

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LOUDOUN PRESERVATION SOCIETY

### ANNUAL MEETING, DECEMBER 7, AT OATLANDS

Please join the Loudoun Preservation Society for our annual meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 7, at the carriage house at Oatlands. Refreshments in the carriage house and abbreviated tours of the mansion will be available from 6:00-7:15 PM. Our business meeting will start at 7:30.

Tour the historic mansion decorated for the season with the theme, "Visitors to Oatlands." The exhibit will highlight the many famous people who have visited Oatlands over the past 200 years.

Refreshments will be catered by the students in the Culinary Arts Program at Monroe Technology Center in Leesburg. For those members who attended last year, you will recall the delicious hors d'oeuvres created by these very talented students. We would like to thank EIT, Inc. for their generous sponsorship of the refreshments for our annual meeting.

We have a special treat for our members this year. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires and the Loudoun Chorus of the Old Dominion will provide a selection of holiday songs to start our meeting at 7:30. The performance is compliments of the Leesburg Chapter of the Prince Hall

Masons. The Fairfax Jubil-Aires are a fellowship of men devoted to the art of a cappella barbershop singing. The Chorus of the Old Dominion performs a variety of music, including barbershop, gospel, and show tunes. We are thrilled to have them perform for us. Thank you to the Leesburg Chapter of the Prince Hall Masons for providing this entertainment.

Our keynote speaker will be Richard Gillespie, Director of Education for the Mosby Heritage Area Association. A retired history teacher, Rich is passionate about Loudoun's heritage and its preservation. Rich is a dynamic speaker and he will share with us some of his favorite Loudoun vistas and stories.

Both the Prince Hall Masons and the Mosby Heritage Area Association are past recipients of a Loudoun Preservation Society grant award. We are pleased to have their support and partnership for our annual meeting.

Oatlands is located on Route 15 south of Leesburg. More specific directions can be found on their web site: [www.Oatlands.org](http://www.Oatlands.org). We hope to see you on December 7.

### CHANGES TO GRANT PROGRAM

Our grant awards are our signature program and we have given over \$818,000 in grants for preservation projects in Loudoun County. With this program, we make a difference in our community. To give it more prominence, the Loudoun Preservation Society Board voted to change the award presentation from December to May so it coincides with National Preservation Month. The next award announcement will be May 2011. No awards will be made in 2010.

Another significant change is to the grant application cycle. Effective immediately, we will accept grant applications throughout the year rather than the previous three month window. This change makes it easier and more convenient for organizations to apply. The deadline for the award year will be the end of February. The application and information about the program are available on our web site at: <http://preserveloudoun.org/Programs/grants.html>.

## CATHERINE “KITTY” BOYD

Kitty Boyd, founder and long-time President of the Loudoun Restoration and Preservation Society, passed away on September 11. Remembered for her passion and dedication to historic preservation, she worked tirelessly on projects in the county. She started the historic plaque program for Leesburg and oversaw August Court Days and LRPS's grants program. Her legacy lives on in both the plaque and grant programs. A memorial brick commemorating her presidency of LRPS will be placed in the walkway at Dodona Manor.

## PRESERVATION PROJECTS

One of the ways we fulfill the Preservation Society's mission of preserving Loudoun's historical, cultural and natural resources is by monitoring local land use applications and legislative actions where historic properties are involved. When appropriate, we take action in such ways as researching and documenting the property, raising awareness of its plight, assisting others with preservation efforts, and/or speaking before the Board of Supervisors. This past year we were involved with two, both in eastern Loudoun.

In April we were contacted by members of another organization for assistance with the Broad Run Toll House at the intersection of Routes 7 and 28 in Ashburn. The Toll House and its stone bridge ruins are a National Register property next to the future Kincora development. Kincora has offered to buy and donate the parcel to a non-profit organization that is able to use it immediately or mothball

it for future use. We are working with this organization and others in the community to find an eligible non-profit.

The second property was the Lunette House in the Kirkpatrick Farm community in Arcola. The developer initially agreed to preserve the façade of this ca. 1820 brick house and make it available for the community's use. Two relocations of the structure and the removal of the roof eventually made it unwanted in the community. The developer offered a monetary donation in lieu of preserving the house. The Preservation Society advocated for a larger donation and a research report on the property and its owners. This was in line with the Planning Commission's recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. A majority of the Board supported the developer's offer. The funds will probably go toward a preservation project in the Dulles District. The house will be dismantled in mid-December.

## VINTAGE BASE BALL IS COMING TO LOUDOUN!



**The Eclipse Base Ball Club of Elkton**

The Preservation Society's main fundraiser in 2011 will be a day of base ball as it was played in the mid-1800s: no gloves, no diamond, and no bleachers. Yes, it was spelled as two words: base ball. Teams from the Mid-Atlantic Vintage Base Ball League will play a double header, following the Rules of 1864.

Games were played in open fields with hay bales for the “cranks” (that's what the fans were called!) to sit on. Players were called “ballists” and the batter was a “striker.” The “arbiter” (umpire) was only called upon to arbitrate a dispute. The ballists called the match.

Historically it was a social day with base ball as part of the entertainment. People dressed in their best clothes to socialize, eat a picnic lunch, watch the game, listen to politicians, and shop at the merchant's stalls set up in the fields. Our event will be a social day, too, with entertainment, food vendors, exhibits and, of course, a ball game.

The fundraising committee is just getting started and the venue for the event has not been determined. Volunteers are needed to help with the planning and work on game day. Please consider volunteering — even just a few hours will be helpful.

All proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward our grants program.