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ABERDEEN MUSEUM REVIEW

Volume I, No. 3 December 1, 2002

OUR NEWSLETTER ~ A link to the past and present. ~

IMPORTANT EVENTS

WILL BE REMEMBERED

It has been a very busy late summer and fall in Aberdeen this year with many important events taking place in the City. As always the museum gives these events top priority when it comes to saving memorabilia. Donations of programs and souvenirs are constantly coming in to remind us of important happenings in the future. It's amazing how often they are referred to when names and dates are forgotten.

From the City of Aberdeen has come a brick from the Ripken Stadium with a commemorative brass plaque that will constantly remind visitors of the Year 2002 when this facility became such a big part of the Aberdeen and Harford Community. There was also a donation of 2 Ripken Stadium banners from the inaugural season.

Judy Hinch remembered the Aberdeen Room with a copy of the program of the September 11, 2001 Memorial held at the Ripken stadium on September 11, 2002. She also brought a commemorative pin from that event "Harford Remembers Sept. 11."

Howard King brought a program from the ceremony held at Perry Point commemorating the same tragic event of September of 2001. He also keeps the brochure rack at the museum well supplied with timetables, maps and information about interesting places to visit in, and within easy traveling distance of, Harford County.

Reminders of events from many years ago continue to stream into the Aberdeen Room. Copies of minutes from Aberdeen Commissioners' meetings from the 1950's were brought in by the Historical Society of Harford County.

Jean Gamble donated a list of area baseball players from August 17, 1936. Names included: Fred Baldwin, Eldon Budnick, Nelson Bell, Tom Jones, Paul Cronin, G. W. Fisher, Victor Bell, William Michael, Nick Carter, Claude Brown, M. Whiteford, John Mitchell, Neville Mitchell. Evidently all held shares paying \$14.30 in total for the two games played that weekend.

Janice Tucker Culison donated a photo of the Aberdeen Athletic Association.

Anne and Harry Webster came in bearing a "Stop" sign from the Pennsylvania Railroad that was kept beside the historic watchbox in the 1930's and 1940's. It has been installed as a permanent part of the railroad display in the museum.

Aberdeen High School events of the past are constantly remembered through donations. Amelia Kunasek found a program (complete with autographs) from a Senior Class play from May of 1936. "Lucky Winner" was held at St. Joan of Arc Hall, with actors Elizabeth Storath, Olive Mae Aaronson, Edna Osborn, Pauline Ford, George Hipkins, Calvin Hartung, Ray Burcham, Anna Jacobs, Dorothy Brown, Clarence Pusey, Lynn Tanner, Clark Connellee and Prompter Edna Mae Sutcliffe.

The Class of 1949 of Aberdeen High is now remembered at the Aberdeen Room with a 50th Reunion cup.

Ron Landbeck brought in a political button bearing the name of George Englesson that was placed with other local political memorabilia on display.

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"See You On The Boulevard In Aberdeen"

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IMPORTANT EVENTS

David Kitzmiller brought in a pair of navy blue Bata tennis shoes. Remember the very active Bata factory community, and the many jobs it provided?

Clarissa Morris Fox contributed a "First Days" publication, commemorating the early days of Aberdeen Proving Ground. She also included a clipping from the tragic fire and explosion in Aberdeen, January of 1976.

Marjory Gebhart brought in a framed photo of Vernon Stevens Wilkinson, M.D.

Mary Lynne Livezey donated a mid-1850's photo of the Courtney home.

CANNING INDUSTRY DISPLAY

ATTRACTS ATTENTION

The historic display of the canning industry in one of the front windows of the Aberdeen Room attracts interested attention. Bernard Bodt, who has done a canning display at the Historical Society of Harford County, has made visits to the Aberdeen Room recently and donated lists of canners and brokers from 1911 and 1918, and a letter to W. Bayless from Baker and Morgan.

Bodt also donated 2 posters from C. B. Osborn Canning that were evidently used during the 1930's. "Our Goods Packed Under NRA and AAA. We Do Our Part." We remember that NRA meant the National Recovery Act, as a means of recovery from the depression years.

NEW DISPLAY WINDOW

ON WEST BEL AIR AVENUE

Not only does the Aberdeen Room Archives and Museum have displays in the 2 windows of the museum, and the display case at City Hall, but it has reached out to a downtown store window provided by Linda & Bob Lemmon, at 124 West Bel Air Avenue. The window honors the past and present Senior Center and displays the replica of the present facility, as well as a painting by Doug Gregg of the former senior center in the old USO Building, construction photos, and the decorative sign that was used there for years.

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E-MAILS COME IN DAILY

E-mails come in daily. Some with questions about hunting lodges on Aberdeen Proving Ground (this used to be prime duck hunting season hereabouts, and national figures would come by train to Aberdeen to do some "gunning"). We also helped Ned Preston with a question about local airports for a book he is writing about Maryland airports. Even the German soldier who visited in the summer found his visit listed in the "Aberdeen Museum Review" that appears at the Aberdeen Room web-site ().

ABERDEEN ROOM VOLUNTEER

ADDRESSES LOCAL CHAMBER

On November 19, 2002, Jim Lindsey was the speaker at the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce's monthly luncheon meeting. The subject was the Business History of Aberdeen. The talk went over Aberdeen's beginning and its strong Travel, Hospitality and Transportation industry that has existed from the beginning, the rise and fall of the Canning industry and the importance of APG and Homeland Defense in the growth of the community.

CURATOR TO SPEAK AT CITY HALL

Aberdeen Room Curator Charlotte Cronin is scheduled to speak on Thursday January 23, 2003, on the History of Aberdeen. The Historical Lecture Series is sponsored by the Aberdeen Historical Trust. The lecture is from 7 to 8 p.m. at Aberdeen City Hall's Council Chamber Room. Admission will be free of charge and light refreshments will be available.

VOLUNTEERS MEET

On Tuesday October 15th, 2002 the Aberdeen Room volunteers held their semiannual meeting. Among the items discussed were the goals set for the last half year and their status. Also goals and objectives were set for completion in the next six months. Pictured below are those attending.



Pictured left to right, front row: Mary Lynne Livezey, Genevieve Brubaker, Mary Lee Plummer, Ruth Duguid; Left to right back row: Lilma J. Huntley, Jim Lindsey,

Charles W. Baker, Romaine Morris, Charlotte G. Cronin and Anna Duguid.



Pictured left to right, Charlotte G. Cronin, William R. Cronin, Mary Lynne Livezey, Genevieve Brubaker, and Mary Lee Plummer.

Those not pictured included: George H. Baker, Paul Chesla, Trudy DeForest, Ann M. Kelly, Robert Manning and City of Aberdeen Liaison, Gina Bantam.

HOLIDAY TIME IN ABERDEEN

The sprit of the holidays is renewed with the return of cool weather. We remember the holidays of our youth and the excitement has been growing since we celebrated Halloween and Thanksgiving.

I am sure you can all remember choosing your first pumpkin to carve for the lighted Jack-o-lantern and the thrills of trick-or-treat with costumes and masks. Thanksgiving with its parades, football games and the special dinner with family and friends, prepared to reflect the bounty of the harvest and traditional dishes. As in the times of its inception, this year we have had great hardships to deal with and have survived them. We do have a lot to be Thankful for in the USA.

Now the volunteers at the Aberdeen Room await the arrival of Santa Claus on Christmas Street Day in Aberdeen on Saturday December 7th, 2002. The Aberdeen Room Museum will be having their annual open house and tour from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. There will be activities for children of all ages, music throughout the day, refreshments and door prizes.

Children from 1 to 92 will be waiting to have breakfast with Santa at the Grace Methodist Church Hall from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. I am told that Santa lives at the North Pole, but his Mail Box is in front of the Post Office in Aberdeen. So get your letters in early, to give the Elves time to make your gifts for family and friends.

It will be fun to check out the windows in the storefronts of downtown that will have been decorated for the annual window decorating contest with the theme "Christmas USA." The contest winners will be announced at the tree lighting ceremony at the close of the day.

There will be a Christmas Craft Fair and sale at the Fire Hall on Rogers Street from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Ripken Museum will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for tours.

I can hardly wait to watch the Parade at 3 p.m. and see the lighting of the Aberdeen community Christmas Tree. Come downtown and join us in all the fun and have a great Christmas season.

Please also remember that Christmas is a time for giving and remember those of the community that are less fortunate and attend to them and their needs this Christmas season.

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