October 2014 E-Newsletter

Public Forum, "From Monroe to McAuliffe: The Evolution of the Office of Governor of Virginia"

Join us on Wednesday, October 22, at 7 p.m., for a free public forum on the evolution of the office of Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia from the era of James Monroe to the present.

The panel of distinguished speakers who will explore this topic includes The Honorable Gerald Baliles, 65th Governor of Virginia; Dr. Stephen J. Farnsworth, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs and Director of the UMW Center for Leadership and Media Studies; and Dr. Daniel Preston, Editor of the Papers of James Monroe. A reception will follow.

The program will be held in Lee Hall, Room 411, on the University of Mary Washington Fredericksburg campus.

Final History Trivia Night of 2014!

We will host our final Trivia Night of this year on Friday, October 3, from 6 to 8.
p.m. This special bonus edition is the result of popular demand, and will bring together some of our previous Celebrity Quizzmasters!

Questions focus on American history. Admission and participation are free. Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and last place. Light refreshments, a cash bar (beer and wine), and a 50/50 raffle are also part of the evening!

What's in Store?

There are two particularly exciting new items in the James Monroe Museum Store! A custom adaptation of the James Monroe Peace Medal is now available ($4.00) in both milk and dark chocolate (pictured at left)! The chocolates include information about the peace medal and the Museum. They are a delicious way to help support the Museum, while sharing information about James Monroe with your family and friends. (Hint - They will make wonderful holiday stocking stuffers!)

This year’s White House Historical Association Christmas ornament ($22.95) is now available in the store! We know it seems early, but the ornaments sold out last year so we wanted to allow time for a second shipment. The ornaments are not only beautiful, but are also unique this year, featuring two pieces that can be hung together or separately (see photo at right). The design is in honor of our twenty-ninth president, Warren G. Harding, a train enthusiast. One piece is a locomotive, a replica of one that pulled the Presidential Special, the train that took Harding on his transcontinental tour. The other is a replica of the Superb, the president’s private Pullman car. They are

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already selling quickly so come by the store and pick yours up today!

October brings out all sorts of interesting characters, witches and wizards, ghosts and goblins and swashbucklers and pirates! We have a treat in the store for the would-be pirates out there. All our pirate-related merchandise will be 10% off during the month of October.

We look forward to seeing you in the Store!

**Director Scott Harris Lectures in Loudoun County, Tours Oak Hill**

JMM Director Scott Harris presented a lecture, "Revolutionary Idealist: The Life and Legacy of James Monroe," part of the Mosby Heritage Area Association's lecture series, "Conversations in History," at Mt. Zion Old School Baptist Church in Aldie, Virginia on Sunday, September 21.

Following the talk, Harris and new JMM Board of Regents member G. Scott Walker were given a private tour of the Monroe’s Loudoun County estate, Oak Hill, by gracious owners Thomas and Gayle DeLashmutt.

**New Appointment to Museum's Board of Regents**

The James Monroe Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. G. Scott Walker of
Fredericksburg to the Museum’s Board of Regents. Mr. Walker's selection was part of a group of appointments to boards and commissions made by Governor Terry McAuliffe earlier in September. The Board of Regents, composed of gubernatorial appointees and statutory members, serves an advisory role for operation of the James Monroe Museum, under the authority of the Board of Visitors of the University of Mary Washington.

A native of Luray, Virginia, Scott Walker arrived in Fredericksburg in 1969 as a history teacher following receipt of a Bachelor of Arts in American History from the University of Virginia. He continued his education with a Master of Arts (also from U.VA) and coursework at other state and regional institutions. After a variety of classroom and administrative positions, he retired from the Stafford County Public Schools in 2002. He is the owner of Hallowed Ground Tours, a private tour business, and a partner in Heritage Media LLC, producers of historical videos and webcasts.

Mr. Walker is an active member of many professional and civic organizations in the Fredericksburg region. He is a former president of the Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, and remains on the foundation's board of directors. Other posts include past president of the Civil War Round Table of Fredericksburg; scholarship chair of the Rappahannock Valley Civil War Round Table; founding member and treasurer of the Friends of Chatham Manor; and member of the Washington Heritage Museums Group.

Mr. Walker is married to a retired career educator, Cathy Walker, herself a community activist. Their two grown children live in New York City and Washington DC.

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The James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, located in historic downtown Fredericksburg, Virginia, is the largest repository in the country for artifacts and documents related to the fifth president of the United States. The museum was first opened in 1927 by Monroe descendants as a place to house their own personal collections, which had been handed down through generations of the family. Eventually, the museum and its extensive collections were turned over to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the museum is now administered by the University of Mary Washington.

The museum belongs to the American Association of Museums, the American Association for State and Local History, and the Virginia Association of Museums. It is also on the National Register of Historic Places and is a National Historic Landmark.