



EXHORTATION!

NEWS BULLETIN OF THE STRAWBRIDGE SHRINE

The Strawbridge Shrine  New Windsor, MD
The First Home of American Methodism

May 15, 2019

2650 Strawbridge Lane, New Windsor, MD 21776

Vol. XXIV, No. 1

A GEM OF A PLACE

A Message from Lou Piel, Interim Co-President of the Strawbridge Shrine Association

On a recent tour of the Strawbridge Shrine, and after hearing about the amazing ministry of Robert & Elizabeth Strawbridge and touring the buildings, a visitor commented that “you have a gem of a place here.”

Although Robert Strawbridge’s ministry in America was a only little more than 20 years in length it established a firm base of Methodist classes in the new world. His missionary travels sharing the good news of Jesus took him beyond his local area to places in Delaware, Virginia, Pennsylvania as well as the Eastern Shore of Maryland. To visit the “winter kitchen” in the Strawbridge House (which dates back to the 1760’s) or the beautifully restored John Evans house (also of that period) or the replica of the original Log Meeting House where early worship was held brings one to appreciate the dedicated commitment of these early Wesleyan pioneers.

We appreciate the comment that we have a “gem of a place” but maintenance, repairs and constant upgrades do not just happen. They happen because dedicated members of the Shrine Association, Board members, and especially those of you reading this news bulletin put your love into action by doing two key things.

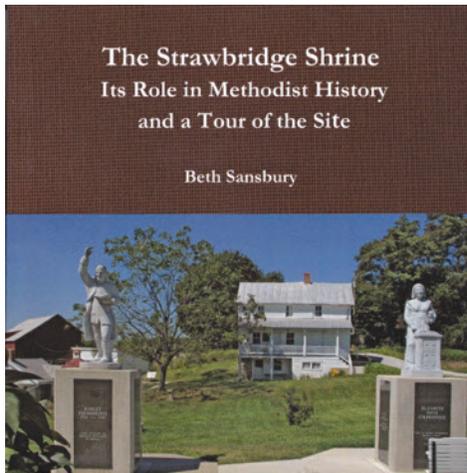
First, you become a yearly member of the Shrine. In this news bulletin you have information about how you can become a supporting member. Your membership is critically important to our ministry, outreach and maintenance. We depend directly on memberships.

(Continued on Page 3)

NEW BOOK ABOUT THE SHRINE

Author Beth Sansbury was inspired by her visit

A visit to the historic First Home of American Methodism can inspire you to do many things. For some, they are inspired to become members and support the preservation and promotion of the Shrine through their financial gifts. Some go further and want to become a member of the Board or volunteer staff. Still others may be inspired to take their ministry beyond the Shrine (as Robert Strawbridge did) and to rekindle their commitment to their local church, food pantry or other cause.



inspiration even to those who may not be able to visit the Shrine in person.

The outcome of her inspired thinking is a new book; *The Strawbridge Shrine: Its Role in Methodist History and a Tour of the Site*.

“I wanted to make the whole story easily accessible and understandable,” Sansbury says, “and to brighten it with ample photos so that visitors could take it home as a memento of their visit.”

But for author Beth Sansbury, her visit to the Shrine made her think about how she could use her previous writing experience to share what she had learned in her visit with others, and to help promote a spirit of

This was not Sansbury’s first time introducing sites of interest to the public. Two of her previous books, *Sully Historic Site: The Story of the House and the People Who Called It Home* and *52 Perfect Day Trips for Fit Adults in the Greater Washington Area* are available on Amazon.com.

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CURATOR'S CORNER

By Helen Kemp, Resident Curator

Hello Everyone, Happy Spring!

The Winter is past, the birds are singing and Strawbridge Shrine in beautiful Carroll County Maryland is waiting to have you visit. We welcome all who come for reasons that are as varied as those who come themselves. Our well informed, period attired guides personally lead tours for Confirmation students, clergy, church groups, history buffs, casual tourists, family outings and, of course, Shrine Association members who come to see where their faith began with Robert & Elizabeth Strawbridge in 1760's Colonial America. Tours are also arranged for visitors from around the country and around the world. Local visitors are amazed by what they can discover in just a few hours' drive. Our campus is comprised of three buildings which are fully furnished in the Colonial Period style and several interesting farm buildings. A modern Visitors Center is located off the ground level parking lot and includes: a comfortable tourist seating area, small gift shop and restrooms.

Our buildings are mostly handicap accessible, and there is a lot to see. A picnic area is offered to those who'd like to bring their lunch. To book a tour visit our website at: www.StrawbridgeShrine.org and click on "Tours" or call the Curator at 410-635-2600. The Shrine is located at: 2650 Strawbridge Lane, New Windsor, MD 21776. Tours are free, but donations are appreciated.

Looking forward to meeting you!

Helen Kemp, Curator

COLONIAL DAY 2019

Popular Event Returns for a Fourth Year



Even before the clean-up for the third annual Colonial Day in 2018 had begun, our historic crafts people had already begun to sign up for 2019. It turns out that spending a beautiful day in the fresh air at the scenic and historic Shrine grounds is as popular with vendors as it has been with visitors. Make your own plan to join us:

SATURDAY, JUNE 15th 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Blacksmiths, weavers, caners, scrimshaw, muskets, period music and more!

Historic buildings will be open with costumed guides.

FREE!

Grilled fish and chicken lunches for sale by Strawbridge UMC.



A NEW STRAWBRIDGE BOOK

(Continued from Page 1)

In her visit to the Strawbridge Shrine, she found an opportunity. "When I visited the Shrine, it did not have a comprehensive book that answered all of [my] questions, spurring me to write this small book."

The book may be small, but her effort was not. She spent months researching and collecting material that not only presents the Shrine, but which relates a concise and easily digested history of Robert Strawbridge's ministry in historical context. Her work drew from sources at Wesley Theological Seminary, American University, the Lovely Lane Museum, sources on-line, and at the Shrine itself.

What had begun as an effort to simply investigate her own family tree quickly grew as Sansbury discovered her connection to Strawbridge. "It was a revelation to me that my 10th great-grandfather was John Evans, the father of the first Methodist convert in America," she relates in the book's introduction. "I wanted to understand how this bucolic place, far from a major city, was one of the epicenters of the first 'Great Awakening,' the resurgence of interest in religion that roiled both England and the colonies before the revolution."

Now that her book is complete, that history and more is now collected and ready to inspire others.

The Strawbridge Shrine: Its Role in Methodist History and a Tour of the Site. Copyright 2018 by Beth Sansbury and published by Wolfe Hill Publishing, Great Falls, Virginia. It is available in the Shrine Gift Shop. Shrine Members receive a 10% on all Gift Shop purchases.

A GEM OF A PLACE

(Continued from Page 1)

Second, you make a yearly sacrificial financial commitment to the Preservation Fund. This was established by the Shrine Board to put a strong financial foundation under our historic buildings and property. Old buildings constantly need maintenance and this relatively new fund is designed directly to do just that.

For your convenience, a Membership/Donation form is included with this news bulletin.

If you need more information about how you can get involved and support the Strawbridge ministry please do not hesitate to give me a call (301-351-6689). I love to talk about Robert & Elizabeth and their ministry and how our historic buildings continue to tell that story of the love of God in our world today.

The Strawbridge Shrine Association

The First Home of American Methodism

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR DONATION

Type of Membership:
(please select one)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership.....\$40.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining.....\$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couple's Membership.....\$60.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor.....\$250.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church / Church Group.....\$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron.....\$500.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth (under 20 yrs. of age)...\$5.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor.....\$1,000.00 |

Date of birth: _____

Membership includes:

- ✓ Admission to all events of the Strawbridge Shrine Association
- ✓ Donor Listing
- ✓ 10% Discount at the Gift Shop
- ✓ Subscriptions to *Exhortation!*, *The News Bulletin of the Strawbridge Shrine*
- ✓ And, of course, support for the Preservation and Programs of the unique birthplace of the worldwide United Methodist Denomination!

Additional Contribution:
(please select as many as apply)

- In addition to membership I / We are adding a donation of \$ _____
- I would like to support the Preservation Fund with a donation of \$ _____
- I / We do not wish to become a member, but please accept a donation of \$ _____

Special Gift:

- A donation of \$ _____ In Memory of _____
- A donation of \$ _____ In Honor of _____

Member Information:

(please print)

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

E.MAIL _____

PHONE (BEST) _____

Please make your check or money order to:

Strawbridge Shrine Association, Inc.

2200 St. Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

The Strawbridge Shrine Association, Inc., is a non-profit 501(c)(3) entity. Your contribution is tax-deductible.



STRAWBRIDGE SHRINE ASSOCIATION

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BALTIMORE, MD 21218-5805

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

A VISIT TO THE SHRINE

We often received notes and comments from those who visit the Strawbridge Shrine, especially those who visit for the first time. Here is one of those anonymous notes from a young person during a confirmation class visit.

"In our confirmation class we learned a lot about the Bible and especially about Jesus. But I did not know anything about Robert & Elizabeth Strawbridge until we visited the Strawbridge Shrine I would like to thank the Curator and those who made this interesting visit possible. We learned a lot about how they came from Ireland to America and told people about the love of Jesus. The best part is that Robert and Elizabeth were just ordinary people like us. It was fun to visit the old buildings and in the Log House I stood on the pulpit and preached. Thank you."

The Strawbridge Shrine is open April - October:

Fridays 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Saturdays 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sundays 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

November - March and most other days:

By appointment

Stay Up-to-Date

For the latest on news and events, visit us at:

www.StrawbridgeShrine.org
www.facebook.com/StrawbridgeShrine

Twitter: [@StrawbridgeShri](https://twitter.com/StrawbridgeShri)
www.YouTube.com/StrawbridgeShrine

