

# THE HERITAGE

## It was a very good year. A Review of 2008

### The Three Main Fundraising Events



*Fire Ball Event*

Last February's **Fire Ball**, the best party in town filled the Mansion with over 575 elegantly dressed guests. The evening was reminiscent of Baltimore's Golden Age when Dr. & Mrs. Jacobs held parties from November to Easter. Proceeds from the Fire Ball were over **\$71,000**.

The Engineers Club and the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund held their third annual **Joint Board of**



*Joint Board of Directors' Golf Outing*

**Directors' Golf Outing** on August 27 at the Country Club of Maryland. The event netted a **\$30,000** profit.

**The Crush** wine tasting event featuring 40 fine wines was held on November 14. The theme was "In Vino Veritas" (In wine there is truth). Also included were the following gourmet food stations: carving, gourmet pasta, cold seafood, cheese, antipasto, and dessert. The wines from different regions were superb. The sweet potato ravioli, lobster ravioli, and the seared tuna were the most-talked about foods. This Crush netted **\$27,000**.

### What's New in the Mansion

The **Handicap Access Project** is complete. The dining room and front entrance lifts make it possible for *everyone* to have access to the Mansion's lower levels.

This year natural gas service was brought from the lower level to the main floor. **Gas-flame logs** were installed in the newly-restored **Drawing Room**.



*Drawing Room Gas-flame logs*

**Red and charcoal gray outdoor carpet** is on the steps leading to the **Mansion's front door**. The red carpet serves as a reminder when Mrs. Garrett literally had red carpet rolled out for guests at her lavish dinner parties. There was a **facelift on the lower level** of the Mansion that included the members' entrance, the dining room, bar, lounge area, and hallway that connects all of the rooms. Plaster and



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Mary Frick Jacobs, 1885  
Oil on canvas by Aleandre Cabanel

wood repairs, a new paint color scheme, repairs to the sub-floor, and luxurious new carpeting completed the scope of work.

Five **portrait reproductions** now hang on the **Drawing Room** walls. The portraits are: Robert Garrett I, John Work Garrett, his son, Robert II, his grandson, Mary Sloan Frick Garrett, Robert II's wife, and Mary Elizabeth Garrett, Robert II's sister—three generations in all. As information from Jim Durkay, the man responsible for the reproductions, the portrait reproductions were captured by a very high resolution image using a 39 megapixel Hasselblad camera. The image was fed directly into a laptop as the exposure was made. Then the image was digitally sharpened, colors corrected, and sizes adjusted. The portraits were then printed out on archival quality canvas on an 8-color inkjet process.

A beautiful custom-woven Stark rug lays on the Drawing Room floor now.

**Awards**

Following the Drawing Room restoration, **Baltimore Heritage, Inc.**, a city-wide non-profit, historic and architectural preservation organization



Decorative Arts Finishes & Stark rug located in the Drawing Room

granted a **Project Award for the Restoration** last June. The Award gave recognition to all the businesses involved in the restoration.

The Building Congress & Exchange's 70th Annual Craftsmanship Dinner in November gave a craftsmanship award for the **Decorative Arts Finishes** in the **Drawing Room**. Katalin Bujnova and Laura Williamson of the Thomas Moore Studios received the award for their work.

**Events Open To The Public**

The **Tours are Back** on Tuesdays through Saturdays from 1:00 to 4:00 on an ad hoc basis. The charge remains \$5.00. Reservations are encouraged for groups.



Mansion Tours are Back

**Christmas Cheer at the Mansion** is the ever-popular, eagerly-awaited concert that returns year-after-year. Last December's Christmas concert had two performances to accommodate the enormous demand. Concert Artists of Baltimore under its Artistic Director, Ed Polochick provided the music and songs for this Christmas tradition at the Mansion.

### More Good News

The Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund (GJMEF) received **\$98,500** from the Heritage Preservation Tax Credit program.



The GJMEF received a matching grant of **\$50,000** from the **Maryland Historical Trust (MHT)** for the Mansion's roof structural repairs that are outstanding. The work is expected to be completed by the end of March.



*The Ballroom*

The modification to the **MHT Easement** on the Mansion has been completed and is in the process of being recorded in the land records. This modification will allow the GJMEF to apply annually for grants of up to **\$50,000** for specific projects. All non-cosmetic changes in areas which are protected will need to be approved by MHT prior to their implementation. The easement is perpetual and will protect the Mansion forever. This protection will guarantee the historic fabric of the building assuring donors that their investments will be protected.

### What's Coming up in '09

#### The Ballroom Restoration Project

This room is a blend of elements of French Classical Baroque and Rococo architecture from the late seventeenth

and early eighteenth centuries. It measures 70 feet by 100 feet with a large stage opposite to the entrance. Among the facets of this massive restoration will be the return of the glass panels lighted from above.



**A Lecture & Book Signing by Dr. Kathleen Waters Sander**, author of Mary Elizabeth Garrett, Society and Philanthropy in the Gilded Age, will be held at the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion on Sunday, March 8, 2009 at 1pm. Tours of the Mansion will be offered and an optional buffet brunch is available via pre-registration with the Engineering Society of Baltimore for \$25 per person. Please call 410-539-6914 or email [patti@esb.org](mailto:patti@esb.org). Lecture is complimentary. Donations to Friends of the Mansion will be accepted. ■

## The "second" Mrs. Garrett's Passing.

On January 1, **Emma Carroll** passed away at the age of 90. For many years "Miss Emma" served as a Director of the Engineers Club and member of its House Committee. She also served as a member and President of the Women's Auxiliary of the Club. In the words of Joan Magnani, the Auxiliary's current president, "The Engineers Club was one of Emma's passions." Her other interests were flower arranging, silver, and cameos. She shared her knowledge and expertise of those interests by giving demonstrations at the Auxiliary's programs. For many years she used her flower arranging skills to decorate the Mansion at Christmas. She was known for her etiquette and insistence on everything being done properly.



She wanted the Mansion to always look perfect. She was known for sticking her finger in the fresh flower vases, discarding the dead flowers, and ordering Patti to get a pitcher of fresh water to fill the vases.

For many years she held offices in the Maryland State Society, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and other patriotic and hereditary organizations.

When the Club started its campaign to raise money for the Drawing Room, Emma was first in line to make her donation. Following her stroke, the Board members expressed their fondness for her by not removing her name from the Board. Instead, they designated her as Board Member Emerita of the Club in 2007. She will be remembered as a staunch supporter of the Club, the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund, traditional values, her unique vision, and zest for life.

Thank you to Joan Magnani and Dale Whitehead for contributing to this article. ■

## The Tours Are Back!

Tuesdays through Saturdays  
from 1:00 to 4:00 on an  
ad hoc basis.

The charge remains \$5.00.

Reservations are  
encouraged for groups.

**Jo Anne Sabas, the  
Editor invites letters  
to her. She can be  
contacted through  
the address on this  
newsletter or by  
e-mail at  
sabas@outdrs.net.**



Your support can help the trustees in their on-going effort to restore and preserve this landmark property, listed in the National Register as part of the Mount Vernon Place Historic District and documented in the Library of Congress as part of the Historic American Buildings Survey.

Benefits include a subscription to the Heritage Quarterly, advance notice of public events at the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion.

Complete this coupon and mail check to:  
The Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Endowment Fund, Inc.  
11 West Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore, MD 21201  
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