



**Cambridge Wire Cloth's Origin and History**, by Dion Banks, Wednesday, September 5, 2018

Dion Banks, son of Darnell and Rose Banks, was born in Cambridge, graduated from CSDHS, did undergraduate studies at University of Kentucky, and earned a Bachelor of Arts in business Management while serving in the U. S. Army from 1990-1994. Later, after employment in an international company in Chicago, he returned to Cambridge and joined Cambridge International where he has served 15 years in various management positions. His community, state, and international committees and leadership involvements have gained him broad recognition in addition to his employment accomplishments.

Dion talked about the Cambridge Wire Cloth Company that began weaving wire cloth more than 100 years ago in Cambridge Maryland. One of their first customers was Thomas Edison. By the 1920's, they had designed and patented a metal belt for high temperature ovens still in production today. After six decades of continuous growth, they merged with nearby Maryland Wire Belts in 1998, becoming Cambridge International, the world's largest manufacturer of metal conveyor belts. Today, after being acquired by Rexnord in 2016, Cambridge-Rexnord is the world's only manufacturer of custom metal and plastic conveyor belting for food processing and industrial applications. They now serve a wide array of growing, global markets by offering the broadest, most reliable product portfolios and trusted brands in their industries.

The South Dorchester Folk Museum (SDFM), in cooperation with the Dorchester County Historical Society, presents this FREE program in its lecture series about local history. Video DVDs of the lectures are available for purchase from our website: [www.sdfmuseum.net](http://www.sdfmuseum.net) or call 410-228-6175.