

# THE ARLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY YEAR IN REVIEW

1985-1986

1985-86 was an exciting year for the Arlington Historical Society. Early in the year the Board received word that the Society could be eligible for a grant from historic preservation funds for capital improvements offered by the State of Virginia. Much of the work of the Historic Preservation Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee during the year was in developing a needs plan, securing estimates, and preparing a presentation for the Budget Committee of the Legislature.

## June 1985

The first Board meeting was attended by the elected officers and all nominees for the Board of Directors. The election of Directors had been postponed until September. Committee chairmen were confirmed.

Entries for the first photography contest and show were on display in the Museum all summer.

## August 1985

Plans for participation in the Arlington County Fair were completed.

It was announced that the Society's attorney, Claude Hilton, had resigned after being appointed to the federal bench.

## September 1985

The election of new Directors took place. Eleanor Lee Templeman presented a slide program on Leesylvania (now a state park), the first home of the Lees in Virginia.

## October 1985

October was designated Historic Arlington Month by the County Board. Details of applying for state historic preservation funds were presented to the Board at its monthly meeting.

## November 1985

The membership meeting was held in the Social Hall of the Clarendon United Methodist Church. The well-attended session spotlighted the work of the Historic Affairs and Landmark Review Board. Members of the Board spoke about its history and work.

During the month the Society applied to the Arlington County Board for a grant of \$12,000 to be used as the County's capital contribution to the Society's Museum renovation program.

A "How To Research Your Home" workshop was held.

## **December 1985**

Final plans for application to the state legislature for the amount of \$35,000 for replacing the roof, upgrading the security and fire protection of the Museum and landscaping were completed. Senator Edward Holland and Delegate James Almand will act as sponsors in the Senate and House of Delegates. Delegates Mary Marshall and Warren Stambaugh will serve as co-sponsors.

Members of the Society were urged to contribute to a Capital Improvements Fund. The annual Christmas open house and bonfire were held.

## **January 1986**

A show and tell program featured nine presentations.

## **February 1986**

The Board put a number of activities in motion for spring/summer activities. It was reported that the grant proposal had been well received in Richmond.

## **March 1986**

The Society took its regular meeting into the Cherrydale community for a slide presentation about Cherrydale by Museum curator Kathy Holt.

## **April 1986**

It was reported that the Society had received two grants — \$35,000 from the State of Virginia and \$12,000 from Arlington County for capital improvements. Any changes in the structure or appearance of the Museum will have to be approved by the HALRB.

The annual banquet was held April 30 in Fort Myer Officers' Club. Guests of honor included the Arlington delegation to the state legislature and members of the County Board.

## **May 1986**

New officers and Board members were elected: President — Catherine Saulmon; First Vice President — John Vihstadt; Second Vice President — Sterling Springston; Recording Secretary — June Robinson; Corresponding Secretary — Dorothea Abbott; Newsletter Secretary — Linda Warden; Treasurer — Greg Bayens; and Directors — Joan Young, Herselle Milliken, Phyllis Johnson, Norman Novak, Ruth Duvall and James Huddleston. The Society approved two amendments to its Constitution and By Laws.

The program featured a presentation by Phyllis Johnson, aided by Catherine Saulmon, who told of the research involved in the book just published by the National Genealogical Society, *Graveyards of Arlington County, Virginia*.