established a hospital herself. Honoring her ailing husband,

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Maryland Capital Budget Grant

The Maryland General Assembly passed the comprehensive capital budget for the State on March 28, 2018. The Legislation includes a \$200,000 grant to the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund! We have American Joe Miedusiewski to thank once again for his hard and effective work on our behalf. He talked to everybody who could help us and it paid off. We are grateful also to our bill sponsors, Del. Frank Conoway and Del. Nick Mosby, and especially the House Appropriations Capital Subcommittee Chair, Del.Adrienne Jones for their support.

The Grant has a "soft match" requirement, meaning that the State will match our project expenditure dollar for dollar up to \$200,000. But, our share can include the value of



contributions made in kind as we l l as money we have spent on capital projects prior to the passage of the bill.

As in the case of prior State financial support, the grant money and the match must be spent "for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion."

Submitted by Carl Eastwick, GJMEF President



The Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund

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Heritage Editor: Jo Anne Sabas

"Heritage" is distributed to members and friends of The Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment on a quarterly basis.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund is to preserve and restore the Mansion as a National Historic Landmark and to share the history, architectural and civic legacy of the Mansion for the benefit and education of the public.

Mary Frick Garrett Jacobs continued from page 1

she called it the Robert Garrett Surgical Hospital for Children. While the facility had several iterations, it ultimately held a prominent place on North Carey Street. She acquired the space, prepared it, and paid the doctor and nurses. The hospital served two to three thousand children a vear at no cost to families. She initiated having visiting nurses continue care and developed an apprenticeship program for young women to train as nurses. A similar hospital in Mount Airy, a site on the Baltimore & Ohio rail route, was added so that children could escape Baltimore summers. Free rail passes enabled parents to visit their children any time. This hospital evolved into the Johns Hopkins Childrens' Hospital; the pediatric chair is still paid through her endowment. She provided generous funds for Eudowood, Dr. Jacobs' hospital for tuberculous patients.

Having amassed a wonderful array of magnificent paintings and extraordinary decorative pieces, by then as Mrs. Jacobs, she engaged her friend and the architect, John Russell Pope for a second round of renovations to create a special wing at the new Baltimore Museum of Art for her collection. Pope created the Mary

A Brief Follow-up... Lecture Series/Docent Tours

ver 100 guests were attracted to the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion for docent tours and lectures on three Sundays in February and March. Leading the Series was a beautifully-illustrated talk by Jason Shellenhamer and Lisa Kraus of the Herring Run Archaeology Project; noted for unearthing the Eutaw Manor House and extensive occupation. Second was an illuminating talk by Edward Heimiller, Curator of the Maryland Masonic Museum on the dissolution of the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion upon Dr. Jacobs' death. The last lecture given by Amy Kimball, Materials Manager at Special Collection at the Johns Hopkins University spoke

Jacobs Wing, a coherent extension to the BMA structure he had already designed. Her collection includes some of the most valued pieces in the BMA collection.

Just as she recognized a need for her housekeeper, she appreciated the plight of widows of church ministers. After their husbands' deaths, these women often found themselves homeless. With their welfare in mind, she left to the Episcopal diocese her Uplands Estate in Catonsville. For years ladies recorded their responses to this lovely home in scrapbooks attesting to the joy and appreciation they felt for this gift. Here they found a beautiful home where they could even entertain guests for tea in the drawing room.

Baltimore's ultimate social leader and mansion designer, Mary Frick Garrett Jacobs drew on her parents' civic-minded Victorian values even as she embraced the ostentatious values of the Gilded Age. Her legacy demonstrates her kind and generous spirit.

Thank you to Bernadette Low, Ph.D., GJMEF Trustee for this informative article.

about the career of Laurence Hall Fowler, an architect who worked in Baltimore from the early 20th century through to the 1970s. A "who's who" of Baltimore Society commissioned Fowler to design and add to their homes.

All three lectures and the tours that proceeded them introduced a number of new people to this National Historic Landmark.

Thank you to Judith Proffitt, GJMEF Trustee for arranging these lectures and providing this article.

The Heritage Dinner



Friday, May 18 Black Tie 6:00 p.m. hors d'oeuves & hosted cocktails 7:00 p.m. Dinner Price: \$120 (+gratuity & tax) Valet Parking in Front of the Mansion

Members who make a **\$500** donation to the GJMEF the night of the Heritage Dinner will have two of their meals complimentary that evening by the Engineers Club.

Here is Chef Koven's Five Course Menu: First Course Lobster Risotto with Parmesan Cheese and Peppered Bacon

Second Course

Roasted Red Bell Pepper and Tomato Soup with Sweet Corn Relish and Cilantro Lime Sour Cream

Third Course

Vidalia Onion and Jumbo Lump Crab Meat Salad over a Bed of Fresh Greens and Orange Vinaigrette **Fourth Course** Herb Crusted Veal Chop with Roquefort Butter and Demi-Glace Served over Sautéed Spinach and Garlic Mashed Potatoes.

> Fifth Course Lemon Cheesecake Mousse

There will be wine pairings with the dinner courses and after-dinner whiskeys and cordials. **Reservations: Contact Patti at 410-539-6914** or e-mail patti@esb.org or J Bitner for details.

Another Success... The Fire Ball

Held on Saturday, February 24 Fire Ball 2018 co-chaired by Chris McCarthy, Tracy McCarthy, and Kelly Daughtry was a sell-out occasion with 500 guests in attendance. The Fire Ball raised approximately \$67.000 for the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment The evening started with the Fund. Marissa Muro Trio entertaining the guests while hors d'oeuvres were being served. The band Onyx, sponsored by United Energy Products, took over the Ballroom creating a fun and upbeat atmosphere. The Maryland theme inspired a delicious menu with sushi, fresh oysters, and even boardwalk-style Old Bay fries. Local favorites were also showcased like Berger Cookies, donated by DeDaufre Bakeries and Chef Koven's crab cakes. The Advanced Thermal Solutions Beer Bar featured craft beers from Maryland breweries. The N.H. Yates & Co. Specialty Drink Bar served fun libations-O-Crush, Hon Crush, and Maryland Mule. Guests were able to take home a photo from our photo booth provided by Gravity 180 and sponsored by Compliance Environmental International. Inc.

Thanks to all our sponsors:

Main Bar – Evapco, Speciality Drink Bar – N.H. Yates & Co., Courtyard Bar - Emjay Engineering & Construction Co., Inc., Sushi Bar – Siemens, Patron Bar – Havtech, Beer Bar – Advanced Thermal Solutions, Bourbon Bar -Southern Mechanical Incorporated, Rum Bar - Trane, Entertainment -United Energy Products, Inc. – Lower Level Bar - Asbestos Specialists. Inc., Photo Booth – Compliance Environmental International, Inc., Raw Bar - Chesapeake Systems & Mitsubishi **Electric**. Lower-level Entertainment – Hudak's Insulation. Inc., Coffee Bar – Victaulic, and Party Bus – Power Solutions.



Arushi & Jeff Frank

Jo Anne Sabas, the Editor invites all suggestions, comments, and opinions. She can be contacted by letter through the address on this newsletter, by e-mail at sabas@outdrs.net, or telephone 540-885-0201.

The Mansion is the Place to be... Calendar of Events

Friday, April 13 Time: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 15 Time: 3:00 p.m.

Baltimore Concert Opera presents Giacomo Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*

paired with *Buoso's Ghost* by Michael Ching



Tickets range from **\$27.50** to **\$71.50** The full buffet including tax and gratuity is **\$42**.

For more information, purchase tickets to these two comic one-act operas, and dining reservations, visit **baltimoreconcertopera.com** or call **443-455-0226** or e-mail J Bitner at J@esb.org.

Sunday, April 29 Time: 3:30 p.m. Tickets: \$30.00 Afternoon Tea with the Mendelssohn Piano Trio



Join CAB for chamber music and an afternoon High Tea with savory tea sandwiches, a variety of

scrumptious mini-pastries, tea, coffee, sherry, and brandy for only **\$25**. A cash bar will also be available. Must purchase concert tickets to attend/enjoy the Tea.

For tickets visit **cabmusic.org** or call **410-625-3525.** ■



Annual Golf Outing Monday, August 20th

The Engineers Club and the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund will hold their Thirteenth Annual Joint Board of Directors Golf Outing at the Country Club of Maryland. Engineers Club members do enjoy reciprocal club privileges with the Country Club.

Contact **J Bitner at 410-539-6914** for sponsorships, costs, and details.



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Your support can help the trustees in their on-going effort to restore and preserve this landmark property, listed in the National Register as part of the Mount Vernon Place Historic District and documented in the Library of Congress as part of the Historic American Buildings Survey.

Benefits include a subscription to the Heritage Quarterly and advance notice of public events at the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion.

Complete this coupon and mail check to: The Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund, Inc. 11 West Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore, MD 21201 410-539-6914

(GJMEF) a charitable 501(c)(3) organization.

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