

# Herndon Historical Society News

January 2013

Wednesday, January 23, 7:30 p.m.

## A Trip Back in Time: A History of the Herndon Historical Society

Our speaker for the January meeting is our own Richard Downer, one of the Society's charter members. As Richard takes us back to our early days, newer members will learn about how and why the Society was founded and some of the accomplishments it has made along the way, and long-time members will take a trip down memory lane. Bring your questions and your memories and join us for this fun and informative program.

Sunday, March 17, 2013

## History to Repeat Itself—Again!

Downtown Herndon will be the place to be on Saint Patrick's Day, when Mosby's Raid on Herndon Station will take place once again. The original skirmish took place on this date in 1863, when Mosby and 40 of his rangers surprised and captured 25 members of the 1st Vermont Cavalry, including Major William Wells and three of his fellow officers. The Depot will be open from 10:00–3:00, and reenactments will take place at 11:00 and 2:00. This is the fourth time the event has been staged. The last was held 10 years ago, in 2003.

Now at the American Art Museum

## The Civil War in American Art

By Chuck Mauro

This exhibit features 75 pieces of transporting art focusing on the Civil War—transporting us back in time to experience a multitude of aspects about the war.

The exhibit illustrates a broad range of aspects about the war: soldiers, carnage, society, slavery, fear, and hope. There are two mediums used, beginning with landscape paintings signaling the oncoming storm, scenes during the war, and reflections on the storm after its passing. The exhibit balances these idealized interpretations with photography that shows the grim reality of the affair.

The artists are among the most famous of their time—painters Winslow Homer, Frederick Edwin Church, and Albert Bierstadt and photographers Alexander Gardner, Timothy O'Sullivan, and George Barnard. Many others also are represented, each bringing their own unique perspectives.

The pictures include *Our Banner in the Sky*. Painted by Frederick Edwin Church in 1861, it portended the oncoming conflict. Paint-

## It's Time to Pay Dues

Unless you are a life member it's time to pay your annual dues. The new rates are:

*Regular Member:* \$15

*Contributing Member:* \$25

*Business Member:* \$50

*Life Member:* \$150 (

Please send your check, payable to Herndon Historical Society, to P.O. Box 99, Herndon, VA 20172.

## Elections To Be Held This Month

The annual election of officers for the 2013 year will be held this month, and results will be announced at our meeting on the 23rd. Watch for your ballot, which will be coming soon. If you have questions please contact Nominating Committee co-chair Richard Downer at [rfdowner@gmail.com](mailto:rfdowner@gmail.com).

## Art. From column 1.

ings by Winslow Homer include *Home Sweet Home*, showing two Union soldiers listening to the song of the same name that commanders wanted banned as it was thought to promote desertion. *Prisoners from the Front* shows the disdain of captured Confederate soldiers at the end of the war. And, while many of us are familiar with the painting, *Submarine Torpedo Boat H. L. Hunley*, by Conrad Wise Chapman, how many have ever seen the original?

There are a number of vintage photographic prints from Antietam by Alexander Gardner, including *Confederate Dead*, *Antietam*, with the Dunker Church in the background, and *Home of a Rebel Sharpshooter*; *Gettysburg*. Post-war prints include *Ruins in Charleston, South Carolina*, and *Ruins in Columbia, South Carolina*, by George N. Barnard, both from 1865. All bring visceral reality to the viewer.

This exhibit is a must see. *The Civil War and American Art* is on display at the

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**Minutes of the Herndon Historical Society Meeting**  
**Wednesday, 26 September 2012**  
**Herndon Depot, Herndon, Virginia**

Carol Bruce, President, called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. There were 13 people in attendance including Eric Buckland, the speaker for the evening.

**I. Approval of Minutes from the May 2012 Meeting.** Minutes approved unanimously on a motion made by Richard Downer, with a second by Chuck Mauro.

**II. Treasurer's Report.** Richard Downer presented the treasurer's report. As of this date, there was a balance of \$3,390.68 in the Society's checking/savings account and \$5,414.86 in the Northern Virginia Community Foundation HHS Fund. (Complete Treasurer's Report available upon request.)

**III. Old Business. Membership Dues.** Carol Bruce noted that the proposed dues increase was discussed at the May meeting and advertised in the newsletter. Effective January 1, 2013, regular membership will go from \$10 to \$15, contributing membership from \$15 to \$25, business membership from \$25 to \$50, and life membership from \$100 to \$150. Richard Downer said that this would be the first increase since the dues structure was established in 1971. He also explained that anyone who has paid their dues for the year and who wants to convert to a life membership before the end of the year will have the dues payment credited to the cost of the life membership. The motion to increase the dues, which was made by Barbara Glakas and seconded by Chuck Mauro, passed unanimously.

*January Election of Officers.* Carol said that the offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary (all one-year terms) will be voted on in January. The Treasurer serves a three-year term, and Richard has one year remaining on his current term. Board members serve three-year terms and all three Board members have two years remaining on their terms. Carol encouraged anyone interested in having his or her name on the ballot to contact a member of the nominating committee, either Richard Downer or Virginia Clarity.

*E-newsletter.* Carol reminded the group that, as of January 2013, the Society newsletter will be distributed via e-mail. Anyone who wants to continue receiving it by U.S. mail needs to let Carol know.

*Other.* Richard told the group that he had asked Grayson Hanes to help with the paperwork for the Society's 501(c)3 application and is waiting to hear from him. In the meantime, the Society can continue to make use of the Northern Virginia Community Foundation's nonprofit status.

**IV. New Business.** Richard suggested that links to the Patch articles be included in the e-newsletter.

**V. Announcements.** Carol informed the group that there had been a good deal of traffic through the museum and the caboose on Grandparents Day, Sunday, September 9. She said that Charlie Waddell, who staffed the caboose with Steve Sensabaugh, estimated that some 400 people had been through the train car.

Carol said she would be sending out a call for volunteers to staff the depot on Sundays in November and December soon. She said there will be a need for additional help on Saturday and Sunday, December 8 and 9, during the annual model train show. Saturday hours will be

**Herndon Historical Society**  
**Post Office Box 99**  
**Herndon, VA 20172**

[www.herndonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.herndonhistoricalsociety.org)

**Officers**

**Carol Bruce, *President***

carolbrcom@aol.com

703-437-7289

**Virginia Clarity, *Vice President***

**Richard Downer, *Treasurer***

**Charlie Waddell, *Secretary***

**Board of Directors**

**Margaret Cyrus**

**Harlon Reece**

**Steve Sensabaugh**

**Art. From page 1.**

American Art Museum, located at 8th and F Streets, NW, next to the Gallery Place/Chinatown metro stop on the Red, Yellow, and Green lines. It runs until April 28, 2013. For more information go to <http://americanart.si.edu/>

**Minutes. From column 1.**

10:00-5:00, with shifts from 10:00-1:30 and 1:30-5:00. Sunday hours will be 11:00-4:00, with shifts from 11:00-1:30 and 1:30-4:00. Richard noted that the train show will be in the Herndon Municipal Center lobby this year instead of at ArtSpace, so there will be a natural traffic flow from the depot to the caboose to the HMC.

Richard reported that the Mosby's Raid reenactment is still a go for March 17, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 on a motion by Barbara Glakas. The motion was seconded by Beverly Harris with a unanimous vote, after which the Society enjoyed a program by Eric Buckland.

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