The Muse News
Published as the newsletter of the Lynchburg Museum System
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Calendar of Events

Lynchburg Museum System Events

September 3
Labor Day
Museum and Point of Honor FREE to visitors
10 am–4 pm

September 11
Free For Members Only:
Curator’s Tour of American Turning Point: Surviving War
Greg Krueger will lead a tour of the new exhibit beginning at 5:30, followed by discussion and light refreshments. RSVP to Whitney Roberts at (434) 455-4420 or whitney.roberts@lynchburgva.gov.

October 6
Day at the Point
Point of Honor will host the 15th Annual Day at the Point. This fall festival brings together living history, food, kid’s games and crafts, period music, a full-size batteau, Gift Shop sale, and more each year. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. FREE

November 11
Veteran’s Day
Museum and Point of Honor FREE to visitors Noon–4 pm

December 2
Christmas Open House at Point of Honor
Point of Honor, one of Lynchburg’s architectural jewels, will host its 30th Annual Open House. Decorated for Christmas in 1815, the home will feature native greens, yule log, and customs of the day. Join us for period music, refreshments, and a special sale in our Gift Shop. Noon–4 p.m. FREE

The Museum and Point of Honor are closed only on New Year’s Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. Open hours are 10 am to 4 pm Monday—Saturday and noon to 4 pm Sunday. Call (434) 455-6226 for more information

Contact the Museum Educator for group tours and special programs:
(434) 455-4424 or rachel.deddens@lynchburgva.gov

Visit us at www.lynchburgmuseum.org and www.pointofhonor.org or on Facebook.
New Civil War Exhibit Opens: Surviving War: American Turning Point

When the Lynchburg Museum signed up to host the Commonwealth of Virginia’s Sesquicentennial of the Civil War exhibit, the staff knew it was going to be a major project for a museum our size. What we didn't know was that a damaging windstorm known as a derecho would hit just hours after the exhibit was unloaded into the museum.

American Turning Point was funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and private donors at a cost of approximately $2 million. Exhibited at the Virginia Historical Society in 2011, the exhibit was then divided into two parts, Surviving War and Waging War. These are being loaned at no cost to seven Virginia museums who meet stringent professional standards.

Each half of the exhibit is shipped in two 53 foot long trailers with custom crates for each item. At the end of the day on Friday, June 29th, everyone went home tired and hot after hours of unloading. When the storm hit that night, museum staff members were concerned about their homes and families but the Museum and Point of Honor were also on the worry list. Thankfully, there was only minor tree damage at Point of Honor. At the Museum, partial power remained on, which meant lights and security systems worked, but not the elevator or air conditioning. With the opening deadline looming, staff worked in 90+ degree heat for the next several days.

While everyone may have lost a few pounds during this eventful period, the preview on July 20th and opening on July 21st came off on schedule. Surviving War remains on display through November 18th. Among the artifacts are a pike John Brown brought to arm slaves for his planned uprising at Harper’s Ferry in 1859, playing cards owned by John Wilkes Booth, a door mat owned by General and Mrs. Robert E. Lee at Arlington House, and much more. There are also a number of state of the art interactive displays and media programs that are geared towards young people.

The second half, Waging War, will be on display from January 12th through May 5th, 2013. Special thanks are due Curator Greg Krueger, Educator Rachel Deddens, Old Dominion University intern Joe Smith, and contractor John Welsh for their diligence and hard work installing the exhibit under such adverse conditions.

Doug Harvey, Museum Director
Lynchburg Monuments in Distress

As this summer began, four of the city’s signature monuments and statues were in trouble. Last winter someone broke the Water Bearer into pieces. The statue had stood in the center of the former Clay Street Reservoir since 1884 as the city’s oldest public artwork. The Jubal Early obelisk at the intersection of Fort and Memorial Avenues was struck by a car last year and knocked off its base—the second time in recent years. The City is in the process of resetting the monument further from the highway.

In the spring, the Museum received word that the bayonet from the World War I statue at the base of Monument Terrace, The Listening Post, aka The Doughboy, was broken and on the sidewalk. Artist Ken Faraoni reattached the bayonet in July. Finally, the Second Virginia Cavalry marker in Miller Park was damaged many years ago. This Confederate cavalry unit enlisted in what is now Miller Park in 1861 and disbanded on the same spot in 1865. A sword scabbard carved into the stone was broken away. Ken Faraoni is also working on the Second Virginia Cavalry monument repair. His work is being funded by donations to Lynchburg Save Outdoor Sculpture (LSOS), a committee of the Lynchburg Historical Foundation.

Lynchburg Historical Foundation is planning to repair the Water Bearer and is seeking donations to help fund the project. The Lynchburg Museum System is assisting in these efforts and encourages donations be made to LSOS c/o Lynchburg Historical Foundation, 325 12th Street, Box 248, Lynchburg, Va. 24504

Recent Donations To The Collection

*Mother and children*, photograph, by Helen Rhodes Hannah

Hannah took photographs of many Lynchburg residents during the 1940s and ‘50s—the collection has several hundred high quality images. She recently passed away at age 102. Donated by Willard “Billy” Rhodes, her brother

*Lynchburg Cityscape*, by Bethea Owen, ca. 1970
Acrylic on board
Donated by Ms. Doni Guggenheimer, Trustee, Bethea S. Owen Trust

*Hotel Carroll*, by Helen Easter, ca. 2008
Watercolor on paper
Donated by Helen Easter
WELCOME TO OUR MEMBERS

The Museum System launched its first membership program in June 2012. We thank the following members for their support and encourage you to join with us. Contact Whitney Roberts at (434) 455-4420 or whitney.roberts@lynchburgva.gov for more information.

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(February 1, 2012 – July 31, 2012)

$500 & Above
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In Memory: Frank Craddock
In Honor: Eleanor Dolan
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$100–$499
Lynchburg Civil War Roundtable
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Ms. Lucille Deane
Mrs. Patricia Harrington
Lynchburg Road Runners Club
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Membership:
Teacher or Student $25
Individual $50
Grandparents (2) $50
Family (up to 4 kids under 17) $75

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