

ARLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY YEAR IN REVIEW 1993-94

June 1993

Dow H. Nida was appointed by the Arlington County Board as one of the three trustees of the Arlington Historical Society Building and Endowment Trust Fund. Mr. Nida, a former Society president, replaced A. Leslie Phillips as trustee. The other trustees, Doris Campbell Bangs and June Brumbach Verzi, are appointed by the Society president.

July 1993

The search for a new director for the Arlington Historical Museum commenced as a result of the resignations of Johanna Baker as director in April and Holliday Ridge as curator in May.

August 1993

The Society participated again in the annual Arlington County Fair. Bette Clements headed up the Society's participation, assisted by many other members.

September 1993

The Society's general membership program on September 10 was presented by DeAnne Blanton speaking on "Women Soldiers in the Civil War." Ms. Blanton, who is with the Military Reference Center, National Archives, gave fascinating insights into her subject derived from official records in the Archives.

The Ball-Sellers House, 5620 3rd Street, South, commenced being open each week on Saturdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (April through October). A new book entitled "The House that John Built" by Martha Beggs Orth was completed and offered for sale by the Museum Bookshop and the Ball-Sellers House Museum.

October 1993

Historic Arlington Day activities on Saturday, October 2, consisted of a spinning demonstration at the Ball-Sellers House, a local neighborhood 70th anniversary history exhibit at the Lyon Village Community House, and visits to the Mary Carlin House on North Carlin Springs Road, the John Saegmuller House on Little Falls Road, and the Glebe House. The annual candlelight visit to Arlington House was also featured.

The first in a series of monthly gatherings called the "Arlington Reunion" was held on October 21, sponsored by the Arlington County Library's Virginia Room, the Arlington Historical Society and the Ballston Partnership. "Reunion" gatherings feature reminiscences by long-time residents of Arlington and a chance to view their memorabilia. The first "Reunion" featured David Bates, who grew up in Arlington's Livingston Heights neighborhood and who has written a memoir of growing up in Arlington in the 1930s.

The Society participated in the third History Book Fair sponsored by the Northern Virginia Association of Historians on Saturday, October 16, at the Falls Church Community Center.

The Society president, Seymour Stiss, presented the Society's position on the preservation of Fort C.F. Smith to the County's Site Plan Review Board. He advocated the strict preservation of the remains of the fort and requested that a complete archaeological survey be conducted on the entire area under review.

The 1860 Mapping Project team of volunteers under the direction of Janet Rogers learned much about the computer mapping system to be used by one of the volunteers, Gerald Procanick, to integrate the information being collected and produce the final product in about two years.

November 1993

The Society's general membership program featured Marc Wolfe of the National Archives, who spoke on November 12 on acquisition and preservation of federal records.

A brochure entitled "A Walk Around Glencarlyn to See Places Associated with the Ball-Sellers House" was made available at the Ball-Sellers House Museum.

The second "Arlington Reunion" took place in the auditorium of the Arlington Central Library on November 22. The featured speaker was Jeffrey Stager, an Arlington native who has recently retired from the Arlington Police Department.

December 1993

The annual holiday party and open house for all Society members and friends was held at the Hume School on Sunday, December 12.

The "Arlington Reunion" for December was postponed because of ice and snow.

January 1994

The Society's general membership meeting was held January 14 at the Hume School. The speaker was Thomasina Ring, successful Arlington historical-fiction writer. Her topic was "Tale Spinning Through Virginia's History: Weaving Facts into Fiction."

The "Arlington Reunion" for January was postponed because of ice and snow. (History was being made as well as talked about in these icy cold days of winter 1993-94.)

February 1994

Dr. Harold Handerson was officially appointed Director of the Arlington Historical Museum by the Society's president. Dr. Handerson's appointment had the unanimous support of the Museum's Collection Management Committee and the Society's Board of Directors.

The "Arlington Reunion" was held on February 17 at the Central Library. The discussion leader, Judge Andrew Ferrari, spoke on Arlington's judicial system and recreational activities in its parks.

March 1994

The Society's general membership meeting on March 11 featured Anne Webb, a long-time Society member and curator of Tudor Place, a house with family connections to the Washingtons, Custises and Lees. Her talk, "Tudor Place: The Arlington Connection," was accompanied by colored slides.

The "Arlington Reunion" was held on March 17 at the Central Library. Nan and Lawrence Manning shared their recollections and photographs of Arlington, particularly Clarendon, before the big wartime and post-war boom.

Karl VanNewkirk and Seymour Stiss on March 17 began their service on a newly constituted Northern Virginia Boundary Stone Committee, whose purpose is to try to determine the legal status of the markers and seek ways to restore and preserve them.

April 1994

The Federal City Boundary Marker Tour was held again this year with Karl VanNewkirk as guide and commentator. He conducted the tour of the Virginia boundary stones on April 16, just two days and 203 years after the placement of the first cornerstone at Jones's Point near the mouth of Great Hunting Creek on the Potomac.

The Hume School building was painted on the outside for the first time since 1986.

A Ball-Sellers Neighborhood Walk was conducted on April 9 by Marty Orth.

The "Arlington Reunion" on April 21 featured Irene Munson Rouse, who spoke on her experiences growing up along Columbia Pike in the 1930s.

Senator Edward M. Holland was instrumental in obtaining approval of a budget amendment in the Virginia General Assembly for over \$10,000 to help the Arlington Historical Society do necessary brick repairs to the Hume School building during the year 1994-95.

May 1994

The Society's annual banquet under the chairmanship of James Garner was held at the Fort Myer Officers Club on May 13. Jim Fearson, a Society member, spoke on the history of telephone service in Arlington. His talk was illustrated by vu-graphs.

The Society's annual meeting was held on May 6 at the Hume School, at which time reports for the past year were given, and the 1994-95 officers and directors listed at the front of this issue of the *Magazine* were elected and installed.

June 1994

The Ball-Sellers House was open to celebrate "Glencarlyn Day" on June 5. A weaving demonstration and special exhibit on the "Origin and Architecture of Early American Cabins" was featured.

The final "Arlington Reunion" until September featured Connie McAdam, newsletter editor of the Ballston Partnership.

GIFTS TO THE MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES, 1993-94

Little Blaine Creek Is Rising: Memories from Kentucky by Everett J. Ball. Given by John Ball.

The Story of Rock Spring Road by Marion Thayer Suter. Given by Bette Clements

Photo of Vacation Lodge by Harris and Ewing. Given by Phyllis Johnson.

Photo of Hickory Hill (c. 1935) by Frank Lyon. Given by Mary Smith Bittinger.

Washington Star article, September 1, 1975, entitled "Not Everyone Thought He Was So Dreamy." Given by Mrs. Melvin Felder.

Videotape produced by Anthony Potter Productions, entitled "The Hunt for the A-Bomb Spies," which used photo images from the Arlington Historical Society's archival photograph collection. Given by Ainslie Ann Binder.

1952 Arlington, Va., plat book (Franklin Survey). Given by Walter Dorrer.

Memorabilia from the fiftieth anniversary commemoration for Arlington Hospital. Given by Seymour Stiss.

Metro-related objects from the estate of Lee M. Rhoades. Given by Ross Netherton.