

## **History Committee Report**

It's been a full and active first year for the History Committee. What started out as a meeting of a couple of people interested in the history of Cape St. Claire has grown to include more than 25 people and several on-going projects.

The History Committee has been privileged to have conversations with Orlando and Mac Ridout, Sara Stinchcomb, and others about the Cape St. Claire area in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. We've collected a significant amount of information about Cape St. Claire and the lower Broadneck Peninsula back when it was almost exclusively a farming community.

The major event/effort this year has been trying to save the Radoff House (known as "Goshen")—this is the 18<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse located behind Cape St. Claire Elementary School. This farmhouse was slated for destruction by the Board of Education. Through the efforts of the History Committee and with support from many around the county, we were able to not only save the house from destruction, but have begun negotiations with the Board of Education to turn the house into a museum/educational center to serve as one of the last examples of the Broadneck Peninsula's farming past.

To that end, the History Committee has begun the process of creating a non-profit that will, hopefully, enter into a long-term lease arrangement with the Board of Education, raise funds to repair/renovate the house, and develop educational programs to teach local history to our children. The non-profit, to be called the "Goshen Farm Preservation Society" is in its very early stages now. You should hear much more about the society and how you can participate in the near future.

We haven't forgotten that our primary focus is the history of Cape St. Claire. We need your help! We're looking for residents who have lived in Cape St. Claire since the late 1940s and early 1950s. If you know of someone who fits this description, have them get in touch with us, we'd love the opportunity to talk with them.

Also, if you have any old pictures of Cape St. Claire, or other "artifacts" such as old documents, parking stickers, certificates, etc., that you would like to donate, we'd be happy to have them. We've received a few photographs of Cape St. Claire in the 1950s and other items such as a certificate given to donors who helped pay for the construction of our clubhouse.

The History Committee holds regular meetings the first Monday of each month at 7:30. If you'd like to participate in activities of the History Committee, come by one of the meetings. We'd be happy to see you.

Sam Gallagher  
Chair, History Committee