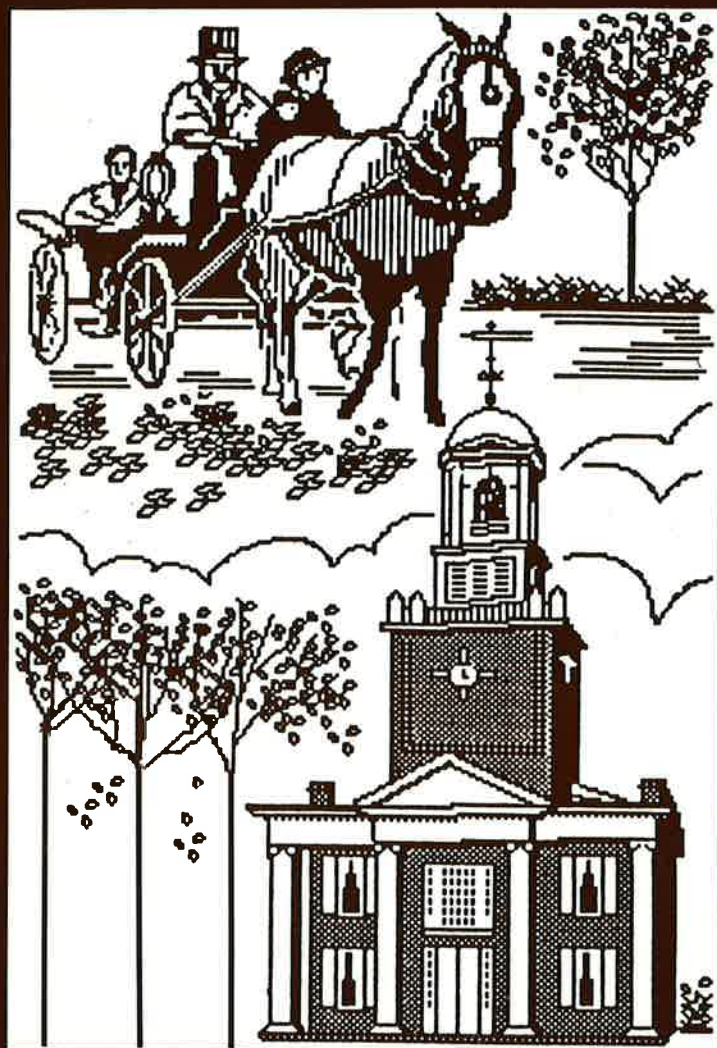


Sussex County Return Day



Georgetown, Delaware
November 10, 1994

From the Candidates & Elected Officials

Have a Great Return Day!.....SEN. THURMAN ADAMS, JR.
Thanks for your support!.....EVELYN ALEMAR
Thanks for your support!.....OAK BANNING
Thanks for your support!.....M. JANE BRADY
Thanks for your support!.....GEORGE H. BUNTING
Your support was appreciatedCHARLES BUTLER
Thanks to my supporters.....DEBORAH CAPANO
Your support was appreciatedREP. V. GEORGE CAREY
Thanks for your support!.....TOM CARPER
Your support was appreciatedMICHAEL N. CASTLE
Thanks for your support!.....HOWARD A. CLENDANIEL
Thanks for your support!.....PHILIP D. CLOUTIER
Have a Great Day.....GEORGE COLE
Thanks for your support!.....GEORGE J. COLLINS
Have a super Return Day!.....RICHARD S. CORDREY
Thanks for your support!.....ANTHONY J. DeLUCA
Thank you! You're great!.....CARI DeSANTIS
Thanks for your support!.....REP. JOE DIPINTO
Thank You!.....DALE DUKES
Thanks for your support!.....D. RAY ELLERMAN
Your support was appreciatedREP. BRUCE C. ENNIS
You are appreciated!.....J. BENJAMIN EWING
Many Thanks to AllTINA FALLON
Thanks, 25th District SupportersTONY FELICIA
Thanks for my term!.....DALLAS D. GREEN
Your support was appreciated.....LORIELEE HARRISON

Sussex County Return Day, Inc.

Officers

ROSALIE B. WALLS, President
WILLIAM C. LECATES, Vice-President
ELEANOR RAYE WARRINGTON, Secretary
ALLAN KUJALA, Treasurer

Directors

SUE H. BARLOW	W. LAYTON JOHNSON
DAVID M. BLOODSWORTH	WILLIAM G. LAMBDEN
JOSEPH W. BOOTH	WILLIAM H. LAWSON
RICHARD M. CALHOUN	CHRISTINE C. LECATES
CHARLOTTE P. CAMPBELL	JOAN MESSICK
MARK CASHDAN	DANIEL L. MILBURN
ANN COUCH	ISABELLE MORRIS
GEORGE F. COUCH	MARK PETTYJOHN
CLAIRE T. CROLL	CINDY PUSEY
JAMES DUKES	LAWRENCE SAMMONS
CAROLYN GREEN	JAY M. STEVENS
DALLAS GREEN	RUSSELL WARRINGTON

Honorary Directors

RALPH BENSON Sussex County Council	RICHARD T. HUDSON Former Return Day Director
EDWARD BOOTH Return Day Charter Officer	ANTHONY RACANIELLO Former Return Day Director
SYLVIA SHORT CALHOUN Georgetown Town Council	JOHN B. ROACH, JR. Georgetown Town Council
GEORGE COLE Sussex County Council	HARVEY B. SPICER Former Georgetown Mayor
GEORGE COLLINS Sussex County Council	WILLIAM D. STEVENSON Sussex County Council
DALE DUKES Sussex County Council President	ROBERT L. STICKELS Sussex County Administrator
MABEL F. GIVENS Georgetown Town Council	NELSON P. WARREN Georgetown Town Council

1994 Program of Events

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	GOOD MORNING AMERICA (Live from The Circle with Spencer Christian)
9:00 a.m. to Dusk	FOOD & CRAFT BOOTHS (The Circle & North Bedford St.)
9:00 a.m.	TOWN HALL MURAL DEDICATION (A project of the Prison Arts Program)
10:00 a.m.	HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION (St. Paul's Episcopal Church on East Pine St.)
10:00 a.m.	CARNIVAL OFF THE CIRCLE Taylor & Sons Amusements (E. Market Street)
10:15 a.m.	CANINES OFF THE CIRCLE State Police Canine Demonstration (Courthouse parking lot)
10:15 a.m.	ORATORY ON THE CIRCLE with Brittany Croll "What Return Day Means to Me"
10:30 a.m.	DANCE ON THE CIRCLE featuring Miss Delaware Tish Pusey
11:00 a.m.	LUNCHEON FOR CANDIDATES AND HONORED GUESTS Sussex Central High School
11:00 a.m.	BAND ON THE CIRCLE featuring Delaware State Marching Band
11:30 a.m.	MUSIC ON THE CIRCLE with Banjo Dusters
11:30 a.m.	REENACTMENT OFF THE CIRCLE "The Tryal of Wm. Penn & Wm. Mead" by the Friends Theatre Group Old Sussex County Courthouse
1:00 p.m.	RETURN DAY PARADE From Sussex Central High School, halfway around The Circle to King St.
3:00 p.m.	CEREMONIES ON THE CIRCLE
3:00 p.m.	REENACTMENT OFF THE CIRCLE "The Tryal of Wm. Penn & Wm. Mead"
3:30 p.m.	MUSIC OFF THE CIRCLE featuring the Christian Troupers (East Market St.)
3:45 p.m.	STREET DANCE ON THE CIRCLE with "Bird Dog & The Road Kings"
3:45 p.m.	OX ROAST ON THE CIRCLE Free open pit barbecued beef sandwiches northeast corner of The Circle

1994 Return Day Parade

THE 1994 SUSSEX COUNTY RETURN DAY PARADE IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF TWO FORMER SUSSEX COUNTY RETURN DAY COMMITTEE DIRECTORS, JOHN T. PURNELL AND ELMER WALLS. BOTH MEN WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORTED THE BIENNIAL EVENT AND DEVOTED COUNTLESS HOURS TO MAKING RETURN DAY WHAT IT IS TODAY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY RETURN DAY COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO REMEMBER JOYCE MARVEL, FORMER SEN. ALLAN FREAR AND FORMER CONGRESSMAN, SENATOR AND GOVERNOR CALEB BOGGS. EACH SUPPORTED AND ENJOYED PREVIOUS RETURN DAY CELEBRATIONS AND WILL BE GREATLY MISSED THIS YEAR.

Grand Marshall

Former Georgetown Councilmember & School Board member
and Return Day Director
WILLIAM G. LAMBDEN

Honorary Parade Marshals

EDWARD BOOTH
Return Day Charter Officer
1964

HARVEY B. SPICER
Mayor of Georgetown
1952 - 1962

W. LAYTON JOHNSON
Mayor of Georgetown
1962 - 1988

Parade Judges

JUDY BENNETT
Owner
Balloons Deco

PENNY PAINE
Past President
Greater Georgetown Chamber of Commerce

HELEN BUCHANAN
Retired Operator
Diamond State Telephone

DIANE PETTYJOHN
Assistant
Sussex County Economic Development

MICHAEL KELLY
Personnel Director
Perdue Farms - Georgetown

AL STANGO
Former Mayor of Lewes
1968 - 1992

MRS. CLIFF (JANET) LEE
Secretary
Centenary Methodist Church

NORMAN TATE
President Emeritus
Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Assoc.

CHARLES GRAY
Chairman
Milford Halloween Parade

GERTRUDE THARP
Former Vice-Chairwoman
Delaware Democratic Party

Parade Announcers

FLOYD MEGEE, JR.
Antique Car Enthusiast

JOE MURIBITO
Delaware State Fire School

JACK RENAULT
WGMD - Radio

Fire Equipment Judges

WAYNE HUTCHINSON
Delaware State Fire School

MIKE VINCENT
Vice-President
Sussex County Vol. Fireman's Assoc.

CHUCK SNYDER
Delaware State Fire School

Ceremonies On The Circle

National Anthem	CATHY GORMAN Soloist
Invocation	REV. CHARLES COVINGTON Methodist Circuit Rider
Greetings	JOSEPH W. BOOTH, SR. Master of Ceremonies
Welcome	DAVID M. BLOODSWORTH Mayor of Georgetown
Soloist	LAUREN ARNOLD Miss Georgetown
Introduction of Distinguished Guests, State, National and Sussex County Candidates and Incumbents	JOSEPH W. BOOTH, SR. Master of Ceremonies
Reading of Election Returns	W. LAYTON JOHNSON Town Crier
Burial of the Tomahawk	JACK DALTON Chairman Sussex County Libertarian Party ROLAND DERRICKSON Chairman Sussex County Republican Committee RICHARD STONE Chairman Sussex County Democratic Committee
End of Campaign 1994	
Appreciation	ROSALIE B. WALLS President Sussex County Return Day, Inc.
Soloist	CATHY GORMAN "God Bless America"
Benediction	REV. GLENN LYBURN Grace United Methodist Church

Return Day Committees

ANNOUNCERS & JUDGES Eleanor Raye Warrington Rosalie B. Walls	Steve Pepper Connie Pepper Billy Bradley Rick Bennett Bob Fletcher David Moore Johnny Moore Joseph Pepper Lynn DeLeon Eleanor Raye Warrington Sue Barlow	Terry Lind OX ROAST Daniel Milburn Mark Cashdan Mark Pettyjohn Danny Milburn, Jr. Margaret Bradley Ken Cronin Tyler Folke Brent Layfield Mike Kemp Andy Partyka James Sockrieter Harley Wilson	Johnny Moore POLICE COORDINATION Wes Jones Harvey Gregg Various Departments PROGRAM/PRESS RELEASES Allan Kujala Rogers Graphics, Inc. PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION Biffy Walls Brittany Croll Aimee Parker Michelle Walls RADIO & TV James Dukes Josh Clendaniel REVIEWING STAND Kevin Short Irvin Betts SALES Joan Messick Lawrence Sammons Tammy Dorey Joan Hitchens Sue Messick Penny Paine Susan Shaw Kraemer Michelle Walls SIGNS Terry Croll Milton Middle School Students TRANSPORTATION Diane Pettyjohn Delaware Tourism VENDOR BOOTHS Sue H. Barlow Rosalie B. Walls VIDEOS Ron Hudson VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON Trina David-Wheeldeon Food Lion employees Midland Grange members James Dukes WEDNESDAY NIGHT EVENTS Mark Pettyjohn Bob Lindsay Ralph Mitchell Gary Killmon Workman Boys
ANTIQUE AUTOS Harold & Dora Short Mit & Eric Cathell Floyd Megee, Jr.	AWARDS Bill Lawson Allan Kujala James Dukes BANDS James Dukes Diane Pettyjohn BLEACHERS Skip Putz Margaret Bradley Joey Walls Cheer Clowns CANCELLATION STAMP Robert Dunbar Rosalie Walls CARNIVAL Bruce Leppo Sue Messick Nancy Lemley Susan Shaw Kraemer Trina Davis-Wheeldeon Joan Messick CARRIAGES Richard & Sylvia Calhoun Lope Headley Joe Messick Jim Parkinson Peggy Townsend Jim McPaul Delmarva Driving Club CONVERTIBLES Cindy Pusey Bill & Kirk Lawson CORRESPONDENCE Diane Pettyjohn Susan Smart James Dukes DECORATED WINDOW JUDGES Betty Swain Cal Whidden Edwin Wilson DECORATIONS Allan Kujala	DONATIONS James Dukes ENTERTAINMENT Daniel Milburn W. Layton Johnson Mark Pettyjohn Joshua Clendaniel FIRE COMPANIES Ralph Clausen Irvin Workman GOOD MORNING AMERICA Randy Barone Debbie Cox-Ritchie Martine Hackett Irma Norris Gigi Windley Cindy Small Diane Pettyjohn Rosalie Walls INFORMATION Susan Crockett Lynn DeLeon Margaret Bradley LUNCHEON Claire Croll Sue Barlow Charlotte Campbell Ann Couch Terry Croll Carolyn Green Mamielee Lankford Joan Messick Isabelle Morris Connie Pepper Mary Ann Ryan Peggy Townsend Billy Walls Mary B. Willey OLD TIME DRESS JUDGES Gary Harvey Angela Lank Lawrence Lank Cathy Lind	PARADE Joseph W. Booth Bill Lecates Debbie Holson Richard Calhoun Harold Short Jay Stevens Jeff Baker Margaret Ann Booth Gene Campbell Charlotte Campbell Eric Cathell Mit Cathell George Couch James P. Gorman Dallas Green Nelson Donovan Bill Lawson Chris Lecates Nancy Lemley Floyd Megee, Jr. Cindy Pusey Roger Reed Kevin Ryan Alan Schirmer Cathy Sinnott Harvey Walls Kevin Walls Alan Warrington PHOTOGRAPHS Tom Short PLATFORM & PREPARATIONS Delaware State Fair Ray Webb Kevin Short Irvin Betts George Couch Billy Bradley Rick Bennett Bob Fletcher David Moore

Special Thanks

Sussex County Council Town of Georgetown Greater Georgetown Chamber of Commerce Georgetown Historical Society Georgetown Fire Company American Legion Post & Ambulance American Broadcasting Co. Good Morning America Delaware Development Office Sussex County Tourism Commission Delaware Heritage Commission Food Lion Delaware State Fair	Sussex Central High School Midland Grange #27 Grace United Methodist Church Delaware Technical & Community College Men's Softball League Georgetown Little League Georgetown House Bramble Construction Delaware Department of Transportation Delaware National Guard Comcast Communications Schmidt's Bakery Stroehmann's Bakery Showell Farms	Coca-Cola Pepsi Cola Martin's Rolls Tri-Gas & Oil C.B. Club Continental Bakery Delmarva Driving Club Sussex County Paramedics Isaac Family Farm Rent-A-Center Eagle 97.7 & The Fox Rev. Charles Covington Cathy Gorman Rev. Glenn Lyburn Robert L. Stickels Rogers Graphics, Inc.	Mid-South Audio 84 Lumber Wilmington Trust Company Mellon Bank Sussex County Family Court Don McCann Berl & Jones Walter H. Purnell Virginia Boyer Ed Lester Mike Makowski Anne Layton Wilson's Auction Delmarvalous Quilters Sallie Wagamon Jones Mary Ann Wagamon Chorman
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History of Return Day

Despite its mispronunciations by most non-residents, "Return Day" has less to do with hearing the election returns than with Sussex Countians and others coming together to celebrate the end of the vigorous campaign and to begin the political healing process.

Although the date of the first "Return Day" in Georgetown is uncertain, it could have been as early as 1792. The State Law in 1791 removing the County seat from Lewes to a new place later named Georgetown required all votes to be cast in the County seat on election day.

The same voters would "return" two days later to hear the results. In 1811 voting districts in the individual hundreds were established, but the Board of Canvassers presided over by the Sheriff would meet two days later in Georgetown to announce the final tally.

Naturally, the gathering of two or three thousand politicians, supporters and curious on-lookers made for a very festive atmosphere. J. Thomas Scharf in 1888 described "Return Day" in the *History of Delaware* as "one of the customs peculiar to the people of Sussex, from time immemorial, is to hold high carnival on the day when the results of a general election are announced.

"By early in the morning people from all parts of the county, and even from Maryland; may be seen coming to the county-seat, some walking, others on horseback, and still others in wagons and carts, drawn by one or more oxen, by an ox and a horse, an ox and a mule, or several oxen and a horse, the vehicle being gayly decorated with bright colors or flags.

"Often this crowd presents a motley appearance, some being dressed in costumes which were used in primitive times, and others purposely arraying themselves in an outlandish manner to give more zest to the spirit of the occasion. The successful candidates also come to Town and are met by a great crowd of admiring friends, who extend their congratulations in an unmistakable manner. Some of these candidates are taken up bodily, and are carried around on men's shoulders when the results are announced from the window of the courthouse to the congregated mass below.

"Booths, stalls and stands are erected near the courthouse, where all kinds of edibles, such as opossum and rabbit meat, fish and oysters, can be procured. The women, who constitute a considerable portion of the crowd, are generously treated to cakes, candies and the best the booths afford.

"The citizens of the Town hold a general reception and all are expected to help entertain the people, especially if they are friends of the successful party. Everyone endeavors to make "Return Day" a hilarious one, and all seem willing to perpetuate a custom which is now peculiar to Sussex County alone, and which sometimes brings three thousand people to Town."

Return Day continued through the 1800s and on into the present century. But with the advent of automobiles, which made the visit to Georgetown from any part of Sussex only a matter of minutes, and with the arrival of radio which let the people know the results of elections even before the newspapers arrived, interest in the old custom began to dwindle.

There was a big celebration in 1936 when Franklin D. Roosevelt won in a landslide and the Democrats carried the State for the first time in many years. Return Day was cancelled altogether in 1942 because of World War II, but it was too good an event to let die in Sussex County where traditions are important. It was not long before a group of interested citizens of both the Republican and Democrat parties joined together to revive it in 1952.

Throughout the 1950s and 1960s enthusiasm grew beyond all expectations as was evident with a bill being passed in the State Legislature in 1965 making "Return Day" a legal half holiday for Sussex County. From that time to the present this celebration has attracted more and more Delawareans and residents from nearby states to join in all of the activities of the day.

In modern times, when election results are often known before the polls close, Return Day serves as a reminder to all Sussex Countians of their past. An ox roast with free sandwiches to the public has replaced the possum and rabbit but craftsmen and vendors still hawk their wares. A large parade still highlights the celebration, but now the victorious candidates and their former opponents ride together in open horse drawn carriages and convertibles in the spirit of cooperation for the good of the citizens.

Return Day is still considered the official end of the campaign in Delaware illustrated by the ceremonial burial of the hatchet by political party leaders ... until the next Sussex County Return Day in Georgetown, two days after the election.



Letter of Appreciation

Welcome to the quaint old Town of Georgetown on a day that can be best described as its biggest claim to fame. The word "tradition" best describes what happens here today.

We in Sussex County revere our traditions and although its no longer needed, we still return to the County Seat two days after each biennial election to hear the returns on what has come to be known as "Sussex County Return Day."

Our reverence to these traditions and in the spirit of unity after the heated political battle decided on Election Day, the winning and losing candidates gather in Georgetown to ride together in open horse drawn carriages or convertibles in a parade of political healing.

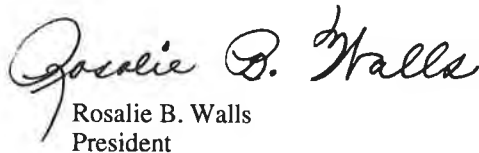
The final act of the political season follows the reading of the Sussex County election results with the formal burial of the tomahawk by the political party chairmen. This simple ceremonious act, binds our citizens together and insures them the continuity of their government by the people and for the people.

As always, we try to make every Return Day bigger and better. This year is no different. We have added some things to keep our youth interested. They may not understand everything, but if we get them here, maybe a sense of public responsibility will sink in.

This historic celebration could not be possible without the help of countless people, too many to mention. But I must thank the Sussex County Council and the Town of Georgetown, without their help the event would not be possible. I must also thank each Return Day director and volunteer.

An event like this requires lots of cooperation, volunteers, and money. But it would all be for naught if you, the public, did not turn out every two years, two days after the election.

Best wishes,
SUSSEX COUNTY RETURN DAY, INC.


Rosalie B. Walls
President

"The Tryal of Wm. Penn & Wm. Meade" performed by The Friends' Theatre Group was made possible in part by The Delaware Division of the Arts DE Tours program and the National Endowment for the Arts. Local sponsorship included the Georgetown Historical Society with assistance from The Delaware Heritage Commission.

From the Candidates & Elected Officials

Thanks for your support!.....EDIE HEMPHILL
Your support was appreciatedJIM HIGDON
Thanks for your support!.....ALLEN S. JESTER, JR.
Your support was appreciatedROY V. JONES
Thanks for your support!.....CLIFFORD "BIFF" LEE
Thanks for your support!R. JAMES MARINER
Thanks for your support!.....REP. JANE MARONEY
Thanks for your support!.....BERNADETTE MOSSMAN
Thanks for your support!W. CHARLES PARADEE, JR.
Thanks for your support!TERRY L. PEPPER
Thanks for your support!.....GEORGE ROBERT "BOBBY" QUILLEN
Thanks for your support!.....FRANK RASKAUSKAS
Many Happy Returns!DONNA REED
Thanks for your support!CHARLES J. ROGERS
Thanks for your support!.....JOHN E. ROGERS
Thanks for your support!WILLIAM V. ROTH, JR.
Your support was appreciated.....JANET RZEWNICKI
Your support was appreciated.....TERRY R. SPENCE
Thanks for your support!.....CHARLES P. SPICER, JR.
Your support was appreciated.....JOHN C. STILL
Thanks for your support!REP. JOHN VAN SANT
Thanks for your support!SEN. ROBERT L. VENABLES, SR.
Thank you Friends!BOB VOSHELL
Thanks for your support!.....THOMAS WAGNER
Thank you 41st District.....REP. CHARLES P. WEST
Proudly Serving DelawareDONNA LEE WILLIAMS
Thanks for your support!LORETTA WOOTTEN

Return Day Carriages

