

My Dream Made Visible! Finally

The new logo for the magazine has been a long time in development. For seven years I've had an image in my mind. For that same seven years I've shared my concept with everyone and anyone who would listen.

Since 2000 I've promoted the City of Havre de Grace as the meeting place. **Why? Here are a few examples.**

- The Susquehanna River meets the Chesapeake Bay here.
- Visitors often share that they travel here to meet friends and family because it's a halfway point between New York City and Washington, D.C. or Philadelphia and Baltimore.
- Lighthouse lovers meet here.
- War of 1812 and Civil War Re-enactors meet here.
- Decoy carvers and artists meet here.
- Antique collectors love to meet here.
- Hikers, bikers, walkers and boaters enjoy meeting here.
- Folks meet here to be part of a family event including weddings, reunions or celebrating at our Independence Day Parade.
- Wonderful folks meet here to enjoy a great meal, shopping, events and our hospitality.

Several artists had tried to create what I kept seeing in my mind's eye. Why was it so hard? Well, picture this. When I draw a 'smiley face,' in order to make it smile I have to draw additional lines at the top of each side of its mouth. Picture it as putting cheeks or 'dimples' on it. Without the additional lines, my smiley face looks more like an angry Chinese man.

Now take that poorly executed smiley face and imagine my frustration trying to share my concept with an artist. Indeed! I'm sure you sense the angst that occurs with both parties.

Then last year a unique (miraculous?) series of events occurred. While working on an article titled "Wall Art" for the fall/winter 2006 edition of havredegrace Magazine, I mentioned my concept to children's illustrator, Valerie Lloyd. (www.ValerieLloyd.com)

In a week, she had sketched the basic concept of my logo. What excitement! I now had a concept... no longer in my head! Now it was on paper! It was delightful working with Valerie, almost as if she were able to read my mind.

The next step was to take Valerie's concept and pass it to my Philly friend and artist, Julie Borden. I needed Julie to stylize my logo. (www.JulieBorden.com) With a concept on paper that Julie could not begin to tweak, it again went through several incarnations. But we were getting close ... really close!

Then just before I'd begun to tire of the effort (artists can be so ... perfectionist), I downloaded the logo. No! I mean I downloaded THE logo. I danced around my kitchen, literally jumping up and down with excitement. I had my logo! And now I share it with you.

Here is my dream made visible! 📷

