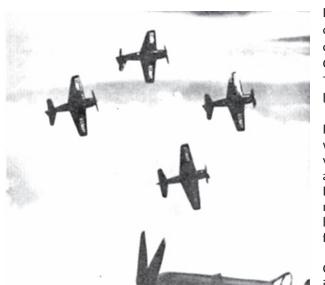


#### Chevy Chase Historical Society

Spring 2004

## World War II: *Chevy Chase Remembers*CCHS Honors Those Who Participated in the War



Newsl etter

The Blue Angels 1947

Naval Lieutenant Commander and Chevy Chase resident Kitsy Chalmers remained in the military after World War II in a public relations capacity. Kitsy explains that the name of the Navy's Flight Exhibition Team, "The Blue Angels," was "born" in her office. She ran a competition for suitable names.

As it happened, the aviators themselves came up with the name, which she heartily approved (with the Admiral's blessing, of course).

In conjunction with the dedication of the national World War II Memorial on the Capitol Mall this spring, Chevy Chase will honor our veterans and others who participated in that war effort on Wednesday, May 26, at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland. There will be a reception at 7:00 p.m. with displays on view. The program will begin at 8:00 p.m.

Readers will present an outlined history of the war into which they will weave the experience of Chevy Chase participants in the war. The memories volunteered by each participant will be highlighted, either through quotes about their experiences or by donated photographs and printed comments. Participants were located by means of the Chevy Chase Historical Society newsletter and the newsletters of the five Chevy Chase municipalities. The list of over 70 residents who will be participating in the program can be found inside this newsletter.

CCHS chose this project in order to honor our military and to examine a time in our history when we were united in one cause--when everyone, military and civilian was asked to help. Each person had a role, whether it was in the armed forces, the government, industry, or the home. Many were called to combat, worked in offices, or worked in key industries supporting the war, such as the steel industry. A great deal depended on one's age, educational background, and often, the luck of the draw.

As you read and hear the memories of our veterans you will find that they are reluctant to call attention to themselves or to describe precisely the hard times that they lived through. One sometimes must read between the lines to comprehend. But, clearly, each experienced a small part of a world-wide effort of bewildering complexity.

Through the stories of how each person's life was affected, one can see how the mixing of people from all over the country produced a more unified nation, and one more understanding of people from diverse backgrounds. And, one can see the impact of the G.I. Bill, which helped thousands of veterans obtain college educations and graduate degrees that they might not otherwise have received. This paved the way for

the great expansion of the middle class that followed World War II.

We encourage you to join the society for this important evening. Light refreshments will be served.

#### Participants in Chevy Chase Historical Society World War II Project

#### Village of Martin's Additions

Dorothy Uphoff Camp, Woman's Army Corps, WAAC, WAC, Second Lieutenant
Andrew Cummings, United States Army, First Lieutenant
Peter Haikalis, United States Army, Corporal
John Kay, British Army, Sergeant
Kathleen Cameron Kay, Ministry of Economic Warfare, UK
James Kranking, United States Army, Corporal
Anita Floyd Mitchel, Army of the United States, Sergeant

#### Town of Chevy Chase

Joseph Clifford, United States Army, Counter Intelligence Corps, Sergeant Kenneth P. Crawford, United States Navy, Lieutenant Commander Walter Cushen, Army of the United States, T/5 James Dougherty, United States Navy, ETM 2/C Jack DeSipio, United States Navy, Electrician, Mate 3/C James G. Gidding, United States Army, Airborne Infantry, Captain Robert Jones, United States Army, Private First Class George J. Keto, United States Naval Reserves, Lieutenant Nathan Kingsley, United States Navy, RM 3/C John K. Knaus, United States Army, Second Lieutenant Eugene G. Kovach, United States Navy, Ensign Julius Lauderdale, Army Air Force, Corporal Frederick Lavey, United States Navy, Lieutenant Leonard C Maximon, United States Navy, ETM 2 George Painter, United States Merchant Marine, Licensed Junior Engineer (Ensign rating) Edwin Pewett, United States Naval Reserve, Lieutenant Irwin Ramer, United States Navy, Seaman First Class John E. Rich, United States Marine Corps, Second Lieutenant Arthur E. Rowse, United States Army, Private First Class Bonnie H. Snape, United States Navy WAVE, Radioman Third Class William H. Snape, Jr., United States Navy Reserve, Seaman First Class Irene H. Steptoe, United States Army Nurse, Captain Philip P. Steptoe, Army Medial Corps, Captain Jane Reider Terry, Army Nurse Corps, Second Lieutenant John L. Withers, United States Army Air Corps, Lieutenant Colonel

#### Chevy Chase Village

Edward Lee Bowie, United States Army, Private First Class
John George Broumas, United States Army, Major
Thomas F. Carroll, United States Army, First Lieutenant
William Doran Clark, United States Army, Major
Francis Patrick Collins, United States Coast Guard, First Class Petty Officer
John Woolman Douglas, United States Navy, Lieutenant
Robert E. Hartland, United States Army, Captain
Bernard M. Hollander, United States Navy, Lieutenant
Orm Weston Ketcham, United States Navy, Lieutenant Commander
Irving I. Kramer, United States Army, Lieutenant
Alan W. Lukens, United States Army, Private First Class

Richard S.T. Marsh, United States Marine Corps, Captain Melville M. Moffitt, Unites States Marine Corps, First Lieutenant John Kinnison O'Connor, United States Navy, Machinist Mate Second Class John Reed, United States Army, Private First Class Alan Anton Ruppert, United States Navy, Lieutenant JG Raphael Semmes, United States Army, First Lieutenant Joseph Raymond Slevin, United States Navy, Lieutenant Samuel B. Sterrett, US Army – Merchant Marine, Lieutenant JG William Reid Thompson, United States Navy, Lieutenant JG Richard Herbert Tibbets, United States Navy, Commander Robert G. Webster, United States Marine Corps, Lieutenant Manuel C. Zenick, United States Navy, Pharmacist's Mate Third Class

#### Village of Chevy Chase, Section 3

William G Borders, United States Army, Technician Fifth Grade
James Bugg, United States Air Force, Acting Sergeant
Joseph Burke, United States Army, Private First Class
William Brownlee, United States Army, Private First Class
William G. Hamilton, United States Marine Corps, Second Lieutenant
Phillip Eckert, United States Navy, Commander
Joseph Kelly, United States Navy, Captain
Richard Elwell, United States Army, Corporal
Lawrence C. Larkin, United States Army, T/4, Staff Sergeant
Malcolm Lawrence, United States Army Air Force, Staff Sergeant
Joseph Slavin, United States, Navy, Radarman 3/C
Parker Wyman, United States Army, Staff Sergeant
Richard Solomon, United States Army, Captain

#### Village of Chevy Chase, Section 5

Richard Chatfield-Taylor, United States Coast Guard, Lieutenant Commander
David L. Chalmers, British Army, Major
Katherine D. Chalmers, United States Navy, Lieutenant Commander
Jack Estepp, United States Army Air Corps, First Lieutenant
James C. McKay, United States Navy, Lieutenant Commander
Carl J. Migdail, United States Army, Captain
Scott F. Imirie, United States Army, Technical Sergeant, Signal Corps
Arnold H. Weiss, United States Army, Lieutenant Colonel

#### War Workers and the Impact of War

Frank Correl, immigrated from Germany via Kindertransport
Henry Bedell, worked in American steel industry during war
Nathan Moerman, worked at Aberdeen Proving Ground
Florence B. Isbell, staff of ACLU during the war, Japanese internment issue
Lila Asher Oliver, USO Camp Shows, Artists United

#### Residents of Chevy Chase During the War

Patricia Baptiste Carol Blair Marcia and Edward Clopton Bill Duval Timothy Gorman Jean Dinwoodey Linehan Eda Schrader Offut

Benched: Tom Hogan, Jill Barr, Isabella Barr, and Charlotte Carroll



Stewart Bainum hoists the Prize.



Susan Elwell makes a point.



A watering place by the pool.



Early Sunday morning the officers were at work: Marilyn Montgomery, Julie Thomas, Mary Sheehan and Fran Schorr.



Harriett Hobbs and John Montgomery are having a serious conversation.



Wendy Adams and Timothy Brown

All photos courtesy of Dick Marsh

# Enchanted A Champa Favored with Perfec

A glorious spring day, grad and delicious food combe champagne supper for the C 2004 Gala on the afternoor

Stewart and Sandy Bainum graciously welcomed almometiculously restored hor Champagne was served in a chance to enjoy the sun lawns, fountain and pool, be La Ferme staff served—w buffet of food perfect for a

Flora Gill Jacobs, a CCHS of Gala's honorary chairperson garden terrace before dinarrecognized Mrs. Jacobs of society, spoke of her many her upcoming retirement, of the Washington Doll's I proud to be associated with Mrs. Jacobs.

During the same cerem Montgomery presented the of their house and the invitalso spoke briefly about O War II: Chevy Chase Remen of the war who were our house

What a memorable way it v spring!



Sipping champagne in the sh

### April: Society's agne Gala n Perfect Day, t House

cious hosts, a beautiful house, ined to produce an elegant Chevy Chase Historical Society's of Sunday, April 18.

and their handsome young sons st 200 guests to their elegant, ne and its spacious grounds. the garden, giving partygoers shine and flowers, terrace and efore Alain Roussel's Restaurant ith their usual flare—a lavish spring supper.

charter member served as the n. In a brief ceremony on the ner, Gala co-chair Fran Schorr or her contributions to the accomplishments, and noted which will mean the closing House Museum. The society is h someone as distinguished as

ony, Gala co-chair Marilyn Bainums with a framed picture ation to the Gala. Susan Elwell CCHS's special project, "World bers," and recognized veterans nored guests.

was to welcome a long-awaited



We like the name tag on Elinor Solomon



Co-chair Marilyn Montgomery, helped by Flora Jacobs and co-chair Fran Shorr, presents the CCHS gift to hostess Sandy Bainum



The welcoming committee: (back) Joan Marsh, Eleanor Ford, (front) Alice Kinter, and Helen Secrest



John and Julie Metz with Stewart Bainum



Bob and Judy Elliott flank Walter Sheble



Past President Mary Anne Tuohey and Sandy Bainum



Mary Armstrong and Chuck Floyd sample the bounty of La Ferme.



This happy group from left to right: George Ford, Katy Farr, Sheila Farr Nielson, Frances Sharon, and Sharon Farr



Claire Gilliam and friend

#### Chevy Chase Historical Society Newsletter



Chevy Chase Historical Society Post Office Box 15145 Chevy Chase, MD 20825-5145

#### Officers

| Angela Lancaster President            |
|---------------------------------------|
| Mary Sheehan Vice President           |
| Alice Kinter Recording Secretary      |
| Helen Secrest Corresponding Secretary |
| Margaret Adelfio Treasurer            |

#### **Directors**

| Fran Schorr Past President            |
|---------------------------------------|
| Julie Thomas Member-at-Large          |
| Patti Rosenfeld Member-at-Large       |
| Carol Coffin Advisor to the Board     |
| Mary Anne Tuohey Advisor to the Board |
| Judy Robinson Advisor to the Board    |

#### Committee Chairs

| Archives Joan Marsh                  |
|--------------------------------------|
| Bulletin Board Julie Thomas          |
| Exhibits Susan Elwell                |
| Friends of C.C. Circle Barbara Price |
| House Research Alice Kinter          |
| Maps Carol Coffin                    |
| Membership Helen Secrest             |
| Note Cards Fran Schorr               |
| Oral History Marjorie Zapruder       |
| Photographs Eleanor Ford             |
| Programs Mary Sheehan                |
| Public Relations Ann Toch            |
| Volunteers Mary Anne Tuohey          |

Newsletter Editor . . . . Wendy Adams Newsletter Production . . . John Tuohey

#### **CCHS** Archives and Research Center

Chevy Chase Community Library
8005 Connecticut Avenue
Tel: 301-656-6141
Fax:301-656-5114
E-mail: chevychasehistory@msn.com
Open 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on
Tuesdays and by appointment.

The Chevy Chase Historical Society is a non-profit organization founded in 1981 to discover, record, and preserve the history of the Maryland and Washington neighborhoods known as Chevy Chase.

#### U. S. NAVAL AVIATION



#### **DECORATION OF CIRCLE**

As we go to press, plans are underway for CCHS to honor the World War II veterans of Chevy Chase with patriotic decorations at Chevy Chase Circle over Memorial Day weekend. Assuming the requisite governmental approvals, flags will fly to celebrate these special members of our community.

#### **Recent Acquisitions**

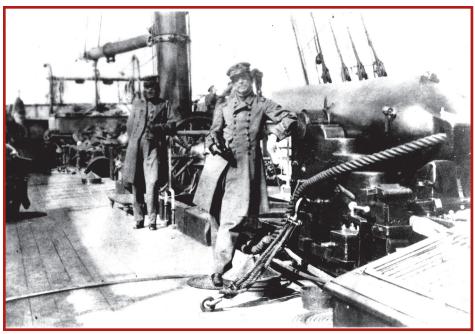
"Recent Acquisitions" is a regular feature in the newsletter, describing documents and other items that are acquired for the society's Archives and Research Center.

In recent months, CCHS has added the following material to its Archives and Research Center:

- 1. Indexing Family Histories, by Patricia Law Hatcher and John V. Wylie: a book that will be invaluable to CCHS in indexing its oral histories. Donated by Helen Secrest
- 2. Landscaping Project Proposal to Restore a Unique Maryland Gateway: a pamphlet submitted by Chevy Chase Village to the Maryland State Highway Administration proposing the restoration of landscaping along Connecticut Avenue. Donated by Geoffrey Biddle, Village Manager
- Files concerning Friendship Heights from the records of Betty Ann Krahnke, former member of the Montgomery County Council. Donated by Wilson Krahnke.

#### To Our Members And Donors

Thanks to all readers who have become members of the society this year. Our membership base has grown from 187 in 2003 to a current 240. This includes 40 Life Members and 85 Sustaining Members. In addition, more than 40 members have generously contributed to the ongoing Capital Campaign. This participation helps us continue to fulfill our mission to research, record, and share the history of Chevy Chase.



Captain Raphael Semmes, Alabama's commanding officer, standing by his ship's 110-pounder in Capetown, August 1863

#### Chevy Chase's "French Connection": Sea Captains, Cherbourg, and the Civil War

The January/February 2004 issue of *Preservation*, the magazine of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is entitled "The French Connection." Residents of Chevy Chase may be interested to know that we have a "French connection" of our very own.

The *Preservation* article details the epic battle between two Civil War ships, the CSS Alabama and the USS Kearsarge, which took place off the coast of Cherbourg — hence the "French connection." Hundreds of spectators watched the battle fom the surrounding hills, and its fame soon inspired a well known painting by Edouard Manet.

The captain of the Alabama was Raphael Semmes, and the Captain of the Kearsage was John Winslow. By a curious coincidence, both men have collateral descendants living in Chevy Chase. Today's Raphael Semmes lives at 31 Quincy Street, while Laura Winslow, whose great grandfather was the first cousin of Captain Winslow, lives at 15 East Lenox Street. Both of them have been generous in sharing information about their famous ancestors.

The Alabama was notorious during the Civil War for the daring of its mustachioed Captain Semmes and his success at disrupting Union shipping. During the course of a wide ranging search, the Alabama captured and burned at sea 55 Union merchant ships worth over \$4,500,000, and bonded ten others. Considered a pirate by the North, he was of course a hero to the South.

In June of 1864 Semmes and his crew, wearied by the incessant fighting, put into Cherbourg for much needed repairs to the

Alabama. Captain Winslow, hearing that the Alabama was in Cherbourg, immediately set sail and blockaded the port. Semmes, knowing the poor condition of his vessel, nevertheless felt it his duty to challenge the Kearsage. During the ensuing battle, the Kearsage sank the Alabama. A British yacht picked up Semmes and many of his crew, and took them to Southampton, where they were given an enthusiastic welcome.

Semmes eventually returned to the Confederacy and played a continuous if less spectacular role in its armed services until finally surrendering to General Josh Johnson in 1865. He was arrested in December of 1865 and accused of piracy, but released the following year. He passed the rest of his life quietly in Mobile, Alabama. His adversary, Captain Winslow, was given a vote of thanks by Congress for his victory, and promoted to Commodore in the American Navy.

The story of this famous battle is the subject of renewed interest due to the *Preservation* article and to the current exhibition at the Philadelphia Museum of Art called "Manet and the Sea," which runs from February 15 through May 31, 2004.

#### Sources:

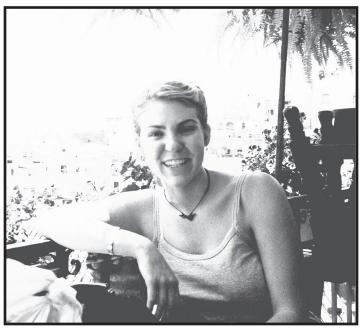
Preservation Magazine, January/ February, 2004
Captain Raphael Semmes and the C.S.S. Alabama,
a publication of the Naval Historical Foundation
Marylanders On The High Seas: Admiral Raphael Semmes, CSA,
a publication of the Maryland Line, 3/19/90
Photo courtesy of the U.S. Naval Historical Center

## Welcome To Our New Collections Manager

Visitors to CCHS headquarters at 8005 Connecticut Avenue will always find our new Collections Manager, Beth Hickey, hard at work. Beth joined the society in the fall of 2003 and comes with an impressive resume. After graduating from Montgomery College in 1999, she pursued her B.A. at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. She graduated in 2003 with an extended major in anthropology with an archeology emphasis. While at Northern Arizona she was consistently on the Dean's List. In 2001 and 2002 she received the Hooper Undergraduate Research Award.

While Beth was at Montgomery College she worked as Administrative Assistant for the Montgomery County Historical Society, and after returning from Arizona she became the Site Director for their Germantown site, the Waters House. Beth works for CCHS every Tuesday afternoon, helping the society to realize its long-time goal of computerizing its collection. In her spare time she acts as a sleuth, turning up valuable information on material as she examines it. Recently she correctly dated one of our 19th century photographs by counting the stars in the American flag displayed in the picture!

Next time you visit the headquarters, be sure to introduce yourself to CCHS' talented young Collections Manager.



**Beth Hickey** 

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