

Happy 2019 to you all!

This is the first newsletter for the First Maryland Company since the November 2018 election. We (Harry Redd, Governor, Kendra Greenwaters, Lieutenant Governor and Secretary, and Jerry Zillion, Treasurer) look forward to serving the interests of the Company's members and the interests of the Jamestowne Society at the local level. We also look forward to your involvement!

Where We Are Now . . .

First Maryland Company's membership is geographically dispersed, reaching beyond Maryland's borders. We're also a relatively new Company still developing a core of seasoned "doers," which is important to our future.

In our relatively short existence as a Company we can be proud of our achievements.

Since being chartered we've conducted meetings in both Baltimore and Laytonsville. Our meetings have featured speakers who have told about early Jamestowne settlers and how they affected the development of the colony. We also had the Society's Executive Director tell us about some exciting recent Jamestowne archeological discoveries and also up-coming events planned for this July in Jamestowne. These informative and entertaining discussions were centerpieces for great lunches and an opportunity for Company members and their guests to get to know one another.

We've also built up a respectable treasury, and have used part of our receipts to make a \$200 contribution to the Jamestowne Foundation.

Also, from 2015-2017 Jerry Zillion, our current Company treasurer, was the Society's Governor.

Our Company has a web site:

firstmarylandcompany-jamestownesociety.org.

We're also on Facebook at *jamestowne society - first maryland company.*

We share a bond that is distinctive and a source of pride—ancestors who settled and built England's first permanent colony in the New World, and

ultimately, the United States of America. Their inner strength was awesome; what they accomplished is a source of our pride. We, their living legacies, are charged with keeping their stories alive. Why else have we established our memberships in the Jamestowne Society?

We'd like your ideas on future meetings. Where?

We have an established relationship with Montgomery Country Club in Laytonsville, MD, and turnouts for lunchtime meetings there have been good. We held one well-attended meeting in Baltimore, but parking and cost were daunting for some members. We'd like to develop relationships with more venues where we could hold meetings, and would welcome your suggestions. **What?** If you have a subject you'd like featured at a future Company meeting, please let us know. And if you'd like to become more involved in the activities of First Maryland Company, please say so!

Meeting Announcement

Our first meeting in 2019 will be on May 14 at the Fisherman's Inn restaurant in Grasonville, MD. That's on Kent Island in the Chesapeake Bay. The address is 2116 Main Street, Grasonville, MD 21638.

*Our program will feature the President of the Kent Island Historical Society, who will speak about **Kent Island, Virginia—the Jamestowne connection.***

A flyer with further information about the May meeting, and a reservation form for it, is enclosed with this newsletter.

. . . And Where We Want To Go

We would like to—

- Communicate electronically. Some of you reading this newsletter received it electronically. That is because you gave us your E-mail address. You received the

Kendra M. Greenwaters
Lieutenant Governor and Secretary

Harry C. Redd III
Governor

Jerry W. Zillion
Treasurer

newsletter within seconds of it being distributed. Most of you received it by US Mail, which takes longer. If each of you—actual or potential Company member or just someone interested in what we are doing—would provide your E-mail address to us, we could share information with you more quickly and easily. And we could save our treasury a pretty big mailing cost, allowing accumulated dues to go to other purposes.

- Expand the Company's leadership. Our Company Charter provides for more officers than we have. The following six officer positions, who collectively make up the Company Council, are filled by election:

Governor	Treasurer
Lieutenant Governor	Historian
Secretary	Registrar

Our Charter also gives the Company immediate Past President the title of Councilor, and provides for the election of three additional Councilors. Thus, we have the potential for a Council comprised of ten people. Who among our membership is interested in taking on a leadership role?

We want to continue First Maryland Company's maturity and growth. To that end, we've established the following modest goals for 2019—

- ✓ Use electronic communications as our preferred means of sharing information within the Company;
- ✓ Conduct programs that meet members' interests;
- ✓ Expand member involvement in company activities (build or strengthen the "core" mentioned earlier) so that we may expand the Company's elected leadership no later than our 2021 elections; and
- ✓ Increase the company's membership.

In our first newsletter in 2020 we'll assess our first year's performance against these goals. Until then, let's get to know (or better know) one another, discover things about our Jamestowne ancestors, and also have some fun.

Governor's Corner

In addition to the broader Company goals your Council has set, I've set one goal purely for myself. It is—

"To get to know most (hopefully all) of you personally by the end of this year.

Please come to meetings when we schedule them, because I can't meet that goal if you aren't there!!

There's an irony to my being Governor of First Maryland Company. My Jamestowne ancestor is Colonel William Claiborne. An earlier Company governor, Jacque-Lynne Schulman, spoke about him at one of our early Company meetings.

In 1628 he discovered and subsequently named and settled Kent Island. He had a thriving settlement and trading post on Kent Island when, in 1632, King Charles I granted the charter for the new Maryland Colony. That charter included Kent Island in land belonging to Maryland. To say that led to friction would be understatement! However, I'll let our May speaker explain how the King's decision led to a rough patch in Virginia-Maryland relations that only ended with Colonel Claiborne's death in 1677. I'm looking forward to our May 14th meeting, and hope you are too!

The Kent Island connection is one example of Jamestowne -Maryland relationships. Doesn't it make you curious about other stories about how the two colonies got along? Or didn't get along? I hope First Maryland Company will explore this theme in 2019 and 2020. But I'd also like to know what themes or subjects **you** might like to explore.

Harry C. Redd III

Harry C. Redd III
E-mail: hbredd3@verizon.net