



The Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia

Welcoming Young & Old Alike to Join in Remembering the Past and Working for an Even Better Future

*The District's Oldest Civic Organization –
Founded December 7, 1865*

*Bulletin #104
May 4, 2012*

President's Message...

Paying Tribute to Those Who Served

There are several events which I encourage our members to attend in celebration of Memorial Day this year.



On Sunday, May 20th at 3PM, there will be a Park Service-sponsored event at the DC War Memorial (Ashe Grove, Independence Avenue, across from the new MLK Memorial) featuring Maj. Gen. James O. Poss (USAF) as the keynote speaker, M/Sgt. Antonio Giuliano performing the National Anthem, Matt Cary presenting Mayor Gray's proclamation, amassing of the colors, Taps, floral tributes, representatives from Veteran Service Organizations the VFW, American Legion and Buffalo Soldiers and more hosted by May Day Corp. Chairman Thomas C. Kouyeas.

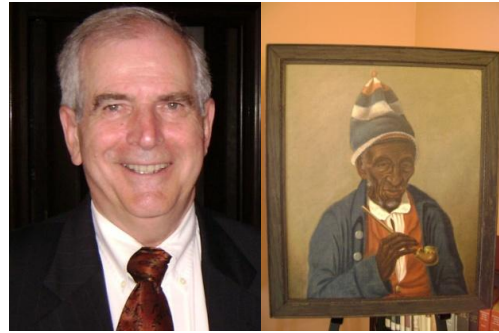
On Monday, May 28th at 9am the Park Service will host a Memorial Day event at the World War II Memorial featuring military bands, wreath laying, Armed Forces Color Guard and speeches. ***AOI members then plan to assemble at 11am at the D.C. War Memorial (a short walk along Independence Avenue) to honor the District of Columbia men and women who perished in World War I.***

(Cont'd. Page 3)

May's Luncheon Event:

“From Slave Ship to Harvard: Yarrow Mamout and the History of an African American Family”

Jim Johnston discusses his book and tells an improbable story of success in old Georgetown



Please join us...

Friday, **May 18**, at the Channel Inn (free Parking) 650 Water Street, SW. (Maine Avenue via Metro Rail Green to Waterfront Station/SEU or Metro Bus 74 [Circulator Bus discontinued]), Social Time (cash bar) 11:45 a.m., Luncheon served at 12:30 p.m. (**\$23 per person** - please make your check payable to “AOI” and have it **completed prior to arrival** or **bring exact change**). Reservations are a must! Otherwise your food preference may be unavailable. RSVP to our voice mail **202-342-1865, no later than noon Wed., May 16, 2012.**

This voice mail box number is the only means to make a reservation. Late reservations make planning very difficult for us and **failure by you to cancel prior to Noon on Thurs., 5/17, may result in you being charged.**

Please be prepared to leave your name, the number in your party, your guest's names for name tags, your meal preferences (Filet of Sole w/Scallops, Seafood Newburg, Chicken, Beef, Veggie Plate or Fruit Plate) and a telephone number where you may be contacted should we have a question or a last-minute cancellation.

Future Meetings...



The AOI's 147th Year – Meeting dates and tentative speakers:

June 15, 2012 – Michael Lee Pope on the “Hidden History of Alexandria, D.C.”

July 4, 2012 – Annual Palisades Fourth of July Parade

Sept. 21, 2012 – Carol Highsmith & Ted Landphair on “Historic Union Station”

Oct. 19, 2012 – Architect Davis Buckley discusses several projects including the DC War Memorial and Clara Barton's Civil War Apartment

Nov. 16, 2012 – Mark Ozer discusses his book, “Northwest Washington, D.C.”

NOTE: All meeting subjects and speakers have been invited to appear, but nevertheless are tentative. If our published RSVP line (202-342-1865) is not answering or appears out-of-order, please call 202-342-1638.

Remember: No luncheon meetings July/August nor December/January

Note: The Board of Directors meets at the Heurich House Museum at 10 a.m. on the Monday immediately prior to a scheduled luncheon meeting.

Be Advised: In case of inclement weather, the AOI follows the closing schedule of the [Arlington County](#) Public Schools or call AOI at 202-342-1865 for last minute information.

If You Were Not At Our April Meeting...

President Bill Brown opened the meeting at the Channel Inn Pier Seven restaurant. There were 107 members and guests present.

The draft minutes of the previous meeting were printed in the newsletter. Before calling for their approval Bill noted that he had attempted to improve the Secretary's draft and had loused it up, and that this was not the fault of the Secretary. Bill then tried to explain what he had meant to say, which satisfied some of the members. A motion was made by **Austin Kiplinger** to accept an amended corrected version. The motion was seconded and approved without objection.

There were four new applications for membership. The applicants are **DeLores Foster** (nominated by Lisa Nickerson); **Betty Lichtenstein** (Sally Berk's mother); **Carol Swain** (via our website); and **Helga Warren** (an archivist). A motion to accept them as new members was offered by **Mary Brown**, seconded by **Al Wheeler**, and quickly approved.

Treasurer **Hulit Taylor** presented a brief report. Membership is now 304. Non-routine expenses for first quarter 2012 were \$500 to GWU for the Phil Ogilvie Award and \$448.50 to Red Rose Studios for Patrick Reynolds books on DC history for DC Libraries. Our investment counselor transferred \$7K from our checking account to be invested in a growth fund.

Bill reported that the Shepherd statue has been cleaned and preserved, and looks as if it has just come from the foundry. He encouraged everyone to go and look at it.

Historian **Nelson Rimensnyder** whetted our interest in local history by describing some amazing predictions by an AOI member in 1975 regarding future DC growth. What seemed fanciful at that time has become factual since. The member who wrote of these predictions in an important book at that time was **Austin Kiplinger!** [ed. ...who was not only present, but the only member who knew the answer to the question!] Nelson discussed the Building Heights Act and its centennial, and this topic was brought up at several points today.

The speaker for today is **John DeFerrari** [ed. an AOI member]. He is the author of “Lost Washington, D.C.”, a recent fascinating local history book. He also has established a blog on DC history, “Streets of Washington.” For his talk he has focused on two historic places. The first focal point is George Washington's real estate, in the form of two town houses on North Capitol Street. John told of some of the history and the characters who lived there. A well known high profile murder case added further fascination. Much of this story appears in his book, and it completely held the audience's attention. The second focal area is the creation and development of Center Market. Initially James Hoban, architect of the White House, had a role in designing the first Center Market. Much later it was rebuilt and

expanded with Adolf Cluss as architect. It always was the most important of the Washington markets. A lively Q&A session followed with several members having memories of the markets and their own families evoked by the speaker's excellent presentation. This included **Josie Beagle**, whose father was a produce merchant at Center Market, and **Bill Brown**, who mentioned his grandfather's market employment.

This was another winning presentation! Thank you John DeFerrari!

Respectfully submitted

Seymour Selig, Secretary



Memorial Day Events (Cont'd)...

On Wednesday, May 30th at 5PM at the Old Amphitheatre and Tomb of the Unknowns of the Civil War at Arlington Cemetery, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will hold their traditional Memorial Day service supported by an armed forces brass quintet and the Pipes & Drums of the St. Andrews Society, wreath laying and patriotic remarks. The SUVCW has been holding this ceremony since 1909.

Then, while not directly related to Memorial Day observations but in the spirit of patriotism, the Society of the War of 1812 in the District of Columbia (est. 1896) will hold a ceremony at the James Madison Memorial (within the James Madison Building of the Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave., SE) to mark the bicentennial of the War of 1812. The "Salute to President Madison" is open to the public and is scheduled for Monday, June 18, 2012 at 10AM and will feature a secular ceremony culminating in a wreath-laying at the statue of James Madison.

Bill Brown

Peabody Room Book Talks in May...

In honor of the 200th anniversary of the arrival of George Peabody in Georgetown, Jerry McCoy has arranged a series of Thursday evening book talks at 6:30 PM on the 3rd floor of the Georgetown Branch Library, 3260 R. Street., NW. May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31. For more information, call 202-727-0233 or email Jerry at jerry.mccoy@dc.gov.

DC War Memorial Inscription:

"The names of the men and women from the District of Columbia who gave their lives in the World War are here inscribed as a perpetual record of their patriotic service to their country. Those who fell and those who survived have given to this and to future generations an example of high idealism, courageous sacrifice and gallant achievement."



A sampling of the 499 names engraved around the base of the DC War Memorial. The listing of the fallen is significant because names are listed alphabetically without regard to rank, sex or race.



The Governor Shepherd Statue has been beautifully restored by Artex Fine Art Services (Landover, MD) with a grant from the District's Commission on the Arts & Humanities. Please visit the refurbished statue and read AOI's biographical plaque. It is located on the southeast corner of 14th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue.

Address Correction Requested

The Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of D.C.
4425 Greenwich Parkway, NW
Washington, D.C. 20007-2010



Officers:

William Brown, President 202-342-1638
4425 Greenwich Parkway, NW, Wash., DC 20007
John P. Richardson, Vice President 703-534-3577
Seymour M. Selig, Secretary 301-292-1054
Hulit Pressley Taylor, Treasurer 202-625-0203
Nelson Rimensnyder, Historian 202-546-4668
Jim Embrey, F.D. Liaison 571-436-7774

Directors:

Carl Cole 202-889-8813
Damon Cordon 301-215-7022
Jan A. K. Evans 301-968-4749
John Gill, Sr. 202-338-5001
Sherwood Smith 202-686-4107
Leslie B. White 202-265-2560

Past President:

A. L. Wheeler 202-337-0030

Luncheon RSVP Voice-mail: 202-342-1865

**Participate in one of the many Memorial Day events
planned for later this month! (see inside for details)**

**View our re-designed web site at:
www.aoidc.org**



**The Heurich House Museum is the former home of the
Historical Society of Washington and served as AOI's
headquarters from 1956 until 2003.**