



From the desk of CHS President, Darlene Colon

A CHS Journey From 2001 to 2026

We're entering a new year. 2025 will bring more excitement and more events for our community to share. We hope to have many more from surrounding communities join us. We're also looking forward to 2026, which is the 175th anniversary of the 1851 Resistance against enslavement and inhumanity. We'll be looking at our 2001 commemoration events and hope that it will give you some insight into how our community came together and they did in 1851.

The photos attached show one of our Historical Society members, the late **Marie Mosby Congo**. She was a jewel! She said we took her from being a couch potato to being a local star! We convinced Marie to talk to students about her family, in particular, her grandfather who escaped enslavement and made his way here to Pennsylvania. Upon arriving in this community, he still had the chains that bound him to slavery. His name was carved into the cuffs of the shackles. He changed his name from Moses to Mosby hoping to elude slave catchers who were prevalent in the area due to the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 which allowed slave owners to come into free states and reclaim their "property" with proper documentation. Mr. Mosby managed to remain free.



Marie began by telling her story to the Hinkletown Mennonite School and as you can tell by the pictures, the students fell in love with her. She began speaking to many other schools in the area. Marie loved the letters and gifts they sent her. She was a special lady with a special quiet charm, but you could tell when she meant business. She had that look that parents give their children and could scold you without saying a word and then shaking her finger at you. Marie you are deeply missed.



Come and join us for an hour, a day or join our family for the many events we hold throughout the year and as we prepare for the 2026 175th Anniversary!

Darlene Colon, Christiana Historical Society, President