



# SCUTTLEBUTT

## MEET MARION CHAMBERS

BY JANET CHERRIX

Marion Chambers, a board member of the Ocean City Museum Society, Inc. since 1990 and serving as president from 1998– 2001, has played an important role in both Worcester County and the Ocean City community for many decades. Born in 1925 her family moved to Worcester County when she was a year old and they lived on the “Anchuka” farm on Ayres Creek which is still in the family. At the time there was a school in Synepuxent where she went to first grade and then she attended Buckingham School in Berlin from 2nd grade until graduation in 1942.



Marion posed in front of her salon on St. Louis Avenue in 1955

As owner of Marion’s Beauty Salon on St. Louis Avenue for 44 years she has recently retired and lives with her husband, David, and son Paul on Herring Creek where she is an enthusiastic gardener. Despite retirement Marion remains very active and is a member of the Ocean City Development Corporation and is a proud sponsor of a national essay contest for high school students under the auspices of the Colonial Dames of America’s Congressional Seminar Project. The winners attend the Washington Workshop in D.C. Marion is proud of the fact that there have been seven winners from Worcester County Schools.

Marion has been president of the Worcester County Historical Society

(WCHS) and regent of the General Levin Winder Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Her interest in local history is further reflected in her significant role as a member and former director of the Furnace Town Foundation, The Daughters of American Colonists (DAC) and past regent and registrar of the Hornkill Chapter of the DAC in Sussex County, Delaware.

When serving as president of the WCHS she was instrumental in having an attractive brick pad, posts and chains erected around the Transpeninsular Line—Ten Mile Marker of May 3, 1751 at the Maryland/Delaware line. The well marked stone has the William Penn seal on one side and the Lord Calvert seal on the other.

Also while president of the WCHS she gave a reception at the Worcester County Library in Snow Hill to honor the opening of the William Pitts Collection (Land Survey Records) 1677-1982. Mr. Pitts was cousin to Marion and his surveys are important historical county records.

Interest in libraries is part of Marion’s heritage. She was a guest speaker for the Women’s Club of Ocean City at their April 12, 1966 meeting when she spoke about her ancestor, Rozelle Handy, who started the first horse and buggy mobile library in 1910 and later the Friendly Library in Berlin, precursor to the current library.

With Marion’s lively and engaging personality she is greatly admired in the community. She received a commendation from the Worcester County Commissioner’s in October 1993 for being nominated as one of Maryland’s Most Beautiful People. She was also honored as a small business owner with her listing in the 2008-2009 edition Heritage Registry of Who’s-Who, a New York based biographical publication. She was also a candidate for the Woman of the Year Award.

The former Ocean City Mayor, Roland “Fish” Powell, a life long friend describes Marion as never knowing a stranger and one who shows kindness and helpfulness to those she meets. They are from a generation that grew up on the beach, thinking nothing of swimming in the inlet and helping the lifeguards when needed. Marion is an outstanding Worcester Countian and as Mayor Powell states “a very fine lady”.



Marion Chambers with Glenn Irwin of the Ocean City Development Corporation in 2007 . She received an award for her work with Sunset Park.

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**FOND MEMORIES OF OCEAN CITY**

BY MARION HAYWARD CHAMBERS  
2007

I have a lifetime of fond memories of Ocean City, Maryland. During World War II, I spent many childhood hours on the beach and boardwalk. I worked sometimes at the Wil-Mar Restaurant on the corner of Somerset Street and Baltimore Avenue. My girlfriends and I liked being on the beach at Caroline Street where the life-guard station was located. The big life boat sitting in front of the building, ready to launch for rescues was our meeting place in summer. We saw the Coast Guard men guarding the beach. Sometimes they were on foot, sometimes on horses, which were stabled then on Assateague Point, just across the Inlet. Down at the end of the boardwalk at the inlet was the Coast Guard Tower where the men took shifts sitting high up there with binoculars, trained to watch out to sea for subs and other ships they observed and reported on.



Marion Hayward Chambers poses for this 1943 photograph at an Ocean City Boardwalk studio owned by the Marianos

Both the Army and Coast Guard patrolled the beachfront on Assateague and up from Ocean City to Rehobeth, especially at night as enemy subs were off shore. At night we had to have blackout blinds on our windows to keep out light facing the ocean. I met my husband David Chambers when he was in training with the 111th infantry. For a three year period, he was in the Pacific fighting the war with Japan. They trained at Solomons Island, Ocean City and Assateague beaches. His company

took turns patrolling beaches at night while they were here. We were married when he got home after the war.

The boardwalk was always a delight to me, even to this day. My brother had a summer job pushing the wicker trams, carrying people who wanted to tour along the boards that way. He also worked in the pull the strings for a prize booths. Trimpers Rides were always a fun time. My children Paul and Keith spent all the time they could on those rides. When company came, they all went to the Merry-go-round as we always called it. I loved to ride on the Ferris wheel. Still do!!

"Sand between my toes" as my Dad said about me, made me end up living in Ocean City where we have been in the same house for 54 years. Many changes have come with time and progress, but I still love every day that comes to me in Ocean City.

**BOARD DEDICATES ROOM TO RETIRED CURATOR**

As a tribute to Sue's dedication to the Museum, the Board of Directors unanimously decided to dedicate the Hospitality Room on the second floor in her honor. It is now called "The Suzanne B. Hurley Room". Sue was speechless upon hearing the news. Adler Design generously donated the sign which blends in perfectly with the current décor.

Exhibited in the room at this time is the wonderful "Boardwalk of Yesterday" Exhibit. Stop by and see it if you haven't already.

# CURATOR'S CORNER

BY SANDY HURLEY

One of the most important elements of conservation is the concept of **provenance**. Provenance refers to the retention of information about the origin and significance of any document, object, or photograph. Without knowing the details about who and why something was used, owned, or made, we are unable to determine its historical significance, and thereby the educational potential of museums and archives.

Provenance is also important for records that you maintain at home, especially photographs. Each photograph should have the following informa-

tion: Name of People in Photograph (left to right). Date, Location, and Significance or Event. If the photograph is of a building, as in the example shown here, it is important to note the name or significance of the building.

When labeling photographs, never use a ballpoint pen or other implement that could cause an indent in the paper. I recommend an ultra fine Sharpie or other felt tipped photo-marking pen or a No. 2 pencil for older photographs printed on non-coated photographic paper.



“Ocean City, MD 1928”

If any of our readers can identify the building in the photograph above please contact me.

Sandy@ocmuseum.org  
(410) 289-4991

## WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS!

*The President and Board of Directors take great pleasure in welcoming the following new members:*

### FAMILY

**Carville & Brenda Leaf**  
Denton, Maryland

**Daniel Mumford**  
Ocean City, Maryland

### INDIVIDUAL

**David Dingwall**  
Snow Hill, Maryland

## OCEAN CITY MUSEUM SOCIETY NEEDS YOU!

The Ocean City Museum Society is currently conducting a Membership Drive. We are in search of anyone who has a love of Ocean City and its history to join us to help preserve and present it for generations to come. As a special incentive a complimentary gift will be sent for every renewal or new membership while supplies last. Family, Individual and Student memberships will receive a station magnet. Supporting Members will be sent a signed copy of the book: “Shipwrecks and Rescues Along the Barrier Islands of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia” by George and Suzanne Hurley. Sustaining Members will be given a copy of the DVD “Once Upon a Sand Dune” and the Hurley’s Shipwreck Book. Benefactors will receive a signed and numbered Bob Barnes print of this station as well as the DVD and the shipwreck book. Other membership benefits: free unlimited touring of the museum, 10% off gift shop purchases and much more. There is no better time to join.

Please complete this form and mail with a check payable to:  
**Ocean City Museum Society, Inc., P. O. Box 603, Ocean City, MD 21843**

Student.....\$ 5.00 _____	Supporting.....\$ 100.00 _____
Individual.....\$ 10.00 _____	Sustaining.....\$ 250.00 _____
Family.....\$ 30.00 _____	Benefactor.....\$ 500.00 _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum

813 S. Atlantic Avenue  
P. O. Box 603  
Ocean City, MD 21842

Phone: 410-289-4991  
E-mail: [Sandy@ocmuseum.org](mailto:Sandy@ocmuseum.org)



*The Times and Tides of  
Ocean City, Maryland*

**We're on the Web!**

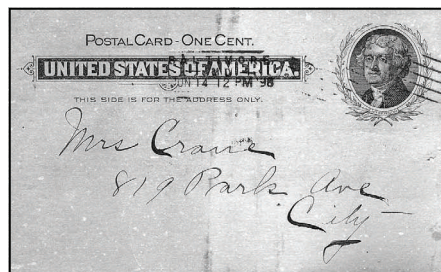
[www.ocmuseum.org](http://www.ocmuseum.org)

## LOOK WHAT WE FOUND!

Recently, Museum Society member Diane Savage called to inquire if we had this rare 1898 post card in our collection. When we reported to her that we did not she informed us that a friend of hers had offered it to her as a gift and she felt that the Museum would be a better place for it. The donation came from Marty Azola with Azola & Associates of Baltimore, Maryland.

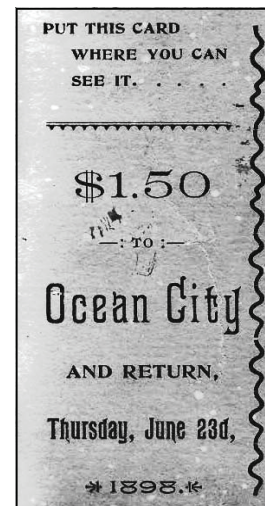
The message reads as follows:

Dear Friend:- Permit us to call your attention to our Fifth Grand Annual Excursion to **OCEAN CITY**, which leaves **Pier 4, Light St. Wharf**, on **Thursday, June 23rd, 1898, at 7.A.M. sharp**, and returning reaches Baltimore at 11 P. M. These excursions, combining both steamboat and railroad travel, are among the most delightful trips out of the city, furnishing not only a full day's enjoyment, but producing beneficial effects for weeks afterward. Five hours of recreation on the ocean



shore. *We trust that you and your friends will accompany us on this occasion.* Everything will be done to make you enjoy yourself. An attentive Committee will give their personal supervision to the excursion. Wraps, parcels, 7C., cared for *free of charge* by an obliging porter. Tickets, adults, \$1.50; children, 75 cents. *Unused tickets will be redeemed at full price paid.* Tickets for sale at wharf on morning of excursion, or from W.C. Sherlock, Chairman, 341 Bloom Street, Rev. D. H. Kern, 111 S. Greene Street, M. House, 820 Druid Hill Avenue, J. N. Gore, 863 Hollins Street, C. F.

Feldhaus, 716 N. Eutaw Street, Jas. Walker, 1929 W. Fayette Street, C. H. Merryman 715 Edmonson Avenue, Geo. F. Masson, 3 W. Pratt Street, W. L. Thomas, 645 W. Baltimore Street.



This 1898 post card is a recent donation from Marty Azola of Baltimore, Maryland.