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Monthly Report

## DISPATCHES

November 30, 2005

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### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

The One-year Anniversary of the Museum Grand Opening was held on Sunday November 20, 2005 from Noon until 4:00 pm. We had a great turnout. We were hoping for 100 people and believe we met our goal. A delicious lunch was served, which included pimento cheese and chicken salad sandwiches, fruit and vegetable trays, meatballs and homemade beer cheese. Mayor Isaac and Councilman Bill Farmer were in attendance at the Open House. If not for the support of our government officials and our generous lease at the old courthouse, we would not be in business.

### **ROLL CALL:**

The next scheduled meeting of Board Members and interested parties will be held Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 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 and the possibility of contracting some of the work out.

I will be setting up the Museum Display at the Downtown Showcase as part of the Downtown Lexington Corporation Annual Meeting on Monday Evening December 5<sup>th</sup>. The Downtown Showcase is designed to offer DLC members the opportunity to share their products, tell their stories, display their projects and bring information to others in attendance at the program. It should be a great way to advertise the museum. There is a cash bar and plenty of food. All displays must be set up by 4:30 pm and taken down after 7:30 pm. Let me know if you want to help and attend. Displays will be open from 6-7:30 pm.

### **SPECIAL NOTES:**

Check out our web site at: [lexingtonpublicsafetymuseum.org](http://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 one half of our members have renewed so far this year and we have several brand new members who have joined.



WE HAVE STARTED A MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2006. WITH 1000 PLUS PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS IN POLICE, FIRE & CORRECTIONS IN LEXINGTON, WE HAVE 15 MEMBERS OUT OF 50 WHO ARE ACTIVE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS. REMEMBER, A MEMBERSHIP IS A TAX DEDUCTABLE DONATION.

**OTHER NOTES:**

The museum received a nice donation of \$1000 for our Display case project; which is to acquire antique or period type display cases for the 1890's-1930's room. We spent some of that money on an antique display case purchased at the Angliana Avenue Antiques show on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to all our volunteers who have staffed the museum. A schedule is being worked on for December 2005. Volunteers are asked to give us one day a month = 4 hours. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering. [dhume@lfucg.com](mailto:dhume@lfucg.com)

Since we opened last November, we have had approximately 1000 visitors from 25 states and 5 countries including Australia, Canada, England, France and Russia.

I am incorporating my monthly report to the Urban County Council into a monthly newsletter, bringing back the "DISPATCHES" which Scott May designed last year. Some of the information may not change from month to month and some will. I hope to reach a much larger group of people including our Police, Fire and Corrections employees through Department wide e-mail.

A big THANK-YOU to Ben Turpin and his crew for stripping and waxing the floor on the Thursday night before our Open House. They worked until 2 in the morning. It has been years since the floors were stripped and waxed. Thanks also to Bea Berendreg, Max Hellmueller, Steve Blake and Noland Hill for the last minute cleanup on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> prior to the open house.

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.

We closed for the weekend following Thanksgiving. I think all of our Board members and volunteers needed a break to spend more time with our families.



**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.

Our future plans include the renovation of 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.