



Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center

P.O. Box 517, Weirton, WV 26062

Preserving Our History and Culture For Future Generations

Volume 1, Issue 4

April 27, 2009

Upcoming Events:

- **May 1, 2009**
"Leadership Weirton"
Events at Museum and
Mary H. Weir Library
- **May 8, 2009**
Michael Nogay Powerpoint
Presentation at St. Paul's
School
- **May 16, 2009** "Festival of
Nations" sponsored by
WAMCC at Weirton
Millspoo Community Center

Museum Officers:

President

Dennis R. Jones

Vice President

Pamela Makricosta

Vice President

Andrea Anderson

Treasurer

Paul B. Zuros

Secretary

Despina Melonas

Museum Location:

3393 Main Street
Weirton, WV 26062

Museum Hours:

Monday thru Friday
9:00 am thru 4:00 pm
(other times available)

Editor: Dennis Jones

Dennis 143@comcast.net

Museum Phone:

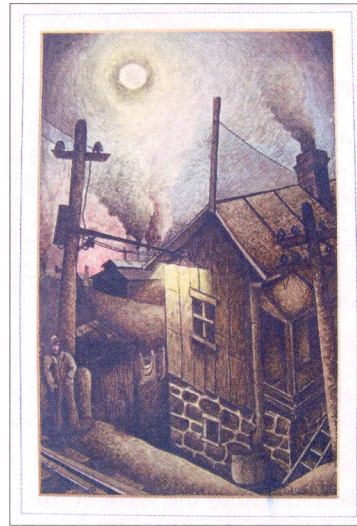
(304) 479-7266 (cell phone)
(304) 797-7001 (CVB phone)

April News:

Long-Lost Artwork Returned Home to Weirton

This past month, a piece of local artwork was rescued from an uncertain fate, as the Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center purchased this long-lost ink painting by Harry Ameredes. Harry created this masterpiece, when he was 17 years old and a student at Weir High School under the tutorship of Mr. J. R. Haworth, Art Instructor. The painting, inspired by his hometown view, was submitted in the annual art contest in the year 1939.

The artwork was noticed for sale on Ebay, by Museum President Dennis Jones, who was able to reach an agreed price with the seller and purchased it for the Museum. Harry Ameredes was also contacted and a future event will be scheduled to honor him. The painting is of a scene inspired in the mill town of Weirton, showing the dimmed



"Mill Town" by Harry Ameredes

sun through the rising smoke columns and misty sky with a small house in the foreground and the mills in the background. The painting was brushed with Higgins Colored Ink. Special blending of colors is superb throughout the painting, including the red glow of the molten steel. A special display is now being started at the Museum for the talented Harry Ameredes and his collection of artwork, including his sketches and woodcarvings, for which he is known world-wide.

ENTRY BLANK	
Address of School	City <u>Weirton</u> State <u>W.Va.</u>
Street	<u>Virginia Ave.</u>
Name of School	<u>Weir High School</u>
Name of Student	<u>Harry Ameredes</u>
Home Address	<u>3045 Main St. Weirton W. Va.</u>
Principal	<u>P. L. Custer</u>
Teacher	<u>J. R. Haworth</u>
Student's Age & Grade in School on March 15, 1939	<u>17 months 15 days</u> <u>11th Senior A</u>
Art Materials Used (give brand name)	<u>Higgins Colored Ink</u>
Source of Inspiration	<u>Mill Town</u>
Do you wish material returned?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Express Collect	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Classification	<u>Higgins Memorial Awards</u>

David Weir is to Receive History Game #100



David Weir is shown above, reviewing progress on the History Game during his visit to the Museum on June 1, 2008.

As part of celebrating Weirton's 100th Anniversary, the 100th Weirton Area History Game (Game #100) will be presented to David Weir, son of Weirton's founder, Ernest T. Weir. The presentation will take place at the 2009 Festival of Nations on May 16. History games will also be raffled off at various times during the festival and then sold to the public throughout 2009.

History game #101 will be presented to F. John Frangakis of Reynold's Services, Inc. Mr. Frangakis provided the game tins, made of steel produced in Weirton, which also helped inspire the planning of the game back in 2006.

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Plans Being Finalized for the 2009 Festival of Nations



Photo by Dennis Jones

Programming details for the 2009 Festival of Nations were being finalized in a meeting held on April 23 at the Mary H. Weir Public Library. Some details thus far are listed below:

Date: May 16, 2009

Time: 11:00 am until 5:00 pm

Place: Weirton Millsop Community Center

Guest of Honor: David Weir

Speakers: Dr. J. K. Luthra (Festival Chairman), Mayor Mark Harris, David Weir, Michael Nogay, Dennis Jones, and others.

Performing Groups: Ukraine, Italy, China, Greece, India, Scotland, Native Americans, Korea, Serbian, African Americans, WV/OH Line Dancers, Poland, Varmints (*American Blue Grass*)

Festival Committee members working very hard in meeting at Mary H. Weir Public Library. *Starting at left corner and going clockwise:* Pam Makricosta, Dr. Sucheta "Dolly" Luthra, Nancy Pugh, Janet McFadden, Angie Angelos, Victor Greco, Despina Melonas, Tracey Lemley, Joe Stankiewicz, and Dr. Juginder K. Luthra (*Committee Chairman*).

There will also be several booths on various cultural displays and food. Admission to the festival is FREE. A special 60+ page Festival Souvenir Program Booklet, printed by Paper & Press, Ink, of Weirton, will be sold for \$2.00. In addition, WAMCC will be selling a book on the History of Weirton's Festival of Nations (*see details below*) and Michael Nogay's new book titled "*Every Home a Fort, Every Man a Warrior*." Michael is providing his books to WAMCC at a special price.

The Weirton Area Museum is very grateful for the support pro-

vided by the Weirton Area Chamber of Commerce. Nancy Pugh, Janet McFadden, and Tracey Lemley, who are members of the Chamber's Leadership Weirton Committee, have been a tremendous help.

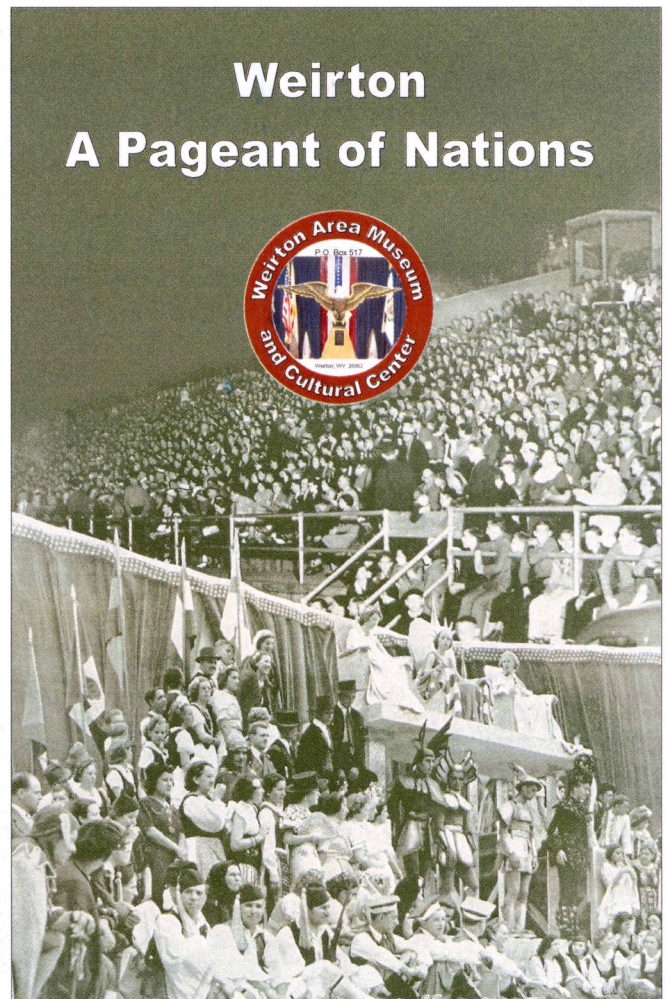
The 15 members who make up WAMCC's Festival of Nations Committee are listed below:

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| Dr. J. K. Luthra (<i>Committee Chairman</i>) | |
| Dr. Sucheta Luthra | Angie Angelos |
| Pam Makricosta | Despina Melonas |
| Janet McFadden | John Pandelios |
| Nancy Pugh | Elma Pandelios |
| Tracey Lemley | George Sotradis |
| Joe Stankiewicz | Rik Rekowski |
| Victor Greco | Dennis Jones |

History Book on Festival of Nations

The history of Weirton's Festival of Nations is detailed in this new 64-page booklet, researched and written by Dennis Jones and copyrighted to WAMCC. The booklet outlines each of Weirton's Festival Pageants, which

occurred from 1934 thru 1944, including thousands of names and pictures of Weirton residents, their parents and grandparents who participated. The booklet will be sold at the festival (*all proceeds benefit WAMCC*).



Shown Above: Front Cover of WAMCC's new book to be sold at the Festival of Nations, May 16. This book will be in addition to the Souvenir Program Booklet.