

REGISTRATION FORM

“REMEMBER THE LADIES”:

*The Personal and Political Lives
of Early American Women*

Women’s History Symposium
March 30, 2011 • 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

*Registration fee is \$75 and is payable by check or credit card.
Registration deadline is March 14, 2011. Lunch will be
provided and is included in the registration fee.*

Special Rate:

Museum and historical society volunteers can receive a
\$10 discount if they register by March 1, 2011.

Method of Payment:

_____ Check (*made payable to M-NCPPC*)

_____ Visa _____ MasterCard

Credit Card Number: _____

Card Holder Name: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Mail registration form and payment to:

Darnall’s Chance House Museum
14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Space is limited, so register now!

Museum facility of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning
Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Natural and Historical
Resources Division. www.pgparcs.com

Darnall’s Chance House Museum
14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
301-952-8010/TTY 301-699-2544
www.pgparcs.com

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George’s County,
Natural & Historical Resources Division



The Department of Parks and Recreation encourages and supports the participation
of individuals with disabilities. Register at least a minimum of two weeks in advance
of the program start date to request and receive a disability accommodation.

PR-NHRD-1/11

“REMEMBER THE LADIES”:

*The Personal and Political Lives
of Early American Women*



Women’s History Symposium
Wednesday, March 30, 2011

TO BE HELD AT:
PRINCE GEORGE’S EQUESTRIAN CENTER
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Program sponsored by
Darnall’s Chance House Museum

“REMEMBER THE LADIES”:

The Personal and Political Lives of Early American Women

“... remember the Ladies, and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such power into the hands of the husbands. Remember all men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation.”

For the most part, the home and family formed the nucleus of women’s lives in early America, but as Abigail Adams articulated in a March 31, 1776 letter to her husband John Adams, American women were growing more aware of the world around them and their position within it.

Over the past two decades, scholars have become increasingly interested in the way early American women defined themselves and how they were defined by the society in which they lived. In order to illuminate this topic, Darnall’s Chance House Museum has invited five speakers to explore the evolution of female identity in 18th and 19th century America and its impact on the new nation.

This symposium will offer the opportunity to assess current scholarship on this theme and will serve as a forum for audience participation. For a closer examination into the lives of early American women, join Darnall’s Chance House Museum on March 30, 2011.

PROGRAM

9:30 AM

Registration & Coffee

10:00 AM

**A Lighthearted Look at the Girl and Boy
Connection: Playing, Flirting, Courting and
Marrying, 1770-1870**

By Elisabeth Garrett Widmer

11:00 AM

Women’s Revolution: Redefining Motherhood

By Susan Klepp

12:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 PM

Declared Liberty: The Life of Lydia Broadnax

Theatrical presentation by Valarie Holmes

1:30 PM

Women and Politics in the Early American Republic

Rosemarie Zagarri, George Mason University

2:30 PM

**Working Women, Women’s Work: Training and
Employment Opportunities for Girls and Women
in Colonial Maryland**

By Jean Russo



Image on Cover: A Society of Patriotic Ladies, at Edenton in North Carolina. Print by Robert Sayer and John Bennett, London. March 25, 1775.

Courtesy of the Library of Congress.

SPEAKERS

Elisabeth Garrett Widmer is an author, educator and museum consultant. Ms. Widmer lectures widely throughout the United States on American decorative arts and is frequently consulted by museums on historic interiors, the social/cultural contexts of the arts, exhibitions and education. She has contributed many articles to leading journals and is the author of four books, including the award-winning book *At Home: The American Family 1750-1870*.

Susan Klepp is Professor of History at Temple University and Editor of the *Journal of the Early Republic*. Her book, *Revolutionary Conceptions* (2009), has been named the best book in women’s history by the American Historical Association.

Valarie Holmes has appeared in numerous plays and productions in the Tidewater area. She works as an African American/Performing Arts Interpreter for The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. She portrays Lydia Broadnax, a slave of George Wythe, and other characters at Colonial Williamsburg and for school systems around the nation. Ms. Holmes has a Master of Fine Arts from Regent University. She was honored as the Outstanding Graduate in the College of Communication and the Arts Institute of Performing Arts. *Portfolio Magazine* nominated her for Best Actress for her portrayal of Margaret in James Baldwin’s *Amen Corner*.

Rosemarie Zagarri is Professor of History at George Mason University. She has published four books including, most recently, *Revolutionary Backlash: Women and Politics in the Early American Republic*. She was the President of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR) in 2009-2010 and has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities research fellowship for 2011-2012.

Jean Russo is Associate General Editor of the *Archives of Maryland Online*, a publication of the Maryland State Archives. She is the co-author or co-editor of six books, including *The Diary of William Faris* (2003), and a forthcoming history of the colonial Chesapeake. She has served as a consultant for numerous local historical sites and organizations and writes on historical subjects for two online publications.