



Monthly Report

DISPATCHES

October 31, 2005

HIGHLIGHTS:

The One-year Anniversary of the Grand Opening is scheduled for Sunday November 20, 2005 from Noon-4 pm. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited to attend.

ROLL CALL: The next scheduled meeting of Board Members and interested parties will be held Tuesday, November 1st at 1900 hours (7:00 PM) at the museum. Enter off the Short St. side of the old courthouse. This will be a working meeting. We will be setting up some uniforms for our mannequins & torso's. Dilliard's demise in Lexington Mall was to our gain. We were able to purchase 3 additional torsos and several stands for our mannequins.

The last work session on Sunday October 9th was successful in that we were able to remove carpet & debris from the empty rooms that we are planning to expand into. Thanks to Steve Ferrell, Max Hellmueller, Robert Terry and Chris Steuart for showing up and helping with the renovation project. We were able to complete about 65% of the job and plan on another workday in November.

Thanks to Officer Robert Terry and Sgt. Scott May for setting up the Museum Display at the Fayette Mall Law Enforcement Appreciation Event held on October 22nd & 23rd.

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. Several members have already renewed through 2006. A letter is being drafted to all members for renewal in 2006. A sad note in that Retired Fire Captain Tommy Kelly died on October 5th. Captain Kelly was one of our original members, joining several months before we opened last year.

WE SOON WILL BE STARTING 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 7th.

Thanks to all our volunteers who have staffed the museum. A schedule is being worked on for November 2005. Volunteers are asked to give us one day a month = 4 hours. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering.

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 again would like to invite everyone to attend our one-year anniversary and open house on Sunday, November 20th from noon until 4:00 pm. We will have hors d'oeuvre such as finger sandwiches, relish trays, meatballs, cookies, soft drinks, etc. Feel free to stop by after church for a light lunch and visit the museum. Bring the family if you wish, everyone is welcome.

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 Officers through Department wide e-mail.

I wish to thank all the Urban County Government employees who have been so helpful during our first year of operation including Security, Parks & Recreation, CEO & Mayor's Office, Lexington History Museum staff and curator, Archives, Police, Fire, Sanitation, Graphic Arts and any others I have failed to mention, I apologize. Building Maintenance has always responded quickly when we had electrical, heating or air conditioning problems and has especially been helpful with the constant leaks we have had due to the age of the building and its components. It is hopeful that money or a grant may eventually be found to renovate the old courthouse, this centerpiece of Downtown Lexington.

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 Office for donating it. I hope to have it hooked up within the week.



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.