



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 #98
June 3, 2011***

President's Message...

A Rededication, Reminiscence and an Award:

On Saturday, May 28, 2011, the Battleground National Cemetery (a few blocks from Ft. Stevens) was rededicated after extensive renovations were made possible by American Recovery & Restoration Act Funds. Rock Creek Park Superintendent Tara Morrison presided over the ceremony which featured remarks by Council Member Muriel Bowser



and Tersh Boasberg, President of the Alliance to Preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington.

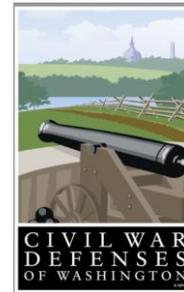


An Honor Guard presented the colors, the National Anthem was sung, Chaplain (Maj.) Sellers of Walter Reed said a prayer of dedication and Taps was played. (Cont'd. on Page 3)

June's Luncheon Event:

“The Civil War Defenses of Washington: An up-date on the District's Circle Fort Parks”

National Park Service Ranger Alexa Viets will provide timely information on new developments on our Civil War Forts just in time for the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War



Please join us...

Friday, **June 17**, at the Channel Inn (free Parking) 650 Water Street, SW. (Maine Avenue via Metro Rail Green to Waterfront Station/SEU, Metro Bus 70 or Downtown Circulator Bus), Social Time (cash bar) 11:45 a.m., Luncheon served at 12:30 p.m. (**\$22 per person** - please have your check completed prior to arrival and made payable to “AOI” 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., June 15, 2011.

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., 6/16, 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 145th Year – Meeting dates and tentative speakers:

July 4, 2011 – Walk with AOI members in the annual Palisades Fourth of July Parade.

Meet in front of Engine 29 (MacArthur & Whitehaven Parkway) at 10:30am for the 1 mile walk with AOI's 1905 steam pumper.

Sept. 16, 2011 – Garrett Peck speaks on “Prohibition in Washington: How Dry We Weren’t.”

Oct. 21, 2011 – Mark Levitch presents, “The World War I Memorial That Was Never Built.”

Nov. 18, 2011 – Dr. Mark Ozer, “Massachusetts Avenue in the Gilded Age”; Annual Election of Officers & Directors

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 May Meeting...

The fourth luncheon meeting of the year was held at the Channel Inn on May 20. President Bill Brown presided, with 90 members and guests in attendance.

President Brown asked if there were any additions or corrections for the minutes. None being offered, Bill called for a motion to approve the minutes, noting that in so doing we would dispense with their reading. That generated enthusiastic approval of the motion, which had been made by **Bob Proudley** and seconded by **Joe Grano**.

Bill announced that four new applications for membership were received since the last meeting. The applicants are **Evelyn Christian** (who is the mother of member **Anita Lee**. Evelyn will be 97 on June 1, and may become the oldest Oldest Inhabitant; also **Herb Mintz** (nominated by George Hutchinson); and **General Thomas Camp, Jr.** and **Margaret Camp** (both nominated by Jan Evans Houser). A motion for accepting the applications was made by **Carl Cole**, seconded by **Al Wheeler**, and quickly approved.

Treasurer **Hulit Taylor** reported on our membership data and our financial picture. With the new members accepted today we have over 300 in good standing. Of these, 30 have joined this year. Hulit reminded members that those who have not renewed by the end of June will be placed on the inactive list and will not receive the Newsletter or other mailings. Income from both dues and contributions is on track, and there were no non-routine expenses in April. The value of our investment account is now more than \$190,000.

Bill introduced new members, first timers, and guests.

AOI Historian Nelson Rimensnyder made announcements regarding forthcoming activities that will commemorate Civil War sesquicentennial events, and provided background information.

Our guest speaker for the today's program is **James H. Johnston**. He is a lawyer who has performed historical research on the Loughborough family of Washington. He has written a book based on the document "Margaret Cabell Brown Loughborough Recollections" which is in the Maryland State Archives dated November 1912. That document forms Chapter 3 of Johnston's book, which provides the background and commentary needed to understand this history. The speaker's presentation was extremely interesting, well illustrated, and easy and enjoyable to follow. It introduced many well known Washington figures into the history of the Loughborough family, while Margaret Loughborough's observations only covered the four years of the Civil War. Much information was gleaned previously from her personal diary, which unfortunately seems to have disappeared in the 1960's. Johnston is to be commended for his efforts in tracking down and sorting out an intriguing history, and in providing valuable analysis and perspective for current understanding. It should be noted that the publisher's title and author's listing for the book is "The Recollections of Margaret Cabell Brown Loughborough: A Southern Woman's Memories of Richmond, VA, and Washington, DC, in the Civil War," by Margaret Loughborough and James H. Johnston.

A lively question and answer period followed the presentation.

Respectfully submitted,
Seymour Selig, Secretary



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: aoidc@verizon.net

AOI’s newsletters and publications are printed and assembled by the staff of FedEx Office of Georgetown.



AOI is a member of Cultural Tourism DC:



President’s Message (Cont’d)...

Battleground National Cemetery was dedicated by President Lincoln in 1864 to honor the 40 Union soldiers killed at Ft. Stevens on July 11th & 12th. The last surviving veteran of the Battle of Ft. Stevens was buried there in 1936 bringing the total to 41. With the rededication of the cemetery and restoration of the Superintendent’s Cottage (designed by Montgomery Meigs) another step has been taken to help preserve the District’s ring of circle fort parks which comprise the Civil War Defenses of Washington. Park Ranger Alexa Viets will up-date our members and guests with plans and recent accomplishments to “re-connect” these forts by trails and new interpretive signage.

But many AOI members will recall a field trip in June 2002 when Past-president Phil Ogilvie conducted a bus tour of some of these featured sights including Battery Kemble, Fort DeRussy, Fort Stevens, Battleground National Cemetery, the Armed Forces Medical Museum and, finally, the African-American Civil War Memorial. The day featured a presentation by Donise Williams portraying Elizabeth “Aunt Betty” Proctor Thomas whose home was seized to make room for Ft. Stevens.



Phil Ogilvie discusses the history of Ft. DeRussy with AOI members.

Now, nine years after that field trip, the AOI has awarded its 11th annual Dr. Philip W. Ogilvie Award to Jill Talladay at a reception May 14th for the George Washington University graduates of the Advanced Masters of Tourism Administration program. Jill had the highest GPA among her class and was selected to receive the Ogilvie Award. She recently wrote to us, “...[AMTA faculty] provided the opportunity to learn about Dr. Ogilvie and his work. Understanding his personality and commitment makes this award that much more meaningful. I’m sorry I was not able to know him. Please share my sincere gratitude with your organization.”



AMTA Director Dr. Heather Bowen and Ogilvie Award recipient Jill Talladay on the terrace of the Hotel Palomar in Rosslyn, VA.

Have a safe and relaxing summer... see you Sept. 16th!

Address Correction Requested

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◆ Help keep AOI alive and strong: invite friends to join and be sure to renew your membership!
◆ As of June 3rd, the Historical Society and Kiplinger Library are temporarily closed due to financial hardship. We will keep you informed...



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