



Monthly Report

DISPATCHES

December 31, 2005

HIGHLIGHTS:

The museum has been closed, due to the Holidays, since December 20th but will reopen on Friday January 6th. We were able to complete about 80% of the painting, in the rooms that are being renovated, thanks to Retired Officer Chris Steuart. Thanks also to Robert Terry, Max Hellmueller & Noland Hill for showing up on December 27th and helping with the renovation. I can actually see real progress being made. We are in need of carpeting if someone knows where we can receive a good deal. We really hope to have carpeting donated. A builder's grade carpet would suffice, especially if we have to pay for it.

We opened for two days by appointment. On December 28th, a family from Virginia contacted us and we opened so they could visit the museum. They were the family of Deceased Fayette County Police Auxiliary Officer Carl Barnes. They appreciated seeing photos of their father/grandfather on display.

We also opened on December 30th for a short time so a group of disabled individuals from Connections could visit the museum. This was the second time in December when a group from Connections has visited. We are always happy to have groups visit us, especially the disabled, handicapped or elderly.

ROLL CALL:

The next scheduled meeting of Board Members and interested parties will be held Tuesday, January 10th at 1900 hours (7:00 PM) at the museum. Enter off the Short St. side of the old courthouse. We will be discussing the expansion progress and plan on doing some minor work and cleanup.

We set up the Museum Display at the Downtown Lexington Corporation Annual Meeting on Monday December 5th. Noland Hill and I were present and we received several positive comments and had several visitors to our table who did not know about the museum. We were able to obtain some much-needed advertising. The Hyatt provided some good food and drinks.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Check out our web site at: lexingtonpublicsafetymuseum.org. You can order merchandise on line or sign the guest book. Thanks to Scott Ballinger of the Detention Center for being our Webmaster.



We have several types of memberships depending on the amount of money donated. The types of memberships are student, individual, family, silver shield and gold shield. As of this date we have fifty plus individuals and businesses who have donated anywhere from \$10 to \$1000. A letter was sent to all members for renewal in 2006. Approximately 36 of our members have renewed so far this year and we have several brand new members who have joined.

I am in the process of sending out certificates and Thank-you letters to our members. Save the letter for tax purposes. Silver Shield & Gold Shield members will have their certificate framed.

OTHER NOTES:

The museum will be replacing the merchandise display case in the hallway with a much nicer and larger case. It is being refurbished and should be ready by next week.

Max Hellmueller has been changing out the overhead light lens in the rooms that are being renovated. The old lens diffused the light and the new lenses make the rooms much brighter.

The Police Department donated some books that are outdated and no longer being used to the Museum Library.

Thanks to all our volunteers who have staffed the museum. A schedule is being worked on for January 2006. Volunteers are asked to give us one day a month = 4 hours. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering. dhume@lfucg.com

We had our first visitor from Italy in the month of December.

We now have a phone at the museum and our phone number is 225-6351. Thanks to Rick Curtis from the Commissioner of Public Safety's Office for donating an answering machine. I hope to have it hooked up when we get an additional electrical outlet.

Personalized Coffee Mug orders for the Police Department were in high demand for the Christmas season. We now have the ability to make personalized coffee mugs for the Fire Department and Community Corrections. The cost is \$15 and the turnaround time is usually less than 10 days. Feel free to email me with your order. The mugs come in Blue or Black with a gold or silver badge. Name, rank and badge number can be placed on the mugs.



ABOUT US:

The Lexington Public Safety Museum is located in the old courthouse on the first floor. The Pharmacy Museum is also on the first floor and is now open. The Lexington History Museum occupies the second and third floor. The Public Safety Museum is open on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Our hours are 12 noon until 4 pm on those days. There is no charge for admission. We are closed Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.

At this time, the museum is divided into three rooms. They are based on a timeline. The first room exhibits items from the 1800's to the 1930's. The second room exhibits items from the 1940's-1950's and the third room is from the 1960's-1970's. Our first exhibit has been on Public Safety Buildings past and present. We have tried to put an emphasis on the different buildings that Public Safety has occupied over the years. This includes showing photos of old Police Departments, Jails and Fire Stations. We are also increasing our photo collection to include vehicles and people. In addition, the museum has other items of interest such as old badges, patches, uniforms, jail keys, photos, fire and police equipment and other memorabilia. We are planning a change in the exhibits for 2006.

We are in the process of renovating two more rooms on the first floor for hands on type displays and larger items. One room will honor those who have made the supreme sacrifice. It will include photos and stories of those Lexington Public Safety Officers who have been killed in the line of duty.

The museum has gift shop type items for sale as part of the fundraising efforts. These items include die cast police cars, badge pins, coffee mugs, drinking glasses, throws or blankets and other items of interest. Polo type shirts are on sale at the museum. Merchandising has accounted for more than half of our revenue. The other half of the revenue has come from donations and memberships.

David Hume
President, LPSM

The Lexington Public Safety Museum is a non-profit tax-exempt organization as recognized by the Internal Revenue Service.