



Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center

P.O. Box 517, Weirton, WV 26062

*Preserving Our History and Culture
For Future Generations*

JANUARY

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 4, 2009

Upcoming Events:

- **March 5, 2009**
History Day at the WV State Capital. WAMCC will have a table display.
- **May 16, 2009**
"Festival of Nations" sponsored by WAMCC at Weirton Millsop 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

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Museum Phone:

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

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January News:

Christmas in Holliday's Cove 100 Years Ago

The Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center was declared the winner of the first annual Christmas Tree Contest held at the Rose Room in Weirton's Millsop Community Center (supervised by Park Board Chairperson Deb Witkowski). When the votes were tallied, it was discovered that the Museum's tree had raised over \$400, which was the highest amount compared to other entries. The winning tree was designed on the theme of "Christmas in Holliday's Cove - 1908," the year before the town of Weirton was established. A painting by Mary Shakley Ferguson, depicting her childhood memory of how the village looked 100 years ago, was displayed on specially made Christmas Cards, which were hung on the tree, and also distributed to the public. The Museum was honored with a beautiful trophy, which will be



Andrea Anderson (*Museum Tree Committee Chairperson*) is shown above explaining the Museum's tree entry to visitors after the Christmas Parade in Weirton on November 29.

engraved with the Museum name and held by the Museum for one year.

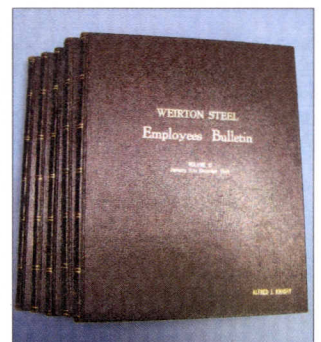
Other organizations entering the contest included: The Weirton Millsop Community Center/Park Board, Weirton Transit Corp., Rotary Club of

Weirton Heights, Mary H. Weir Public Library, Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 688, Weirton Jaycess, Weirton Women's Club, City of Weirton, Downtown Business and Civic Association, Renaissance Weirton, Top of West Virginia Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Rotary Club of Weirton.

Alfred J. Knight Collection

On November 6, Dan Knight donated several bound annual volumes of the Weirton Steel Employee's Bulletins to our Museum. The volumes were from the personal collection of his father, Alfred Knight who served on the editing staff of the Bulletin from

1946 through the 1950's. WAMCC President, Dennis Jones, received the donation at Mr. Knight's office building location in downtown Baltimore, MD. A special display will be set up to honor the collection, with a brief history of Mr. Knight.



The Story of Holliday's Cove Fort

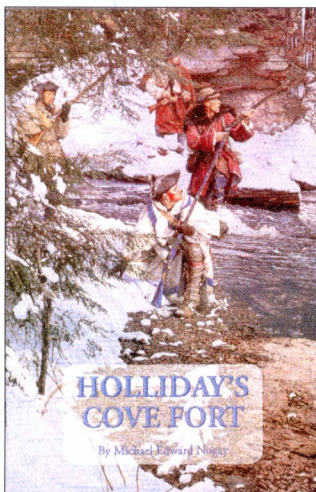
In November, Michael Nogay completed his first in a series of booklets on the history of our area, titled "Western Virginia's First Defense Along the Ohio River: Holliday's Cove Fort." Mr. Nogay explained in the introduction: "This is the story of Holliday's Cove Fort, whose founding and tales of bravery have been left untold for too long."

Michael performed a very thorough research effort for this book, which was recognized and

supported by The Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center. The book testifies to the historical importance of Holliday's Cove, which was the name of the local area from the late 1700's through the early 1900's. Sponsors for the publication were the Hancock County Savings Bank, the Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center, and the law firm of Sellitti, Nogay & McCune, LLC. The booklet is being sold at several area locations, including the Museum, at a cost of

\$6.00, and all proceeds benefit the non-profit Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center. The booklet was featured in the "Valley Life" section of the *Weirton Daily Times* on December 14, 2008. Two hundred copies of the book were purchased by Starvaggi Charities to distribute to all Weirton 8th Graders.

The Museum will be supporting Mr. Nogay during his history presentations to schools and organizations.



Above: Cover of booklet, written by Michael Nogay, displays the painting by John Buxton "A Fearful Noise."

"At one time there were over 50 ethnic groups, which called the Weirton area their home."

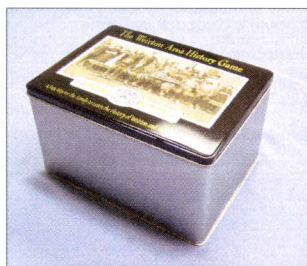
"Festival of Nations" Returning to Weirton

On May 16, 2009, the Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center will bring back the tradition of having the annual "Festival of Nations." Dr. J. K. Luthra, chairman of WAMCC's "Festival of Nations" committee, announced that the Weirton Mill-sop Community Center has been reserved for that date. A series of committee meetings have been

held. It has been determined that there will be no charge to attend the festival, and several ethnic foods will be available for purchase. Individuals and businesses are urged to support the festival by their donations, which will be recognized in the program booklet. "It will be fun to get all the ethnic groups together, holding hands and celebrating as one

unit," explained Dr. Luthra.

The annual "Festival of Nations" was originally held in Weirton from 1934 through 1944 as a series of Labor Day Pageants, with the first event being held at the Margaret Manson Weir Memorial Park. The Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center is taking the lead in preserving this tradition.



Above: A photo of the Weirton Area History Game tin, which is made of steel produced in Weirton, and contains all the components of the game.

Weirton Area History Game in Production

The Weirton Area History Game is now being produced by the Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center. Museum President Dennis Jones presented a game to Mayor Harris and the Weirton City Council on December 8, and to the Mary H. Weir Public Library Board of Directors on December 18. Dennis explained that each game takes several hours to assemble and efforts are

being made to produce the first games for all of the 64 game sponsors and all of those who have pre-purchased the game. Paul Zuros, Andrea Anderson, Pam Makricosta, Dennis Jones, and others have donated much of their time to help put the games together.

The game is composed of many parts and includes 1000 questions about Weirton and its rich his-

tory. Also included is a DVD picture show with hundreds of historical Weirton photos, a game board, several old maps, and history topic research cards.

Games will be sold to the public throughout the 100th Anniversary year of Weirton (year 2009). Price is \$50.00 and all proceeds benefit the non-profit Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center.