

FALL Lectures 2025 – 2:00-3:00 Sundays

with Q&A and refreshments – FREE

revised Nov 17

October 12 - John Conley, Kent Island Heritage Society.

Kent Island History: William Claiborne 1631 to The Bay Bridge and Beyond. Kent Island was settled in 1631 as part of Virginia and is the oldest settlement in today's Maryland. Kent Island became the gateway to the Eastern Shore in the early 1900s when a train station was built at Love Point and later when connected to Annapolis by ferry boats, and then with the opening of the first Bay Bridge in 1952. We will cover major historical, cultural and economic events as we approach the 300th Anniversary of Kent Island.

November 9 – Jonathan Tucker – Poetry - What is the Meaning of This?! In this interactive and collaborative presentation, poet Jonathan B. Tucker will guide participants through a creative writing and spoken word poetry exploration of meaning making. Responding to visual art, current events, and ancestral callings, together we will unlock our poetic voices to honor ourselves, our people, our communities, and the earth we inhabit. It will be fun and funky, soulful and sincere. Bring open hearts and notebooks and pens to write.

November 23 – Tom Cook – Oriental Rugs: Nomads' Lives and How the Weavings that We Purchase Fit into Their Lives - The Beautiful Weavings of Persian Nomads: We will first look at excerpts from a 1925 movie called "Grass". It describes the life of nomads in Western Persia, inadvertently showing some of their weavings and how they are used in daily life. We will then see slides (and some real examples) of nomadic rugs and kilims from about 1850 to 1950, paying special attention to how they were constructed, designed and dyed, and to the different kinds of social relationships involved in making them. Nomadic rugs were widely sold as "Persian rugs" in the West, along with hand-knotted rugs woven in urban workshops. The talk will contrast what a "Persian rug" means to us and what it meant to the nomad women who wove such rugs for their own purposes in a world of tents that was devoid of the fixed walls, solid furniture and flat floors that we decorate with the very rugs and kilims they wove.

November 30 - Tom Yates –Carving Wood Thomas Yates started wood carving over 30 years ago. There are two types of wood that I use in my carving process: found wood along the shore lines and woods and slab wood that I buy from a mill. The wood that I find tells me what it is. The hidden inner spirit of a face, animal or mystic creature are there waiting for me to release it with very sharp tools. The slab wood is something that I like to carve because of the uniformity and size. I can turn these into a variety of things. I make small pieces like fish and moons and larger carvings like mermaids, whales and giant fish of the sea. I love doing the carvings because each one is truly one of a kind.

Open dates: December 7 and December 14.