



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 152nd Year!*

*Bulletin #144
November 2017*

President's Message...

World War I Centennial Continues...

Since 2010, the AOI has taken positions against *nationalizing* our DC War Memorial and, we think, successfully focused attention on Pershing Park as an appropriate *national* World War I Memorial in D.C.



While the AOI continues to weigh-in with our views and comments as opportunities present themselves on plans for Pershing Park, our Board has decided that while we'll continue to monitor and champion minor changes and improvements to Pershing Park which we support, next year we are going to dedicate our energies toward our own DC War Memorial and work to host a formal program (wreath laying, talks, Marine Band?) on Sunday, November 11, 2018, the centennial of the signing of the Armistice and what we now celebrate as Veterans' Day. Directors Tom Neale and Barbara Bates will be heading up the initiative and invite anyone interested in helping out and sharing the tasks to please come forward and contact them. Their phone numbers are on our newsletter.

Bill Brown

November's Luncheon Event:

"Boundary Stones - Birthstones of our Nation's Capital"

with Janet McFarland



Please join us...

Friday, Nov. 17, 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., Nov. 14, 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., 11/16, 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 152nd Year -- Meeting dates and tentative speakers:

Jan. 1, 2018 – AOI's Annual New Year's Day Breakfast

Feb. 16, 2018 – Matthew Margis, "African Americans in World War I." Our 2018 schedule is being developed with an emphasis on matters related to World War I as the centennial period of the "War to End All Wars" will conclude on Nov. 11, 2018. In addition we hope to feature: "Bygone Industrial DC"; DC's historic movie houses; & "Battle of Ft. Stevens."

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...

[Here are the draft minutes of our last meeting for approval at the Nov. 17, 2017 luncheon.]

The Association of Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia (AOI) held the seventh monthly luncheon meeting of its 152nd year at the Capitol Skyline Hotel at Noon Friday, October 20, 2017 with 74 members and guests present. President Bill Brown welcomed the attendees and called for approval of the notes of the September 2017 meeting, which were printed in the September newsletter. There being no corrections or additions, a motion made by **George Hutchinson** and seconded by **Betty Walker**, the notes were approved and their reading waived.

New Members: Two new members were nominated: **Pamela Fielding (found us via Ancestry.com); and, Sybil Templeman Williams (discovered us via our web site.** A motion was made by **Allen Beach** and seconded by **Vicky Crawford** to approve the new members, who were approved enthusiastically.

AOI Secretary **Hulit Taylor** presented the Treasurer's Report:

Membership

- We now have a total of 338 members, 20 of whom are new this year.

Non-Routine Expenses since the September Meeting

- \$500 to the Historical Society of Washington for ½ page ad in program for their annual Making History Awards event

Investment Account

- Our investments continue to do well
- So far this year, we have earned \$3,100 in interest and dividends

Luncheon Report

- Attendance at our September luncheon was 66

President's Remarks: Bill welcomed everyone and in addition to spouses and family members, the following guests: **Marion Buelken's** returning guest was **Marie Savoy; Vicky Crawford** had with her **Malinda Lindsay; Cindy Gueli** had her mom **Alberta Gueli** with her; **Carryn Kubinski & Gery Laue** had neighbor **Maryann Griffin** with them; **Pat Tyson** had as her guest **NPS Ranger Kym Elder** who is the Superintendent of the Circle Fort Parks; and, finally, **Gerald Schwinn** had with him three guests: **Nancy Menhennick, Okolo Schwinn-Clanton and Melchizebec Bey.**

Bill also reported that: AOI Director **Gary Scott** is recovering nicely from his stroke and is completing his rehab at Ingleside and would enjoy visitors. His phone number is on our newsletter's masthead. We received a nice, personal note from John Howard thanking us for our note of sympathy to the family of **Rosemary Reed-Miller.**

Brief Announcements: 1) At the Committee of 100's 2017 Vision Awards on Wednesday, 10/18, our long-time friends and affiliates at the Heurich House Museum received a Vision Award which was received by Kim Bender. Also, our 'friends' at NCPC, the DC Historic Preservation Office (Office of Planning) and the GSA received a Vision Award for their work on the two squares comprising the FBI Building site which will guide its future development 3) AOI's web page dedicated to promoting DC-related WWI centennial events continues to have several thousand page-views. You get to it via either the web site or Facebook. 4) On Thursday, Nov. 9th (don't quite get the date), the World War I Centennial Commission is conducting (?) a "ceremonial" (virtual?) ground-breaking for their plans for Pershing Park... which is kind of strange as their

plans haven't been approved by either the CFA or the NCPC. AOI continues to weigh-in with our views and comments as opportunities present themselves; however, at our Board meeting on Monday we decided that while we'll continue to monitor and champion the minor changes and improvements to Pershing Park that we support, next year we are going to dedicate our energies toward our own DC War Memorial and work to host a formal program (wreath laying, talks, Marine Band?) on Sunday, November 11, **2018** the centennial of the signing of the Armistice and what we now celebrate as Veterans' Day. Directors **Tom Neale and Barbara Bates** will be heading up the initiative and would invite anyone interested in helping out and sharing the tasks to please come forward and contact them. Again, their phone numbers are on our newsletter.

After paying a special tribute to AOI Vice-President Jan Evans (Christian Heurich's granddaughter) and her family for generously providing their mansion to the Historical Society for more than 60 years, **Nelson Rimensnyder** challenged everyone with several DC history trivia questions:

Q: On Aug. 21, 2017 the Treasury Secretary visited Ft. Knox, the first one in years to do so. What is the approximate value of the gold in Ft. Knox? A: \$190 Trillion – **Vicky Crawford** provided the answer after several members crept toward the total.

Q: Terminix recently rated cities for their rat population. Which city was #1? A: Chicago – **Maggie Hobbs** provided the answer.

Q: In 1972 the House Committee on DC entertained a recommendation to include everything inside the Beltway as the 51st State. Who proposed this? A: The AOI of DC! **Larry Feinberg** knew the answer.

Q: What presidential candidate, later elected, supported Puerto Rico's independence? A: Eisenhower. **John Herron** provided the correct answer.

Q: What purpose did Baltimore's Ft. McHenry serve during World War I? A: A hospital...one of the largest and busiest. **Pat Brown's** guest **Maureen Staples** provided the answer.

The Day's Speaker: Bill introduced the day's speaker, **Kenneth Burke**, Director of the Clara Barton Office of Missing Soldiers historic site and museum who...[the summary of his talk was not available at press time. You can listen to his talk at 33 minutes into the audio at <http://www.aoidc.org/aoi-luncheon-audio.html>]

The next AOI luncheon program will be Friday, November 17th, when the members present will elect the 2018 Officers and Directors.

Submitted by Bill Brown for John P. Richardson, Secretary

2017 Nominating Committee Report

October 16, 2017

Dear President Brown:

The Nominating Committee has proposed Officers for the coming year and the Directors for 2018-2019. The nominees have agreed to serve if elected:

Officers (1 year terms):

President	William N. Brown (incumbent)
Vice-President	Jan A.K. Evans (incumbent)
Treasurer	Hulit Taylor (incumbent)
Secretary	John P. Richardson (incumbent)
Historian	Nelson Rimensnyder (incumbent)

Directors:

Margaret (Maggie) Hobbs	2018-2019
Jessica Hodge	2018-2019
Gary Scott	2018-2019

The following Directors do not require re-election as they have not yet completed their two-year terms:

Barbara Bates	Thru 2018
Carl Cole	Thru 2018
Thomas Neale	Thru 2018

The members of the Nominating Committee hope this slate of nominees will meet with the approval of the membership.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Drechsler, M. Jean Lockard & Richard Drechsler

AOP's Newsletters are printed and distributed by:



AOP's web address is: aoidc.org and our email address is: aioifdc@gmail.com

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

Address Correction Requested

The Association of Oldest Inhabitants
of the District of Columbia
4425 Greenwich Parkway, NW
District of Columbia 20007-2010

Officers:

William Brown, President 202-342-1638
4425 Greenwich Parkway, NW, Wash., DC 20007
Jan A. K. Evans, Vice-President 301-968-4749
John P. Richardson, Secretary 703-534-3577
Hulit Pressley Taylor, Treasurer 202-625-0203
Nelson Rimensnyder, Historian 202-546-4668

Fire Department Liaison:

Jim Embrey 571-436-7774

Past President:

A. L. Wheeler 202-337-0030

Luncheon RSVP Voice-mail: 202-342-1865

The Historical Society of Washington, DC and its Kiplinger Research Library, together with portions of the Washingtoniana Division of the DC Public Library, are now operating from temporary quarters in the Newseum while the Carnegie Library undergoes restoration by Apple. For information about programs and exhibits, check: <http://www.dchistory.org> or call 202-249-3955 for further information

Directors:

Barbara Bates 202-244-2090
Carl Cole 202-889-8813
Margaret (Maggie) Hobbs 202-547-0964
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.