

Annual Report of the Arlington County Museum

MARK BENBOW, DIRECTOR

The director of the Arlington Historical Museum (the Hume School), Dr. Mark Benbow, was very active in 2014-2015, setting up new exhibits, refreshing the existing displays, acquiring new artifacts, and working on improving the museum grounds.

Benbow set up several new exhibits, at the Hume School and elsewhere.

- “Local Civil War Forts” Arlington Public Library, Aurora Hills Branch, June-August 2015.
- “The Ball Sellers House” Arlington Public Library, Main Branch. March 2015-ongoing.
- “The African-American Community of Arlington” Arlington Historical Museum. (permanent exhibit)
- “Arlington’s Cherry Smash” ” Arlington Historical Museum. (permanent exhibit)
- “Floating, Flying and Racing: Toy Vehicles, 1920-1970” Arlington Historical Museum. December 2014-January 2015.

Other gifts and acquisitions include:

The family of a former Hume School student, Suzanne Johnson Willard Greer, donated a lovely wooden bench in her memory. It was dedicated in a ceremony held behind the Hume School in August, 2015. The family also made a generous donation to establish a grounds keeping fund to maintain the Hume School grounds.

Multiple Cherry Smash items, including a lighted sign, bottles, a fan, bottle topper, and crowns from Ciro Taddeo.

Multiple artifacts from the USS Arlington UGMR-2 from Bill Dickenson including a yearbook, a plank from the ship, and a beautiful model of the vessel. Artifacts from the USS Arlington LPD-24 from John Richardson.

Civil War artifacts dug on the site of Fort Richardson were acquired on eBay, as well as a photo of local resident and baseball star George McQuinn, as well as the following items.

A WEAM radio playlist from 1969.

NASA mission patches for Colonel Frederick Gregory (USAF-RET) a local resident and relative of Dr. Charles Drew.

From an anonymous donor, two cross-stitch Civil War soldiers from the

Centennial (1961-1965) stitched by the donor's mother. The same donor also gave the society some other items including some county tax stickers from the US Bicentennial in 1976.

A large map of Arlington County (circa 1949) from Arlington residents Bill and Rae Philips

Dr. Kevin Straight donated several items for the new African-American exhibit including a Roberta Flack album and a NASA patch from Dr. Gregory.

If a donor's name has been inadvertently omitted from this list, please notify the Arlington Historical Society, P.O. Box 100402, Arlington, VA 22210-3402. The Society apologizes for any such error.
