



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 #114

November 1, 2013

President's Message...

Many of us have our 'favorite' local cemetery and I suggest that most are well-maintained – Rock Creek, Glenwood, St. Mary's, Mt. Olivet and Oak Hill. Others are not so fortunate... Holy Rood needs attention, Woodlawn is looking for volunteers to help maintain it, Georgetown's Mt. Zion Methodist/Female Union Band Cemetery's condition is tragic... the latter being one of the city's ten 'inactive' cemeteries, but still in need of care.

The past decade has proven to be a turn-around period for historic Congressional Cemetery. With the award-winning leadership of AOI member Dudley Brown and others, Congressional Cemetery now serves as a model of partnerships, cooperation, neighborhood support and entrepreneurship. Lectures, concerts, Halloween events, fun runs, and making welcome families and dog walkers all contribute to help sustain Congressional in its neighborhood and insure its continued success.

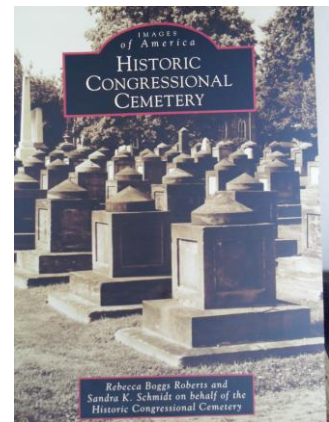
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Promotional item from Congressional Cemetery (contemporary).

November's Luncheon Event:

**Historic Congressional Cemetery
With Paul K. Williams**



Please join us...

Friday, **November 15**, 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. (**\$24 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., Nov. 13, 2013.

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., 11/14, 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/Flounder 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 148th Year -- Meeting dates and tentative speakers:

Feb. 21, 2014 – John DeFerrari, “Washington Restaurants”

March 21, 2014 – Erin Bergin Voorheis, “The Washington Arsenal Explosion”

April 18, 2014 – To Be Announced

May 16, 2014 – Michael Lisicky, “Woodward & Lothrop: A Story Worthy of the Nation’s Capital”

June 20, 2014 – Frank Cooling, “The 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 October Meeting...

[Draft minutes of our last meeting for approval at the Nov. 15, 2013 luncheon.]

The October luncheon meeting of AOI was held at the Pier 7 restaurant of the Channel Inn on October 18, 2013. President **Bill Brown** presided and welcomed 94 members and guests. All new members, guests of members and non-members were subsequently introduced.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes for the previous two meetings. Additions or corrections to the minutes were called for, the drafts of which were printed in the newsletter. There were no additions or corrections. A motion to accept the minutes was offered by **Allen Beach** and seconded by **Anne Renshaw**. The motion was carried and the minutes approved.

There was one new application for membership since the last meeting. The applicant was **James Jones** who was nominated by **Gail Spilsbury**. Bill called for a vote and the application was approved by the group having been moved by **Jim Embrey** and seconded by **Sherwood Smith**.

Treasurer **Hulit Taylor** presented a brief report on membership and finances. There are currently 362 members in the organization, no significant expenditures during the last month, the investment account has continued to grow and our annual interest on investments is \$4,400.

Announcements of general interest were made including an up-coming auto show in Rockville, the dedication of the National Fire Dog Memorial at 5th & F Streets, NW, the up-coming annual Historical Studies Conference, Historical Society Gala and an up-coming DC Council hearing on the Height Act.

AOI Historian **Nelson Rimensnyder** had a trivia question which challenged the audience's knowledge of the District and its history including the interesting and intersecting fact that both Governor Shepherd and AOI (Colored) Incorporated Vice-President Edward Augustine Savoy had Liberty Ships named for them in World War II.

Today's speaker was AOI Director, historian, researcher and author **Lucinda (Cindy) Prout Janke** presenting portions of her recently published book, “A Guide to Civil War Washington: Capital of the Union.” Cindy briefly recounted the themes of the chapters and then proceeded to highlight some of the fascinating facts and illustrations that she has uncovered which give the reader a feeling for what our, now, beautiful city had ‘inflicted upon it’ as the Capital of the Union during the Civil War. Open spaces were turned into pastures and slaughter houses, hotels, schools and public buildings were converted for use as hospitals, administrative offices and quartermaster depots. She even discovered since writing the book that an Adolf Cluss-designed building served as the District's first, official police station for the newly formed MPD – Metropolitan Police Department. Personalities touched on included the tireless work of Clara Barton and the humanitarian efforts of Walt Whitman to name but two.

Cindy’s presentation prompted several questions which indicated a further interest in the sheer number of people who had poured into the city during the Civil War years which, as one can image, was almost impossible to document.

Bill expressed the AOI’s appreciation by presenting Cindy with our Certificate of Appreciation and Nelson presented her with a ‘goody bag’ including a “No Vote, No Tax” t-shirt and DC-centric note cards.

Respectfully submitted by:
Bill Brown on behalf of Secretary Seymour Selig

2012 Nominating Committee Report

October 25, 2013

Dear President Brown:

The Nominating Committee has proposed Officers for the coming year and the Directors for 2014-2015. The nominees have agreed to serve if elected:

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

Directors:	
Jessica Hodge	2014-2015
Margaret (Maggie) Hobbs	2014-2015
Gary Scott	2014-2015 (incumbent)

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

Carl Cole	2013-2014
Damon Cordon	2013-2014
Lucinda (Cindy) Janke	2013-2014

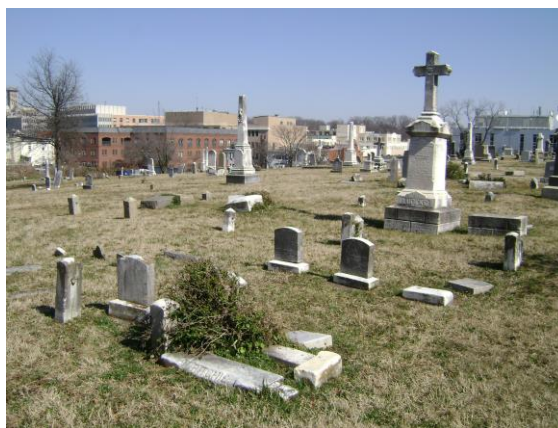
The members of Nominating Committee hope this slate of nominees will meet with the approval of the membership.

Sincerely yours,
Barbara Drechsler, M. Jean Lockard & Richard Drechsler

President’s Message Continued...

The DC Historic Preservation Office has published “Gone but Not Forgotten, Cemeteries in the Nation’s Capital.” You can download it at www.planning.dc.gov/hpo under DC History, City-wide Publications.

Bill Brown



Holy Rood Cemetery, located at Wisconsin Avenue & 35th Street, is maintained by Georgetown University and Holy Trinity Church but needs work and TLC.

Worth Noting...

The Historical Society’s 2nd Annual Gala, this year honoring the Quander and Saul families, will be held Wed., Nov. 13 at the Carnegie Library. See HSW’s web site, www.historydc.org, for more details and sponsorship opportunities.

The 40th anniversary **Conference on D.C. Historical Studies** will be held from Nov. 14-17. Hosted by the Historical Society this year, most panels and talks will be held at the Carnegie Library. See HSW’s web site, www.historydc.org, for more details and registration.

Bring an unwrapped toy to AOI’s Nov. 15th luncheon to help ensure that no DC child goes without a holiday present this year. Toys are being collected by “**Holiday Gifts for Kids**” and AOI’s contact for this project is Anne Renshaw.

Our web site is <http://www.aoidc.org> or simply “Google” ‘Governor Shepherd’ and we’ll pop-up!
Our e-mail address is: aoidc@gmail.com

AOI is a member of Cultural Tourism DC:



AOI’s newsletters are printed and assembled by the staff of:



Address Correction Requested

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Past President:

A. L. Wheeler 202-337-0030

Luncheon RSVP Voice-mail: 202-342-1865

View AOP's web site at www.aoidc.org/upcoming-events.html and *listen* to Paul Leeper's and Conrad Reid's programs.

Support the Historical Society of Washington's 2013 Gala honoring the Saul and Quander families. See HSW's web site for details: www.historydc.org.

Directors:

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