



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 #103
April 1, 2012*

President's Message...

Periodically Review Your Will & Final Wishes

We are often reminded to change our smoke detector batteries with the twice-annual changes to our clocks. But there is nothing to remind us periodically to review and up-date our wills, living wills, health care proxies and 'final instructions.' We were recently reminded of this with the untimely passing of our member and friend Lee Rogers. Fortunately, though admittedly many of us feared otherwise, Lee had his affairs 'in order' and had made arrangements, via his will, to ensure his wishes were carried out.

We often hear 'horror' stories about friends, neighbors – even celebrities – who die intestate (without a will) and what extreme, unnecessary anguish this causes their survivors not to mention the unintended consequences of having a court or prevailing laws determine 'who gets what' from your estate. So, please, take some time to review your legal documents and update them. If you don't have a will, healthcare proxy, final instructions, etc., seek legal advice and for final arrangements as to burial and disposal of your remains, check with an organization such as the Funeral Consumers Alliance of Maryland and Environs for assistance (www.mdfunerals.org).

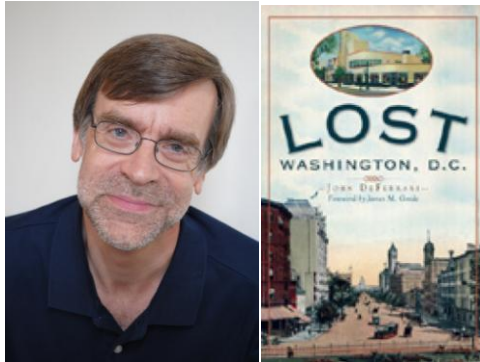
While often, as an organization, we concern ourselves with preserving the history, stories, architecture and artifacts which represent District of Columbia history we may overlook the fact that as a membership organization we have a responsibility to our members, friends and their families. Please review your important papers and 'invest' some time, and perhaps some money, to ensure they are valid and reflect your current wishes.

Bill Brown

April's Luncheon Event:

"Lost Washington, D.C."

AOI member John DeFerrari discusses his book and provides glimpses of our city's past



Please join us...

Friday, **April 20**, 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., April 18, 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., 4/19, 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:

May 18, 2012 – Jim Johnston, “From Slave Ship to Harvard: Yarrow Mamout”

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

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 March Meeting...

President Bill Brown opened the second luncheon of CY2012 (the 147th year for AOI) at the Channel Inn. The attendance was a near record 120 members and their guests.

The draft of the minutes for the February meeting was printed in the newsletter and was considered for approval. There were no additions or corrections offered. **Carl Cole** moved, seconded by **John McManus**, that the minutes be accepted. The motion was quickly approved.

There were four new applications for membership since the last meeting. The applicants are: **Marianna Blagburn** (nominated by Sherwood Smith); **Carolyn Michell** (daughter of Clinton Chapman); **Barbara Hopkins** (via AOI web site); **Harold Carlson** (nominated by Gary Scott). A motion to accept the applicants as new members was offered by **Cindy Janke**, seconded by **Ginny Daly** and promptly approved.

Treasurer **Hulit Taylor** presented a brief report on the current financial and membership picture. She noted: 1) We have 285 members in good standing, which is ahead of where we were last year; 2) The Board appreciates the donations received this year for the Historical Society/Kiplinger Library, the Ogilvie Fund, Shepherd Statue, and unrestricted funds. 3) Non-routine expenses in first quarter 2012 included \$60 to Federation of Citizens Associations for Dues through 2012 and \$141 to Early Cassidy & Schilling for Directors Liability Insurance. 4)

Our investment account has earned \$370 this year in dividends and interest.

Bill again spoke of the passing of **Lee Rogers** and said that there would be a service in his memory in April, and that if possible further details will be in the next newsletter.

Bill introduced first timers, returning old timers, and members with their guests.

Bill made announcements of potential interest to AOI members, including calling attention to activities relating to the Friends of Clara Barton organization in establishing a museum in her old apartment downtown at 7th and E Streets. Clara Barton House in Glen Echo is having lectures next month on the 100th anniversary of her death.

Historian **Nelson Rimensnyder** raised a trivia question, challenging members with the question about why it became illegal for airplanes to fly over the White House in 1935. The answer given then was that President Roosevelt liked to take naps in the afternoon and that the noise interferes. Nelson pointed out that this may be a cover story.

AOI member **Elaine Flynn** was the featured speaker, and what a sensation she was!! A multitalented lady, Elaine appeared as the avatar of Alice Roosevelt Longworth, the oldest child of President Theodore Roosevelt, as well as the voice of other White House ladies, (and other women who weren't). "Alice" led off with her story about her wide brimmed hat, about which Lyndon Johnson told her--- I'd kiss you if it wasn't for that hat, to which she replied "That's

why I wear it."

"Alice" then proceeded to deliver an amazing sequence of educational stories that had us all laughing continuously. It was an incredible display of truly funny anecdotal tales delivered at a surprisingly brisk pace. Included in her group were such as Abigail Adams, Frances Cleveland, Dolley Madison, Ellen and Edith Wilson, Lou Henry Hoover, Eleanor Roosevelt, Jacqueline Kennedy, Barbara Bush, Hilary Clinton and Michelle Obama among those who were First Ladies, and there were also other well known women--some touched by scandal, others known for admirable achievement.

Elaine Flynn's presentation will be remembered as outstanding for many reasons--her basic talents as writer, raconteur, teacher, and performer are indeed special. Her material was a delight, her illustrations excellent, the history very informative and her element of audience involvement. It is highly recommended.

Respectfully submitted

Seymour Selig, Secretary



Memorial Service for Lee Rogers

A memorial service will be held for AOI member and friend Lee Rogers on Saturday, April 7, 2012 at 2 P.M. at the Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church, 7400 Temple Hills Road, Camp Springs, Maryland 20748 (301-449-4308). Lee's friend and associate, Glenn Bottoms, wrote an excellent tribute (with contributions from Lee's many friends) which appeared in the *Post* on March 25 and columnist John Kelly devoted his March 28th column to Lee, Lee's love for DC history, railroads, streetcars and transportation systems. (see www.washingtonpost.com/johnkelly, if you missed the print version).

While many AOI members recall Lee's enthralling narrated slide presentation on DC's historic snow falls, bridges, streetcars and streetscapes, others will recall Lee's interest in bringing attention to the District's 16th Street World War I Tree Memorial which has not only fallen into decay but has been overlooked for years as a memorial dedicated to the

499 District men and women who perished during World War I. He encouraged our tribute to the memorial on May 30, 2010 and helped renew attention to this memorial's plight. We hope that its 16th Street neighbors, District officials, the Park Service and others will restore this little known memorial and promote it in time for its centennial in 2020.

If you are unable to join with Lee's friends at his memorial service on April 7th, he knows you will be there in spirit and his memory in your thoughts.



D.C. Council Member Phil Mendelson and Lee Rogers on Memorial Day 2010.



Please visit us at our web site at <http://www.aoidc.org> or simply "Google" Governor Shepherd and we'll pop-up!

Our e-mail address is: dchistory@aoidc.org

AOI is a member of Cultural Tourism DC:

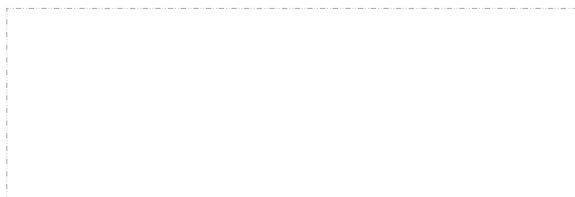


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Address Correction Requested

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**Details of Lee Rogers' memorial service on Sat.,
April 7th are inside on page 3.**

**If you have not already renewed your AOI
membership (e.g., you have your form with your bills
and haven't mailed it in), please do so!**



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