

muse news

THE NEWSLETTER of the LYNCHBURG MUSEUM SYSTEM

Old Court House Receives State Preservation Award

ast December, Mary Jane Russell, the City's Director of Economic Development and project manager for the Old Court House restoration, submitted an award nomination to APVA Preservation Virginia. Tom Ledford and Doug Harvey attended the ceremony in Richmond on January 31, 2006 to receive the award on behalf of the City.

Presenting the award was Lynchburg's own L. Preston Bryant, former member of the House of Delegates and now Secretary of Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Virginia.

Presentation Remarks by L. Preston Bryant, St. Paul's Church, Richmond, January 31, 2006

"This year, the awards committee determined five nominees worthy of receiving the Gabriella Page Historic Preservation Award. Each year these awards are presented for outstanding preservation efforts on the part of businesses or civic organizations, individuals, or governmental agencies. The awards honor the memory of Gabriella Page, who served as President of The Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA) from 1944 to 1947.

The first recipient of one of this year's Gabriella Page awards is the Lynchburg Court House Museum. Long recognized as Lynchburg's best known building, the 1855 Greek Revival courthouse was originally constructed for approximately \$22,000. In 1976, the Lynchburg City Council approved the establishment of the Lynchburg Museum System within the Court House building. The renovation was opened to the public in 1980.

In July of 2000, cracks appeared in the ceiling of the second floor gallery. The cracks gave way to the collapse of the ceiling and supporting structural members. A historic structure report was compiled for the entire building and it indicated extensive damage including the separation of the exterior wall from joist ends, structural trusses violated by ductwork and conduit, water infiltration through basement walls, portico columns out of plumb, exterior steps that had settled and were no longer watertight and extensive deterioration of the cupola and bell tower which warranted immediate removal.

The Lynchburg City Council supported the renovation of the building

Industrial Development Authority as the general partner and City staff as the manager. State Historic Tax Credits and Enterprise Zone Real Property Improvement Grants were used to supplement the funding available from the City. Work was carried out in 2004/2005.

In August, 2005 Thomas Ledford, Lynchburg's first museum system administrator retired from the City after seeing the 1855 Court House restored to its original splendor. APVA Preservation Virginia is pleased to present the Lynchburg Court House Museum with a Gabriella Page award. Accepting the award is Tom Ledford and Doug Harvey, the new Museum Director for the



This mahogany veneer wardrobe was made by Sampson Diuguid in Lynchburg ca 1830.

Lynchburg Cabinetmaker Featured in Journal

hris Kolbe of the Library of Virginia staff has written an article for the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA) Journal on local cabinetmaker Sampson Diuguid. Born in Buckingham County in 1795, Duiguid was in business in Lynchburg by 1818 as a partner in Winston and Diuguid, cabinetmakers, upholsterers, and undertakers. He continued to make furniture in Lynchburg until at least 1850. After 1850, his sons founded the well-known Diuguid Funeral Services, one of the oldest funeral homes still operating in the nation. In February, MESDA staff photographed a wardrobe attributed to Diuguid in the Museum's collection, a book case still owned by Diuguid's Funeral Home, and several other pieces in private hands for the upcoming article. The Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts is located in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Lynchburg Museum System Events for 2006

All events take place at Point of Honor, 112 Cabell Street (434) 847-1459

APRIL 8: Eggstravaganza

Help Kid's Haven by bringing your Easter basket and joining us for an Easter Egg Hunt at Point of Honor. Children 3 years and younger will hunt for eggs at 11:30 a.m. Children 4–5 years old will begin at 11:45. Grades K–2 at 12:15 and grades 3–5 at 12:40. Other activities include barnyard critters, face painting, cookie art, and Easter games. Cost is \$5.00 per child, adults are free. Lunch will be available. Event information: Molly Jenkins, Kid's Haven 845.4072



APRIL 25: Garden Day

Celebrate the Garden Club of Virginia's 73rd year of Historic Garden Week by stopping by Point of Honor, one of the Garden Club's Historic Restoration projects. Join us for open-hearth cooking demonstrations and a tour of the Cabell home elegantly furnished with Federal Period antiques and special flower arrangements. 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

JUNE 4: Picnic on the Lawn

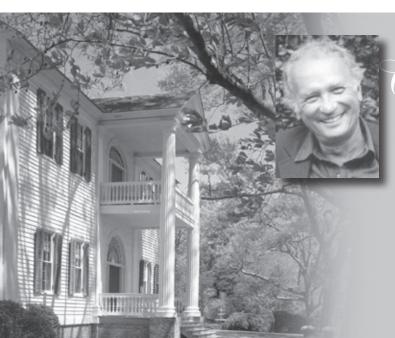
Grab your lawn chairs for an evening of live Dixieland jazz music performed on the front lawn of the historic Cabell home by the James River Jazzband. Food and beverages will be available and kids are welcome. 5 p.m.–4 p.m.

OCTOBER 14: Day at the Point

Visit the historic treasure in your own backyard—Point of Honor. The event has something for all ages including guided tours of the Cabell home, living history, games and activities, pony rides, openhearth cooking demonstrations, music, and much more! 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

DECEMBER 3: Christmas Open House

Start the holiday season at Point of Honor with the Christmas traditions and music of the early 19th century by Riddle on the Harp. Guided tours of the first floor will enlighten your holiday spirit as openhearth cooking demonstrations warm your palate. Then join us in the Carriage House for period recipe cookies, apple cider, and the company of neighbors and friends. Noon–4 p.m.



Point of Honor presents the Spring Rollector's Circle

LUNCHEON

featuring William Nathaniel Banks, Jr.

Thursday, April 27, 2006 • 11:00 a.m.

Bertha Webster Green Carriage House

\$35 Collector's Circle Members • \$50 Non-members

All except \$15 is tax-deductible.

Make checks payable to: The Collector's Circle, P.O. Box 3132, Lynchburg, VA 24503

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see and hear Mr. Banks' spellbinding account of his two beloved houses, Bankshaven in Newnan, GA and House on the Green in Temple, New Hampshire, their magnificent gardens and unsurpassed collections of furniture and art.

Seating is limited. Reserve now!

SOLICITATIONS

Lynchburg Museum Foundation Annual Solicitation Mr. Lamar Cecil*

\$1,000 AND OVER

Dr. & Mrs. Robert D. Gardner Mr. Albert S. Kemper, III

\$500-\$999

Mr. & Mrs. Henry H. Dennis

\$100-\$499

Mrs. Mary Morris Booth Col. & Dr. William L. Burnham (Ret.)

Mr. & Mrs. Herman Calhoun Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Carrington III

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Christian Mr. & Mrs. C. Lynch Christian, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. C. L. Christian III

Ms. Lynn L. Dodge

Dr. & Mrs. Kiah Ford

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Giles

Mr. & Mrs. Carter Glass IV

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas K. Harvey

Mr. Arthur S. Heald

Mr. & Mrs. George Hurt

Mr. Hugh M. Jones, III

Ms. Mary Diane Kizer

Mrs. Virginia Lloyd

Mr. & Mrs. William E.

McBratney, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Merchant Hon. & Mrs. Norman K. Moon

Mrs. Ellen Nygaard

Dr. & Mrs. William E. Painter

Mr. Donald G. Pendleton

Mrs. Florence Perrow

Mr. & Mrs. R. G. Porter

Mr. Phillip Wayne Rhodes

Mr. & Mrs. Elliot S. Schewel

Mrs. Helene P. Schewel

Mr. Marc Schewel

MMrs. Martha C. Seufer

Mr. & Mrs. George M. Snead, Jr.

Dr. & Mrs. Eric J. Sorenson

Dr. & Mrs. James K. Swisher

Mr. & Mrs. D. L. Taylor III

Mr. & Mrs. Kent VanAllen

Mrs. Jane B. White

Mr. Samuel H. Williams, Jr.

Mr.& Mrs. Robert J. Williamson

\$1-\$99

Dr. & Mrs. Lewis A. Arthur Mr. & Mrs. R. H. Beauchamp Mr. & Mrs. Alex Bell Mr. William E. Betts, Jr. Mr. Burckhard K. Blob

Dr. & Mrs. Stuart W. Brust Campbell Insurance Company

Mr. George G. Costas

Mr. E. Allen Culverhouse

Mr. & Mrs. John Vincent Desmond

Mr. & Mrs. George Dooley

Mr. Charles Driscoll

Mr. & Mrs. William M. Dudley

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Fielding

Dr. & Mrs. Parham R. Fox

Mrs. Carter Glass, IIIr

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Glenn

Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Godsey

Mrs. Harold Goode

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Guggenheimer

Dr. & Mrs. John Halpin

Mr. Walter Holland

Dr. & Mrs. Harvey D. Huiner

Mr. & Mrs. William E. Hunt, Jr.

Ms. Karol Lawson

Mrs. Henry F. Miller III

Dr. & Mrs. Richard C. Morris

Hon. & Mrs. Layburn Mosby

Mr. Terrell Moseley

Mr. & Mrs. David T. Petty

Dr. & Mrs. J. T. Pond

Mr. & Mrs. Gareth Quale

Mr. & Mrs. William F. Quillian, Jr.

Mrs. Ann Reams

Mr. & Mrs. John F. Richards

Mrs. Lois C. Sale

Mr. & Mrs. David R. Scalf

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph M. Seiffert

Mr. W. Scott Smith

Ms. Martha R. Stimpson

Ms. Margaret S. Thomasson

Mary Norvelle Hodges Thomson

Point of Honor Annual Solicitation

\$1,000 AND OVER

Mrs. Leigh Giles*+ Imperial Charitable Trust* McKinnon & Harris, Inc. Mr. & Mrs. John Mullin Mrs. Margaret P. Nuttle*

\$500-\$999

Anonymous* Mrs. Kathleen H. Halpin* Dr. & Mrs. Stuart H. Harris* Drs. Robert & Stephanie Sullivan*

\$100-\$499

Mr. & Mrs. Lee Ainslie Carol E. Anderson* Annie Harris Marie Apperson* Mrs. Mary Morris Booth Mrs. Susan A. Carrington Mr. & Mrs. Richard Carrington Mrs. Shirley C. Caskie

Mr. Archer H. Christian* Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Christian Joy R. Christian* Mrs. Melanie Christian* Mrs. Sandra W. Crowther* Mrs. Katherine G. Davidson Mrs. Elizabeth Dudley Dr. & Mrs. Parham R. Fox Dr. & Mrs. John J. Halpin Mr. & Mrs. R. Bryant Hare III Mr. & Mrs. Douglas K. Harvey Mr. & Mrs. Albert S. Kemper Dr. & Mrs. Christopher King Mrs. Catherine Lynn Mr. William N. Mays Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Merchant Mr. & Mrs. Elliot S. Schewel Dr. & Mrs. Eric Sorenson Mrs. Margaret F. Teague Mrs. Persis O. Thomson Mr. Samuel H. Williams, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Robin Wood

\$1-\$99

Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Agnew, Jr. Mrs. Laura B. Anthony Capt. Robert C. Berkley Dr. James E. Blackburn, II Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Carrington Mr. & Mrs. James F. Daly Mr. & Mrs. William Davis Ms. Lynn L. Dodge Mr. J. Easley Edmunds, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. W. Calvin Falwell Mrs. Helen C. Feagans Dr. & Mrs. Robert D. Gardner Mrs. Ruth Scott Glass Mrs. Anne F. Henderson Mrs. Katherine S. Hobbs Mr. & Mrs. Edwin B. Horner, Jr. Mrs. Elizabeth Hoskins Mr. Hugh J. M. Jones, III Dr. James L. Lynde Mrs. S. Thomas Martin Mr. & Mrs. Charles O. Moser, Sr. Dr. & Mrs. Richard A. Niles Mr. & Mrs. David T. Petty, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Bill Pugh Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Rosser Mr. & Mrs. Charles H. Sackett Mrs. Lois C. Sale Mrs. Martha R. Stimpson Mr. & Mrs. Paul Whitehead, Jr. Mrs. Marie H. Yochim

*Gift for Collections +50% to Annual Fund & 50% to Collections to the Museum System

All solitication as of March 2006.

From the Chairman's Desk

rom the top of the steps in the front of the Old Court House, I peered down Monument Terrace to the James River, enjoying an absolutely spectacular view. Making an about face, I entered the Court House to find an equally impressive sight in the Court House's renovated interior. It has a fresh new look complete with closed circuit TV monitors, climate control, and fire safety installations. All are getting fine-tuned for the re-opening of the Lynchburg Museum.

At a March 9th meeting of the Lynchburg Museum Advisory Board and staff, City Manager Kimball Payne and City Project Manager Mary Jane Russell announced the final touches to the building which will make way for the staff to move back in. The target date for the move is in early April.

Meanwhile, the staff is working on plans for new exhibits which will be developed by top museum designers.Professional exhibits don't come cheaply. Tax credits generated by the restoration have provided \$360,000 to pay for the first area of exhibits, but beyond that the staff projects another \$600,000 is needed for planned future displays. We have a wealth of artifacts with which to illustrate Lynchburg's wonderful history, but the important casework, photographic enlargements, and media programs come at a high price. The Board plans to roll up its sleeves for that, too and we will be asking for your

—ROBERT D. GARDNER, M.D. ADVISORY BOARD CHAIRMAN

Museum System Plans

y the time you read this newsletter, we will have relocated the offices back to the Old Court House and are planning the new exhibits in the galleries. While the exact schedule is still being worked out, we hope to have the exhibits designed, built, and installed by late in 2006. We will also be working with The PRD Group of Fairfax, Virginia on a study to look at alternatives for the future of the Museum System. Collections storage, added exhibit space, school and group programs, traveling exhibits, potential partnerships, and tourism are some of the aspects to be studied. Opportunities for public comment and participation will be made part of the planning process.

Point of Honor and Bragassas's Toy Store will continue to operate seven days per week with hours of 10-4 every day except Sunday, which will be open 12-4.

Once we get closer to setting up the Old Court House exhibits, we will close Bragassa's and return it to our generous friends and colleagues at the Lynchburg Historical Foundation who have housed us during the Court House restoration.

Point of Honor News

he foyer and stairwell painting was completed in early March by local artist Sonny Harlow. Homes of this era often had wallpaper or painting that mimicked ashlar (rough-hewn stone) and Sonny did a magnificent job of hand painting this pattern. Other historic homes where this technique was used include the White House of the Confederacy in Richmond and Boscobel, across the Hudson River from West Point, New York.

A lecture featuring William N. Banks will be held at Point of Honor on April 27. Mr. Banks is a regular contributor to *Antiques* magazine and will discuss historic Neo-Classical houses designed and built by Daniel Pratt. Seating is limited. *See interior advertisement for details.*

Volunteer Recognition

he Museum volunteers, led by President Dabney Jackson, had their annual luncheon on March 21, 2006 at Winton Country Club. The following volunteers retired at the end of 2005 and received awards for their hours of service: Louise Adkinson, Anna Elcan, Eleanor McNamara, Peck Merchant, Laura Munson, Ann Turner, Dave Wallace, Jean Wallace, and Virginia Weber. This generous group volunteered a total of 16,895 hours over the years and using the Federal standard for volunteer service, contributed a dollar value of \$338,228 in hours of service to the Museum System. Thanks to all of our volunteers for a job well done!

THE MUSEUM NEEDS A CHILLY ONE: CAN YOU HELP?

If you have a chest freezer taking up space, please consider giving it to the Museum. Ideally, we are looking for a chest freezer that is not a frost-free type. Greg will be using the freezer to irradiate insects from objects and needs a freezer that does not cycle above 32 degrees. Any size will do, but the bigger the better since some objects will have to be fully immersed for a period of two weeks. Feel free to contact Greg should you have a candidate or a question: 847.1459 or e-mail: Greg. Krueger@lynchburgva.gov



Box 529 · Lynchburg, VA 24505



The people of Lynchburg have been generous with gifts of artifacts since the Museum System's beginnings. We hold about 20,000 individual items of all types, with each artifact having a link to the history of Lynchburg and Central Virginia. If you have items that you think are museum-worthy, please contact Curator Greg Krueger at 434-847-1459 or at G.Krueger@lynchburgva.gov.

the muse news

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Museum Advisory Board: Dr. Robert D. Gardner, Chairman; Darlene B. Barrett; Col. William L. Burnham (Ret.); Laura Crumbley; Lynn Dodge (Ex-Officio); Eleanor T. Dovel; Dabney Jackson, (Volunteer); Laura Munson; W. Randolph Nexsen; Marc A. Schewel; W. Scott Smith; Jewell E. Stooker; Elaine Watson; Jenny L. West

Museum Staff: Doug Harvey, Museum Director; Greg Krueger, Curator; Ann Scalf, Office Manager