Proceedings of the Arlington Historical Society

Minutes of September 9, 1977

The Society met at the Arlington Historical Museum. The treasurer, Jeanne Rose, reported an operating fund balance of $5,623.53, proceeds of $4,383.98 from the sale of the C. B. Rose, Jr. book, and a Ball-Sellers House Fund total of $7,482.13.

President Martha Orth expressed appreciation to Linus Verzi for the new public address system, for which he was purchasing agent. Mrs. Orth also thanked Cas Cocklin and Ruth Rose for the Society's outstanding exhibit at the Arlington County Fair.

Frank L. Ball, Jr., the speaker for the evening, was introduced by Ruth Rose. Mr. Ball told of the festivities held fifty years ago in Lyon Village in celebration of the turning on of the water in Arlington County. Mr. Ball presented a number of historical items to the Society, including a lance and a jousting blouse and the cup won at the jousting tournament that day.

Following Mr. Ball's talk and presentations, there was a showing of the new Ball-Sellers House slide program, prepared by Anne Webb and Linda Page, and narrated by Dean Allard. Also shown were slides taken of the booth at the County Fair.

Minutes of November 11, 1977

The Society met at the Museum. The treasurer reported current balances to be: Savings — $1,956.52; Checking — $1,513.34; Ball-Sellers Fund — $7,747.13. Income from Arlington County — A History to date — $4,418.13.

Mr. Lightsey and Mrs. Orth reported on Arlington County's proposal that the Society assume responsibility and costs for the curbs and gutters for the land behind the Museum.

After the business meeting, Ruth Rose introduced Nan Netherton, whose talk was called "Through Women's Eyes."

Meeting of January 13, 1978

The January meeting was cancelled due to snow.

Meeting of March 9, 1978

Rather than holding a regular meeting in March, members and friends attended a banquet at the Officers Club at Fort Myer on March 9, 1978. Our president, Martha Orth, presided at the banquet, and vice-president Lee Metcalf gave the opening remarks. Lively tunes were sung by the Sea Chanters of the U.S. Navy, and Dr. Ernest K. Emurian presented an entertaining and humorous resume of patriotic songs. The Cornelia B. Rose, Jr. Historical Award was presented to Woodlawn student Maggie Young by Don Wise for her article on the history of Clarendon.

Minutes of May 12, 1978

The Society met at the Arlington Historical Museum. The treasurer reported a cash balance of $3,697.54, and a Ball-Sellers Fund total of $7,483.51. Membership Chairman Sally Boss reported a record total of 521 members for the year.

In her final comments as President, Mrs. Orth reminded the members that the society has assumed a $7,800.00 debt for the curbs and gutters for the land behind the museum, and
expressed confidence that it would be paid, and her belief that the decision to purchase was wise.

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers to serve for the 1978-79 year: President . . . Ruth Rose; 1st Vice President . . . Herbert Collins; 2nd Vice President . . . Sara Collins; Recording Secretary . . . James E. Huddleston; Newsletter Secretary . . . Ruth Cocklin; Treasurer . . . John Palmer; Board of Directors: Doris Bangs, Warren D. Clardy, William M. Lightsey, Evelyn Syphax, James Walling, Willard Webb, Martha Orth, Director Ex-Officio. The slate as submitted was elected unanimously.

Mrs. Rose then introduced Capt. Porter, the speaker for the evening. His talk was called “I Remember” and was a series of reminiscences of the area in Arlington in which he lived as a boy.

Historic Arlington Day – October 15, 1977

Observance of this successful day began with a candlelight tour of Arlington House on Friday evening, October 14, 1977. On Saturday, October 15, the following buildings were visited: the Museum; the Ball-Sellers House, home of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan T. Busch, 5620 3rd St. S.; Rixey Mansion, Marymount College of Virginia, 2807 N. Glebe Road; Maple Shade, the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Bell, 2230 N. Powhatan St.; the Shreve House, home of Mr. and Mrs. Milo L. Meacham, 2114 N. Pollard St; and the Charles Richard Drew House, home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Drew, 2505 1st St. S. The Music Group, Tea and Anarchy, sang again this year, and the Aurora Hills Woman’s Club provided and served refreshments at the Museum, where a recipe booklet, Arlington Preserves, was also available.

Christmas Reception

The Christmas season was again heralded by the Society with its Christmas reception on December 18, 1977 at the home of Dr. and Mrs. William T. Back.

Ball-Sellers House

A number of community groups and individuals made special tours of the Ball-Sellers House throughout the year. Our delightful caretakers in this period were Jonathan and Joy Busch. However, since they have become the proud parents of a son, they left the house in September 1978 for larger quarters. Mr. Michael C. Rierson, an authority on historic preservation, has met with the Ball-Sellers Committee to plan future work on its restoration. The Committee also expresses its appreciation to Chester Brasse, who volunteered his legal services throughout the year in connection with several matters of much importance, and to Herbert Collins who donated an 18th century chair to the house. Willard Webb has headed a group that is preparing the property’s landscaping plans. As always, the interest and support of the Glencarlyn Civic Association has been indispensable. That group recently made another generous donation to the Ball-Sellers restoration fund.

Ruth Ward and Dean Allard, co-chairmen of the Ball-Sellers House Committee
Memorials to Cornelia B. Rose, Jr.

W. M. Aicher
Arlington County Democratic Committee
Mrs. Lee Bacon (Helen G.)
Catherine I. Bahn
Begley
Mrs. Marcus Borden-Smith
Hyman J. Cohen
Coil
Eleanor Dobson
Mr. and Mrs. R. Eisenberg
Dr. Tom P. Emerich
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Erickson
Marius and Byrd Farioletti
Vernon Ford
Mrs. George J. Goebel
Mrs. Hugh Green (Elizabeth C.)
Walter W. Heller
Pamelia A. Henricksen
Edward M. Holland
Ashton C. Jones, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Labovitz
Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Lellinger (Linda K.)
Susan Burr Litchfield
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lounsbury
Albert Lundberg
Dr. and Mrs. Allen D. Manvel
Col. and Mrs. George F. Moranda
Cornelia J. Motheral
Anna Jo Behrens Nesbit
Tillman H. Neuner
Dorothy J. Orchard
Margaret T. Osuna
Joseph A. Pechman
Anna Mae Rasmussen
Maj. John L. Richards
Col. and Mrs. John R. Richards
Mr. and Mrs. Donald B. Roberts
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rose
Richard Eaton Slitor
Helen M. and Janet Spence
Mrs. Ruth Ward
Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Wise
Mr. and Mrs. Arch Woodruff (Barbara B.)

Gifts 1977-78

Frank L. Ball, Jr.: Letters, pictures and papers of John S. Mosby, Confederate flag which flew over three Mosby’s Men reunions (all obtained from the late Stuart Thomson).

Tish Bangs: One legal size filing cabinet for archives.

Monroe G. Chew, III: Three old pictures of Ball-Sellers House.

Mrs. Lilliam Cole: unusual old quilt top, sewed with paper pieces inside.

Herbert Collins: Air conditioner; 18th century rush bottom Virginia chair for Ball-Sellers House.

Federation of Women’s Clubs of Arlington: Eight scrapbooks of their activities.

Kerry Lake: Eight pictures of museum exhibits, the gate, grill and school bell at Hume School.

Mrs. Margaret Langley LeFevre: Jousting hook and rings, silk jousting blouse.
Walter Macomber: Two sets old metal door hinges for Ball-Sellers House.

Harold D. McCoy via Captain Philip B. Ellis, Station 10: Leather fireman’s hat.

Mrs. C. Harrison Mann: Doll that belonged to her mother, Lavela Slicer Hart. A portrait of the late C. Harrison Mann (charter member of the Society and one of its first Presidents).

Mrs. William E. Moore: Gold medal earned by her mother, Sadie Faulkner Ellis, while attending Hume School.

Mrs. Harold E. Smith: Silver medal earned by her sister, Sadie Faulkner Ellis, while attending Hume School.

Lt. Col. Roy M. Stanley: Twenty pictures and maps of Pentagon area before and during construction of Pentagon.

On indefinite loan to the Museum: Bicentennial quilt made by Mrs. Thelma Valentine, and loaned by the Arlington Presbyterian Church.