

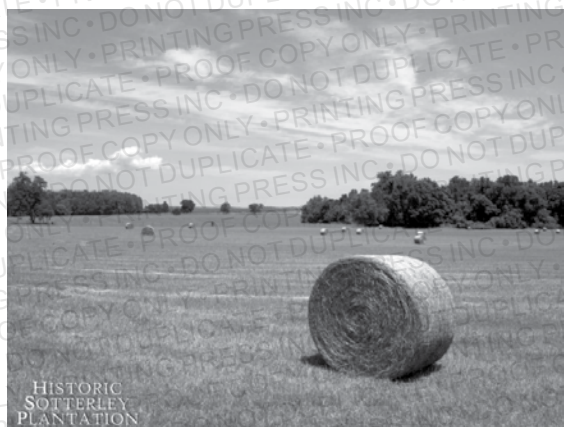
SOTTERLEY TIMES

Preserve our historic structures and natural environment and use the powerful stories of our land, lives, and labor to bring American history to life while serving as a cultural resource.

NEWSLETTER OF HISTORIC SOTTERLEY, INC.

SPRING 2018

SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS, 6



Common Ground, Connected Heritage Our American Family April 19-21, 2018

Historic Sotterley connects to generations today through the stories and lives of its past. As members of this community and nation, we seek to understand ourselves through looking at the history, art, culture, and stories that highlight our different perspectives, experiences, and our human commonness. We invite descendants and the public to *Our American Family*, a multi-day event as part of Sotterley's *Common Ground, Connected Heritage* project funded by a grant from Maryland

Humanities. Through presentations, panels, discussions and tours led by subject matter experts in art, education, history, social justice, research, genealogy, theology and sociology, participants will have the opportunity to come away inspired and equipped with tools needed in today's ever changing world. Participants will be able to meet and hear the stories of Sotterley descendants who bring a wealth of diverse knowledge and insight on universal human themes at the site where their ancestors walked. The event is free to the public, but space is limited. Advanced reservations are required at sotterleyouramericanfamily.brownpapertickets.com. See page 4 for more program information.



Sotterley recognized in April by the Maryland Historical Society for Excellence in Public Programming for its Slave Cabin Exhibit

When Sotterley first opened as a museum, the tour focused, in traditional Colonial Revival style, on the main house and its furnishings, and the owners. In the 1970's, Agnes Kane Callum, a Sotterley descendant through her enslaved ancestors, made known her genealogical and historical research. Lo and behold, there were slaves living here too! As with other museums such as Mount Vernon, Montpelier and Monticello, research at Sotterley has allowed for re-interpretation and the expansion of its narrative. The house and its owners were now coupled with the story of the slave cabin and the enslaved who lived at Sotterley. Nothing is as powerful as experiencing the reality of the Slave Cabin itself. Sotterley realizes that allowing visitors to enter the cabin to experience the reality of enslaved life is an important step. The exhibit, designed by Sotterley's

Education Director, Jeanne Pirtle, is an accurate portrayal of a part of Historic Sotterley's story, and the story of America, that has been ignored and hidden. The Slave Cabin, largely unchanged in appearance, offers a window into the lives of slaves in the decades just before the Civil War. Headroom in the single first-floor room is low, and above is an attic used as a sleeping area. The floor is dirt and there is a brick fireplace used for heating and cooking. Visitors to the slave cabin and exhibit perceive its diminutive size, smell the dirt of the floor, see the sparse and simple furnishings, and get a glimpse into other lives and perspectives. Seeing life at Sotterley through another's experiences helps them comprehend the disparity between owners and the enslaved families that supported them, bringing relevance to these discoveries today.



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NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION CLASSIFIED BY
THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE UNDER
SECTION 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL
REVENUE CODE. A COPY OF
THE CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT IS
AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT THE OFFICE.**

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Happy Spring and welcome to Sotterley's Year of Exploration! There are so many new things to explore this year.

First up will be "Spring Break at Sotterley" running from 26 to 30 March. Come out with the family and enjoy spring weather on our grounds - there isn't a better time of the year to come. Our beautiful garden will be blooming soon thanks to the efforts of our incredible Garden Guild, and the nature trails are ready for long walks with your pets. Speaking of our Garden Guild, our 20th annual Plant Sale will be held on the 28th and 29th of April. This is a great time to support Sotterley and upgrade your home garden.

We are excited to announce that we have a grant from Maryland Humanities to host our first event tied to our Descendant's Project - a multi-day celebration not only for all those who connect their heritage to Sotterley, but for anyone who would like to participate and explore our shared stories and heritage. This event, called "Common Ground, Connected Heritage" starts on Thursday, 19 April and goes thru Saturday, 21 April. If you believe you have a connection to Sotterley or simply want to be part of this special event, please sign up and join us.

Our fantastic Speaker Series, again sponsored by our friends at Boeing, continues to bring in a wide variety of exceptional speakers. Our Farmer's Market starts up again on Saturday June 2nd, and is bigger and better than ever! Come see our new Pavilion and come explore some of the new vendors who plan to be here. And save the date for our Gala on Saturday, June 9th—the theme is "Gatsby in the Garden". So, as you can see, there is lots going on at Sotterley! Please come visit and enjoy this season at Sotterley.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that our Board of Trustees has just inducted our second group of Sotterley Fellows. These are friends of Sotterley who have provided exceptional service and made significant contributions. In this issue, we highlight these ten amazing friends of Sotterley and share their stories with you. This designation represents a high honor for a friend of Sotterley and I'm sure you will agree that these ten are extremely deserving.

Warmest Regards,
Bert Johnston
President, Board of Trustees



EducationWise

Welcome Katherine Humphries!

You may recognize our new Education Coordinator—our very talented, long-time docent Katherine! Katherine's interest in history and museums has been a lifelong passion, as her maternal grandfather entrusted her with many of her family's stories and history. Her father was also a museum director and curator so she basically grew up in museums. She graduated from St. Mary's College of Maryland in 2006 with a Bachelor's degree in history. When she is not at Sotterley, Katherine teaches various courses at CSM. For fun, Katherine can usually be found taking pictures or tending to her sunflower garden. Fun fact: Katherine is a coffee addict and can't start her day without it.

The Big Picture

As Sotterley's site comes alive, we welcome old and new friends in preparation for field trips, group tours, special tours, events and museum visitors. Preparation for this Year of Exploration at Sotterley begins long before it starts. The off-season, rightly named the planning and preparation season, has gone on quietly behind the scenes. As we open our doors of spring to the public, it is the staff and front-line workers and volunteers that help Sotterley's visitors experience the full range of activities, history and nature that only Sotterley can provide.

Front-line refers to anyone who represents the face of Sotterley on a daily basis, be it at the museum store-Visitor Center, the Farmer's Market, teachers and students on a field trip, docents, site workers. To bring this group of special people together as part of the team, our first Front-line training of the year was held on March 10th. A collection of dedicated people, representing every layer of the Sotterley family learned about behind-the scenes development, planning and progress. Another skills focused session is to be held on April 14, 2018 to prepare for Sotterley's high museum season which begins on May 1, 2018.

Would you like to join the team? We are always looking for dedicated people who enjoy learning, sharing and interacting with the public. Call us or stop by to find out how to serve and contribute your time and talents to educating visitors of all ages. Let us help you find your place in the Sotterley family.

Saving History:

The Urgency of Preservation

A new exhibit, based on the importance of historic preservation, opens April 18, with a reception and program at 6 pm. Call the office to RSVP. The exhibit will feature the story of Resurrection Manor, an early manorial grant in Maryland, and the principal historic building on this manor. Designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1970, this building was demolished for development. Sotterley is located on the original Resurrection Manor land grant and the history of Resurrection Manor and Sotterley are intertwined. The exhibit will incorporate artifacts from the original Resurrection Manor, and a timeline of photographs will clearly illustrate the decay and deterioration of this historic dwelling. The exhibit was funded with grants from the Delaplaine Foundation, The Society of Colonial Wars, and the Brown Family Fund.

SOTTERLEY FELLOWS

Board of Trustees announces the second class of the Sotterley Fellows.

As a way to acknowledge distinguished service and significant contributions to Historic Sotterley and the greater community, the Board welcomes the following individuals to The Sotterley Fellows. We congratulate them on receiving this honor, and thank them sincerely for the guidance and support they continue to offer Sotterley.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Leslie Burgess | Marcella Hayes |
| Jim Cornelsen | Bill Moody |
| Jeanne Davis | Steve Proctor |
| Frank and Pat Greenwell | Louise Snell |
| | Merideth Taylor |

Our American Family, April 19-21 (cont.)

Program Highlights include:

Thursday April 19, 7pm: Speaker, Robyn Asleson, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, "Picturing George Washington: The Man & the Myth"

Friday April 20, 9am-3pm: Sessions include "Finding Your Story" with genealogists and archivists, "Unpacking Family Heritage: Race, Emotion, and Thought" discussion, showing of the film "Moving Midway" and discussion, and lunchtime Keynote Speaker.

Saturday April 21, 9am-8pm: Sessions include "Using Our Stories for Personal Fulfillment and Social Justice" panel discussion, "Roots Matter" author and discussion, showing of the film "Traces of the Trade" and discussion, lunchtime Keynote Speaker "Healing Our Visible and Invisible Wounds", and a Family-Style Dinner for all.

Lunch will be available for purchase on Friday and Saturday, or participants may bring their own lunch.

All events are free and open to the public but space is limited. Advance registration REQUIRED.

Full program listing and registration at sotterleyouramericanfamily.brownpapertickets.com.

Hail and Farewell!

Welcome back to former Board Members Donald Barber and Bonnie Green.

Donald Barber is truly "home grown," having lived at Sotterley, where his family was pivotal in keeping Sotterley operational. Donald first served as a Trustee beginning in 1999. He was re-elected to the board in 2007 and again in 2010. Donald attended the Benjamin Banneker and Hollywood elementary schools, Leonardtown Middle School, Chopticon High School, and St. Mary's College of Maryland. He is currently the senior program director at Pathways, Inc., in Lexington Park. Welcome back, Donald!

Bonnie Green is the Executive Director of The Patuxent Partnership, an organization that works with government, industry and academia on initiatives related to science and technology, to include educational programs and workforce development in support of the Navy and broader DoD community. Bonnie served on the Historic Sotterley Board from 2007-2010 and 2013-2016 and we welcome her back!

Leaving the Board of Trustees are Rick Tepel and M. Arshed Javaid. Our thanks go out to them for their exceptional support of Sotterley.

Food for Thought—Donald Barber, Sotterley Trustee



My connection to Sotterley provides a touchstone in an increasingly impermanent world. I remember the place my father pointed out and said "I was born right there." Sotterley is more than a place frozen in time. It is brought to life by its people, their connections, struggles and triumphs. The late Agnes Kane Callum graciously researched my genealogy and presented me the fruits of her investigation. This information, which was completely unknown to me, was made available only through my connection to Sotterley. I also have fond memories of walking freshly ploughed fields with my father and finding Native American projectile points that a historian remarked likely dated from 3000 BC. One can imagine standing on the portico and witnessing a naval battle in the War of 1812.

The preserved slave cabin, located in relative proximity to the manor house, provides an opportunity to viscerally experience the plight of the enslaved in America, being so close to but denied access to the bounty available in this land. The history of Sotterley is emblematic of the history of the United States and its struggles with ethnic diversity. ***The value of Sotterley lies in its portrayal of the sweep of American history.***

Gardener's Weekend

Garden Guild Plant Sale

Sponsored by the Sotterley Garden Guild, **The Plant Sale** is one of our signature events! Join us on Saturday, April 28th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and on Sunday, April 29th from Noon to 3:00 p.m. Because of their dedication to this National Historic Landmark, these nurturing volunteers have not only raised thousands of dollars in support of Historic Sotterley, but they are also responsible for the maintenance of the exquisite Colonial Revival Garden. Their passion for beauty is evident in the smallest of details, so take this opportunity to appreciate their horticultural artistry!

The View the Garden Guild Makes Possible!

A very special thank you to our Garden Guild for their generous in-kind donation to support Sotterley's grounds maintenance and grass cutting last year. It certainly takes a village to keep our site beautiful and ready for visitors! Thank you.



Congratulations to the very well-deserved Mary Bauer for receiving the highest honor the Garden Guild could bestow: The Golden Glove!

Garden Volunteers Needed

There is nothing better for the soul than a few hours on a Wednesday or Saturday morning, listening to the birds sing and watching the butterflies flit from flower to flower – all the while volunteering in the Sotterley garden. All levels of gardeners are welcome – from experts to beginners. If you are interested in being a part of this talented team, please contact the office at 301-373-2280.



2018 SPEAKER SERIES BEGINS

11 Years of Educating the Community with Boeing!

Picturing George Washington: The Man and the Myth

April 19, 2018

To kickoff our Common Ground, Connected Heritage - Our American Family weekend, we are honored to host Robyn Asleson, curator at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. During his lifetime, George Washington evolved from a military leader into a national icon and ultimately became a living legend. After his death, nostalgia for a lost era of republican virtue and decorum further romanticized Washington's image. This illustrated lecture examines the changing portrayal of Washington from the 1770s through the 1870s, exploring the way artists have shaped the president's significance in the American imagination.

Special Note: as this session is part of our Common Ground, Connected Heritage—Our American Family programming, advance registration is REQUIRED. Register at sotterleyouramericanfamily.brownpapertickets.com. See pages 1 and 4 for details.



MARYLAND
HUMANITIES



Presidential Picture Stories; Behind the Camera in the White House

May 16, 2018

For 50 years as a staff photographer for Black Star Publishing Company, Dennis Brack has covered the administrations of U.S. presidents from John F. Kennedy to Barack Obama, world leaders, U.S. Congress and Supreme Court justices as well as major news stories worldwide. Based in Washington, D.C., he photographed for the *Washington Post*, *Life* and *Newsweek*, and for twenty-three years *Time* magazine published his work weekly. His photographic career includes photojournalism, advertising and commercial work. He continues to cover the White House and Capitol Hill. In addition to photographs of the U.S. presidency, his archive includes work documenting American military personnel and operations, wars, war protests, key moments of the civil rights movement and riots. It also features his



coverage of public works projects, social issues, human interest stories and entertainment. Brack's photographic work has been recognized by the National Newspaper Photographers Association and the World Press Association. The White House News Photographers Association honored him with its lifetime achievement award in 2012.

Stay tuned for our complete 2018 Schedule later in the season!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - April through June

3rd ANNUAL 5K TRAIL RUN

April 7

No Road-Running at Sotterley! Our 3rd annual 5K spans our beautiful grounds and trails that reveal vistas of farm, fields, woodland and the Patuxent River. For team sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jane at development@sotterley.org.

A TASTE OF SOTTERLEY

April 8

Join us on April 8th for our 2nd annual *A Taste of Sotterley*, featuring fine food, wine, and beer, celebrity pourers from our local community, and great company, all within the historic core. Drink a little, eat a little, and learn a lot! Tickets must be purchased online; visit Sotterley.org.

HOMESCHOOL DAY

April 11

Explore Tidewater Plantation Life! Enjoy come-and-go guided activities around the site, including learning about those who worked in the house kitchen and laundry, playing games and making your own toy, exploring the herb and vegetable garden to learn what was used for medicine and food and making a mini-garden, and going to school in the 19th century. Activities run from 10am-4pm and are included with regular site admission.

RESURRECTION MANOR EXHIBIT

April 18

Advance registration required.
More information on page 3.

OUR AMERICAN FAMILY

April 19-21

Advance registration required.
More information on pages 1 and 4.

BIRDWALK-Eagles, Earth Day, & Sotterley

April 22

Celebrate Earth Day with a bird walk as the annual surge of migrating birds begins throughout St. Mary's County. Nesting bald eagles, migrating warblers, meadowlarks, woodpeckers, and waterfowl can all be found via Sotterley's extensive new trail system. Free to the public. RSVP at moulton.davidh@gmail.com or 240-278-4473.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

April 26

Join us to celebrate Sotterley's most important resource, our volunteers. Whether they stand behind the counter in the Museum Shop, invest hours into our gardens or lay down straw at WineFest, we couldn't be more grateful for their help! Please RSVP to Ashley at coordinator@sotterley.org.

GARDENER'S WEEKEND

April 28 - 29

For the 20th year in a row, our incredible group of Garden Guild volunteers will be hosting their amazing Plant Sale in April. These nurturing volunteers support Sotterley through their gardening talents and keep our beautiful Colonial Revival Gardens looking stunning! *See page 5 for details.*

MOTHER'S DAY

May 12-13

In honor of their special day, all mothers will receive the Guided Tour of the 1703 Plantation House for HALF PRICE this weekend! From 10-4 on Saturday and 12-4 on Sunday, we welcome you and your mother to tour the house, stroll the gardens and enjoy our beautiful grounds!

ARMED FORCES DAY

May 19

We salute our military and their families on this special day. Active duty military and dependents are invited to spend the day enjoying Sotterley with complimentary site and house tour admission. Please show your military ID at the Visitor Center.

GALA IN THE GARDEN

June 9

A magical evening awaits as we step back into the roaring 20's for *Gatsby in the Garden* where our guests will enjoy tantalizing cuisine, amazing auction items, sounds and rhythms of the Jazz era and more, all set in the splendor of Sotterley's Colonial Revival Gardens. Proceeds from this event benefit Sotterley's educational programming and events that highlight the rich culture and history of our Southern Maryland community.

Tickets online at Sotterley.org in April.

FATHER'S DAY

June 17

Calling all Dads! On your special day, tours of our 1703 Plantation House at Sotterley Plantation are HALF PRICE for all fathers! Visit us from noon to 4pm and enjoy your day with us.

JUNIOR DOCENT ACADEMY

June 18 - 19

Become a Junior Docent and ambassador of Sotterley, qualified to volunteer for Junior Docent duty in the summer months and for other volunteer opportunities throughout the year. This unique two-day training also qualifies as volunteer hours. Ages 8-18.

Advance registration required, sotterley.org.

SAVE THE DATE FOR SUMMER FAMILY FUN!

Butterfly Week June 25-29 and Exploration Fridays July 6, 13, 20, 27, and Aug 3

VOLUNTEERS TELL SOTTERLEY'S STORY

Historic Sotterley wouldn't be what it is today without our faithful volunteers! Their invaluable support keeps this wonderful National Historic Landmark open to the public and enables us to remain an important part of our Southern Maryland landscape and history. If you've been considering serving your community, look no further! Do you enjoy interacting with the public? We've got a spot for you in our Museum Store and Visitor Center. Do you yearn to bring the past to life? Sounds like one of our docent opportunities would be perfect for you. Want to be part of a dynamic team that makes things happen? Join us on a Sotterley committee or special events planning team. How about those with a talent for fixing things or working in the dirt? Our maintenance and farm team is looking for YOU! Help us bridge the gap between the past and the future—contact Ashley at 301-373-2280 or coordinator@sotterley.org.

Volunteer Spotlight: Wes Thomas

Wesley has been part of our Ghosts of Sotterley crew for the past nine years. For the last several years he has been the head of the event's Tech Crew, and he has helped to make the magic happen along with our stellar team of actors, make-up artists and production team. He has brought many skills he has learned over the years to make the production more efficient and effective, and he is always looking to finding new ways to enhance the next year's production. Wesley's time and talents have been an amazing gift to this event and to Sotterley, but due to his employer – **The Boeing Company** – his gift has gone even farther.

Boeing is dedicated to making the communities their employees work in a better place, and they have matched his volunteer hours with cash donations - the largest annual match being \$5,000! Thanks to Wesley and others on the Boeing Team (including Amy Cranford, pictured with Wes above) who have also logged volunteer hours, their support has helped Sotterley achieve so much, and their dedication has been an inspiration.



RAIN OR SHINE, OUR SITE IS BUZZING WITH ACTIVITY!



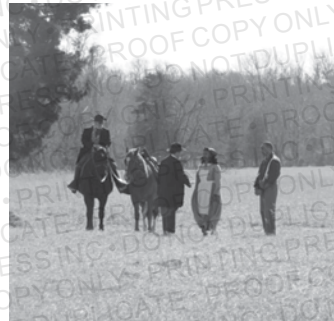
Check out our new front gate!

We are ready to welcome visitors; guided tour season starts May 1st!



Our new picket fence is up!!

Thank you to our Gala donors who made this project possible!



Lights, Camera, Sotterley!

A film crew from Kunhardt Films was onsite for two days in February filming an 8-minute short film to be used in the Visitor Center of the new Legacy Museum in Montgomery, AL, opening in April!



Our monthly supporters are SUPERHEROES!

Monthly gifts fund our current programs as well as help us plan for the future.

And it's EASY! Choose the amount of your gift and then sit back, relax, and watch how YOU make a difference! It's even better than being able to leap tall buildings in a single bound!

Jane and Laura love to chat about monthly giving—give them a ring at 301-373-2280!



HISTORIC SOTTERLEY, INC.
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GROWING FOR GOOD- Potato Planting Day, March 17th



Thank you to our amazing
volunteers who planted 5
miles of potatoes!

The harvest of this crop will go directly to support local food for the hungry programs. By helping Sotterley, these generous volunteers also directly helped our community.

Together we are paying it forward – one potato at a time!

