

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE ARLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1982-83

### September 10, 1982

Members voted to support the Bicentennial Celebration of the Constitution, to be presented in a series of lectures by George Mason University.

Martha Orth gave an informative and comprehensive talk on "Who Built Linden", the historic home on the Northern Neck which she and Don Orth, past presidents of the Society, have restored. She outlined the steps to take in a search for a house's history.

President Libby Ross reported a good response to the booth at the annual Arlington County Fair. Kathy Holt, Museum Director/Curator stated that the new tour of the museum is available. Tish Bangs showed a bottle from Frank Hume, labeled "Warwick Old Rye Whiskey", found on a farm dump heap.

### November 12, 1982

President Libby Ross announced a grant from the Olmstead Foundation in support of the printing of the latest issue the Arlington Historical Magazine. She also reported that Historic Arlington Day, with related activities, chaired by Catherine Saulmon, was highly successful.

William H. B. Thomas of Orange, Virginia spoke on "Frank Hume and His Country Cousins." The portrait of Frank Hume in the Museum had stimulated his curiosity which led to his research and discovery of the relationships between the Humes of Orange and Arlington. Especially interesting were quotes from Fannie Page Hume's diary, both on her personal life and on events of the Civil War centering in Orange. A number of Frank Hume's descendants were present at the meeting.

### January 14, 1983

Members unanimously approved that the Society formally express sympathy to President Libby Ross on the death of her husband.

The program for the evening was "Arlington Historical Museum, How It Happened and Where It is Headed." Willard Webb was master of ceremonies. Jack Foster, Jack Burns, Bob Lamont, Don Orth and Kathy Holt spoke on various aspects of the Museum's development.

Dedicated on May 10, 1963, the Museum's twentieth anniversary was this year. At the dedication, the flag raising was held outside, and what is now the Potomack Fife and Drum Corps played. The group later performed at the dedication of the Ball-Sellers House.

The former Hume School, located on Hume family property, was built in 1891 with two small rooms on the first floor and a partial playroom on the second. The Hume family donated the land for the Museum, Margaret Birge thought of using the school as a museum, and Mrs. Horner of Clarksburg, West Virginia gave \$20,000, about one half of the funds needed for restoration. The Arlington County School Board passed the old school to the County Board which gave it to the Arlington Historical Society. Thousands of citizens, school children and civic groups supported the renovation of the building. L.E. Berkey headed the Building Committee. Jack Jones and Eleanor Lee Tempelman served as co-chairman of fund raising and Moselle Caldwell as head of publicity. David John Hays, President, Virginia Historical Society, was the first Speaker in the museum. His subject was Frank Hume. The Aurora Hills Women's Club, the Boy Scouts and many members of the Society were recognized, particularly Harrison Mann, the first president, who contributed much to the organization's development.

Early meetings of the Society were held in homes, a well-known furniture store, and a church. It was noted that much work to improve the museum and develop new programs has been accomplished through the years. The goal was to tell the story of Arlington from its agricultural beginnings to the present. Some of the changes were the development of a walking pattern around a display island, a photo gallery, new acquisitions and exhibits, a slide/tape, publication of the magazine, house tours, the miniature shows, acquisition of the Ball-Sellers House, school programs, and the sorting and cataloging of 2,000 objects. Prominent in this have been Don Orth and Ed Sayle, appointed by Don Wise, president in the late 1960's, to start the work, and Kathy Holt, the present Curator/Director, who has completed and carried forward

the work and initiated many new improvements and programs.

### **February 23, 1983**

The Arlington Historical Society and the Alexandria Historical Society met in a special joint meeting at the Arlington Historical Museum. Prior to the meeting, members of the latter Society toured the Museum.

Speakers for the evening were David Bell, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Arlington County; Ellen Donald, Research Associate, Carlyle House; and Ted McCord, formerly with the Alexandria Archaeology Project. Mr. McCord commented on how research has become increasingly sophisticated with the rise of the professional historian and changing approaches and philosophies. Ellen Donald discussed the research libraries of Colonial Williamsburg, the Virginia State Library, the Virginia State Historical Society and the Alderman Library, UVA. David Bell explained the resources of the Clerk's Office in Arlington and some of the improvements made in the last few years. Mr. McCord discussed researching in Fairfax and Alexandria. He talked about the important Lloyd House in Alexandria as a good resource.

### **March 11, 1983 - Annual Banquet**

The speaker for the annual banquet, held at the Washinton Golf and Country Club, Arlington, was Lee Dieter, Golf Course Superintendent for twenty-two years.

Nearly 100 years old, the Washington Golf Club was organized in 1894 and first located on Wilson Boulevard in the Colonial Village area. That year two founders represented the Club at the first amateur championship meet. Matches were held with other clubs in the metropolitan area.

In 1908, the Club moved to its present site on Glebe Road which was purchased from Admiral Rixey, the Club's first greens chairman. The first permanent clubhouse burned down in 1936. A white frame clubhouse was built, then torn down in 1958 and the present building constructed. The nine-hole course of the Wilson Boulevard days expanded to eighteen holes.

Following Mr. Dieter's talk, the Yorktown Madrigals entertained the Society.

### **May 13, 1983**

James Huddleston, Chairman, Nominating Committee, submitted the slate of officers for 1983-84 for approval. He announced that Nancy Jones could not serve as Corresponding Secretary, as listed in the May newsletter, and that if no nomination were made from the floor, the Board would later make an appointment to this office. Members elected the following officers for 1983-84; Warren D. Clardy, President; Sara Collins, 1st Vice President; Allen H. Kitchens, 2nd Vice President; June Robinson, Recording Secretary; Margaret Moody, Newsletter Editor; Rebecca A. Mauzy, Treasurer; Dean C. Allard, Jr., Ruth P. Rose, Jack H. Foster, R. Corbin Dorsey, Catharine T. Saulmon, Elizabeth G. Clements, Directors.

Warren Clardy, as new President, stated that he would like to see even more recognition for the work of devoted volunteers.

For the evening's program, Kathy Holt, Museum Director/Curator, presented the AHS slide/tape show of Arlington history, revised by her and narrated by John Duran. Originally, the slide show was produced under a grant from the County during the Bicentennial Celebration.

Warren Clardy expressed appreciation for Libby Ross' services as President.