



# The Association of Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia

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

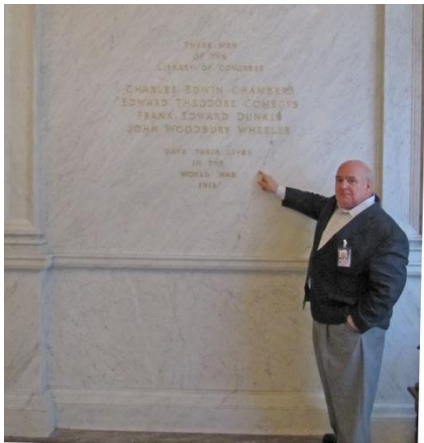
*The District's Oldest Civic Organization –  
Founded December 7, 1865 – Our 152<sup>nd</sup> Year!*

*Bulletin #141  
June 2017*

## *President's Message...*

*Help us identify World War I related sites, memorials and plaques in our area...*

The AOI is taking the lead to promote World War I related events in and around the District. In her continued quest, Director Barbara Bates was assisted by Director Thomas Neale in revealing this memorial in the "East Mosaic Corridor" of the Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building (1<sup>st</sup> not ground floor). There is also a bronze plaque at the base of a Japanese elm on the grounds listing these employees.



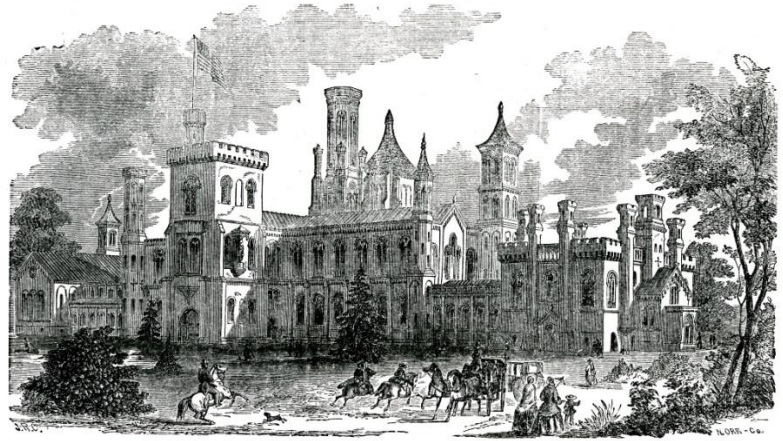
Barbara provided this photo of Tom pointing to the names on the Library of Congress memorial.

We are documenting not only our 'discoveries' but events and programs on AOI's web site ([www.aoidc.org](http://www.aoidc.org)) and encourage our members and newsletter readers to provide potential additions by sending them to us at [aoiofdc@gmail.com](mailto:aoiofdc@gmail.com). Please check the site first to determine if we've already included the item. "Thanks" to everyone who is working so diligently on this.

*Bill Brown*

## June's Luncheon Event:

**"The Smithsonian's First Collection" with Helena Wright**



*Please join us...*

Friday, **June 16**, at the **Capitol Skyline Hotel** (free Parking) 10 I ('eye') Street, SW. (Metro Rail to Navy Yard Station), Social Time (cash bar) 11:45 a.m., Luncheon served at 12:30 p.m.

**(\$35 per person** - please make your check payable to "AOI" and have it completed prior to arrival or bring exact payment).

Reservations are a must! Otherwise your food preference may be unavailable. RSVP to our voice mail **202-342-1865**, not later than noon Tues., June 13, 2017. **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., 6/15, will 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 (***Grilled Salmon with Kang Pao sauce, Grilled Skyline Chicken Breast, Grilled Black Angus Flank Steak, or Braised Ratatouille of Vegetables***) and a telephone number where you may be contacted should we have a question or a last-minute event cancellation.

## Future Meetings...



The AOI's 152<sup>nd</sup> Year -- Meeting dates and tentative speakers:

Sept. 15, 2017 – Anita Lee discusses her book “A Thread Runs through Herstory”

Oct. 20, 2017 – “Clara Barton’s Office of Missing Soldiers” with Kenneth Burke, National Museum of Civil War Medicine

Nov. 17, 2017 – Charles Birnbaum, “The Cultural Landscape Foundation”

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 call AOI at 202-342-1865 for last minute information.

## If You Were Not At Our Last Meeting...

[Draft minutes of our last meeting for approval at the June 16, 2017 luncheon.]

The Association of Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia (AOI) held the fourth luncheon meeting of its 152<sup>nd</sup> year at the Capitol Skyline Hotel at Noon Friday, May 19, 2017. President Bill Brown welcomed the attendees and called for approval of the notes of the April 2017 meeting, which were printed in the May newsletter. After a motion made by **Betty Walker** and seconded by **Allen Beach**, the minutes were approved and their reading waived.

**New Members:** Two new members were nominated: **Raphael Branch\*** (Anita Lee) and **William Turner** (Robert Barbuto). A motion was made by **Barbara Ioanes** and seconded by **Patricia Clark** to approve the new members.

**Treasurer’s Report** presented by AOI Secretary Hulit Taylor:

### Membership

- We now have 301 members
- Those who have not renewed will receive a final notice with their June newsletter and then dropped from the rolls

### Non-Routine Expense since April Luncheon

- None

### Luncheon Report

- 57 attended the April Luncheon

### Investment Account

- Our investment account continues to do well.

**President’s Remarks:** 1) The DC Historic Preservation Board unanimously voted to include the Smithsonian’s South Quadrangle including the Enid Haupt Garden on the District listing of Historic Sites. 2) More revisions have been made to the plans for Pershing Park and those were presented to the Commission on Fine Arts yesterday but haven’t been seen yet. 3) The NCPC hosted a Section 106 meeting on Wednesday which detailed Apple’s plans for the historic Carnegie Library which seem to not only be in keeping with conserving and improving the historic

structure but also appears to provide ample room for the Historical Society to include the entire 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and large portions of the basement level for storage and processing. Watch for announcement for future meeting for public input. 4) AOI has a new page on its website dedicated to promoting DC-related WWI centennial events. You get to it via either the web site ([www.aoidc.org](http://www.aoidc.org)) or Facebook. 5) Finally, each year the Friends of Walter Pierce Park spend the Saturday of the Memorial Day weekend remembering and commemorating the 8,500 Washingtonians buried there at the cemetery. This year’s event is Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 11am.

Bill also read an email from GWU School of Business’ Masters of Tourism Administration program Director Lisa Neirotti thanking the AOI for its continued support of the Dr. Philip W. Ogilvie Award for Academic Excellence and for Bill appearing at the school’s event on May 18<sup>th</sup> to present a certificate, congratulatory letter and sesquicentennial commemorative coin to Lisa Chazanovitz who had already received her \$750 cash award earlier.

**Nelson Rimensnyder** challenged everyone with several DC history trivia questions:

Q: What was AOP’s old meeting place called before it was demolished for the World Bank? A: Friendship Firehouse – **Juliette Smith** provided the answer.

Q: What form of settling arguments was outlawed by Congress in Washington in 1838? A: Dueling. **Rod Ross** provided the answer.

Q: In 1886 Uniontown was renamed Anacostia, why? A: There were too many Uniontowns. **Jeanne Fogel** knew the answer.

Q: In 1814 what building was spared from burning by the British that in 1840 became Riggs Bank? A: Rhodes Tavern. **John Hurley** provided the answer

Q: For the speaker Skip Moskey: Who, name and rank designed the badge, medal and certificates for the Society of the Cincinnati? A: Major Pierre L’Enfant. Known by speaker Skip Moskey.

Nelson reminded everyone that long time AOI member Kay Eckles, who is 99, is living at Thomas House and enjoys receiving visitors. Anyone interested in hours, access, etc. should contact Nelson directly (his number is on the cover of the newsletter).

**The Day's Speaker:** Bill introduced the day's speaker, Stephen "Skip" Moskey, a researcher, author, and editor about American cultural history. Mr. Moskey based his talk on his 2016 book, "Larz and Isabel Anderson: Wealth and Celebrity in the Gilded Age," the story of the wealthy and cultured couple who, inter alia, built Washington's Anderson House, now headquarters for the Society of the Cincinnati. Larz was born in Paris in 1866 to wealthy American parents, while Isabel was born in 1876 into a well-to-do but less wealthy Boston Brahmin family. Aside from his appointments as a senior diplomat in Brussels and Tokyo, Larz and Isabel spent their lives like the wealthy socialites they were: traveling from a grand house in Brookline, Mass., to their new Washington mansion, to global excursions in the grand manner. Isabel even had a small cottage in southern New Hampshire to which she usually went alone, in order to get a break from travel and hostessing; Larz didn't care for the woods and a primitive cottage where he didn't merit his own bed. Isabel was a much-published author of children's books, poetry, and other genres. (After Isabel's death, the states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire litigated for almost two years over the definition of the Andersons' "principal domicile," for tax purposes, with Massachusetts winning the case.) The Andersons had their honeymoon in Hawaii and tried out renting several grand houses in Washington before building Anderson House in 1903. Their principal Boston area residence was a large home on 64 acres in Brookline built by Isabel's grandfather, William "Billy" Weld, one of whose descendants of the same name served as a progressive Republican governor of Massachusetts and was the 2016 Libertarian Party Vice-Presidential candidate. Larz dramatically altered the exterior of the building, making it ugly and fortress-like. It eventually burned down in 1959 after having been left empty for years while not finding a



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Please check out our redesigned Home Page and listen to the audio of 2016 luncheon talks by our esteemed guests at [www.aoidc.org](http://www.aoidc.org). And, follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/www.aioifdc.org](http://www.facebook.com/www.aioifdc.org) which may contain more timely events and calls-to-action than our web site.

buyer. The Andersons created an elaborate series of gardens around the estate, displaying numerous examples of currently popular styles like Italian and English. Money was never an object in their decisions. The speaker demonstrated evidence of extensive research, particularly photographs, a number of which in the book had not been published before. He said that publication of the book has triggered an outpouring of artifacts and stories to the Brookline Historical Society. For many visitors to Boston, the Larz Anderson bridge over the Charles River is a continuing reminder of his presence. The speaker acknowledged the special assistance of the Anderson House archivist, Ellen Clark, whose journalist husband Charlie Clark is a chronicler of life in Arlington. The author sold and signed copies of his book after the program.

The next AOI luncheon program will be Friday, June 16, at the Capitol Skyline Hotel when Helena Wright will discuss, "The Smithsonian's First Collection."

Respectfully submitted by  
John P. Richardson, Secretary

### ***Membership (non-) Renewals...***

Each year we send out our annual membership renewals in January with a personal appeal and return envelope. If members haven't renewed by June (our summer hiatus) then these members are removed from our rolls and no longer receive mailings. If you are listed below, we haven't received your 2017 renewal. If you still wish to remain a member in good standing, please mail your \$20 renewal to our address on the outside of the newsletter. We hope you will continue with us.

|                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ms. Mary Alexander          | Ms. Doris Margolis        |
| Ms. Fay Armstrong           | Mr. David Marshall        |
| Ms. Amy Ballard             | Ms. Abby Martin           |
| Mary Theresa Barbuto        | Ms. Anne Martinez         |
| Ms. Lucie Jean Whitehead    | Christopher E. Martinez   |
| Bourne                      | Ms. Jenny Masur           |
| Mr. Kenneth Bowling         | Jim McMorrow              |
| Mr. Jack Bozarth            | Priscilla McNeil          |
| Mr. Philip Louis Brach, Jr. | Mr. Damon Miller          |
| Mrs. Dolores L. Burton      | Mr. Pete Morelewicz       |
| Mr. Bryan E. DeLeo          | Ms. Loretta Neumann       |
| Ms. Mary M. DeLeonibus      | Ms. Betsy O'Day           |
| Mr. Jesse T. Dowling III    | Mr. Andrew Parker, Jr.    |
| Ms. Kathryn Eckles          | Ms. Barbara Plummer       |
| Earl E. Eisenhart, Jr.      | Mr. John E. Pumphrey      |
| Douglas E. Evelyn           | Ms. Carol Purdey          |
| Ms. Brigid Forcey           | Ms. Mary Radziewski       |
| Mr. Clark L. Forcey, Sr.    | Ms. Monica T. Ray         |
| Mary-Pat Gaffney            | Ms. Marion C. Redlich     |
| Dr. James M. Goode          | Elizabeth W. Redmond      |
| Mr. Carroll Green           | Anne Mohnkern Renshaw     |
| Mr. Daniel L. Harris        | Ms. Deborah Sherwood      |
| Ms. Christine Henry         | Ms. Kathleen Bowen Simons |
| Ms. Joy Holland             | Ms. Juliet G. Six         |
| Ms. Iris E. Holliday        | Mr. Donald Smith          |
| Mr. Murray L. Howder        | Margaret Rose Smith       |
| Ms. Regina E. Hunt          | Mr. John A. Washington    |
| Ms. Linda Ingram            | Ms. Linda Crichlow White  |
| Mr. James D. E. Jones       | William G. Williams       |
| Mr. John P. Kammerer        | Mr. Elliot R. Wolff       |
| Ms. Joan Connor Lee         |                           |

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*Address Correction Requested*

The Association of Oldest Inhabitants  
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**Officers:**

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Hulit Pressley Taylor, Treasurer 202-625-0203  
Nelson Rimensnyder, Historian 202-546-4668

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Jim Embrey 571-436-7774

**Past President:**

A. L. Wheeler 202-337-0030

Luncheon RSVP Voice-mail: 202-342-1865

HSW resources and select DCPL/Washingtoniana resources are now available by appointment 10-4 Tuesday-Friday and one Saturday a month at the Carnegie Library. The currently scheduled Saturdays are June 10 and July 15th. Check DCHistory.org for updates.

For information about programs and exhibits, check: <http://www.dchistory.org> or call 202-249-3955 for further information

**Directors:**

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Jessica Hodge 301-704-5133  
Thomas Neale 202-333-6946  
Gary Scott 202-544-4862



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