



# Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center

P.O. Box 517, Weirton, WV 26062

*Preserving Our History and Culture  
For Future Generations*

## Project "Main Street" Comes to Museum



Dimitri Akis, artist and professional painter, is up on ladder completing a nice paint job on the south side of the Museum building, while Mayor Mark Harris holds ladder below. Both are donating this beautiful Saturday morning to Project Main Street. Paint is provided by Weirton City Council and donations. Edmund DiBacco, owner of the building, also made a donation to Dimitri.

## Cub Scout Pack #334 Visits Museum



On September 17, the Cub Scout Pack #334 of the Cove Presbyterian Church, visited the museum. A tour was provided by Dennis Jones, Andrea Anderson, and Susan O'Neill, who showed them how the area looked over 100 years ago, when there was no Weirton with only a small village called Holliday's Cove. They also experienced a 1950's movie on Weirton Steel Co. and had many questions about the some displays, including the 8-inch Howitzer shells and an old P&W Bus coin boxes.

*Standing in Back L-R:* Maryann Horstman (Leader), Karen Huntzinger (Leader), Andrea Anderson, T. E. Millsop  
*Standing in Middle row L-R:* Rachel Horstman, Gracie Huntzinger, and Justin Madias.  
*Seated L-R:* Kyle Cornwell, Wesley Noble, Jacob Huntzinger, and Troy Horstman

SEPTEMBER



Volume 1, Issue 9

October 4, 2009

Upcoming Events:

October 10, 2009

[Cove School Time Capsule](#)

October 17, 2009

[First Annual Robert Haworth Memorial Art Exhibition](#)

April 10, 2010

[Festival of Nations](#)

SEPTEMBER

Museum Officers:

President

Dennis R. Jones

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Pamela Makricosta

Vice President

Andrea Anderson

Treasurer

Paul B. Zuros

Secretary

Despina Melonas

Museum

3393 Main Street  
Weirton, WV 26062

Museum Hours:

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

Editor: Dennis Jones

[Dennis143@comcast.net](mailto:Dennis143@comcast.net)

Museum Phone:

(304) 479-7266 (cell phone)

Website:

[www.weirtonmuseum.com](http://www.weirtonmuseum.com)

SEPTEMBER

# WAMCC To Take Part in Time Capsule Excavation



*Left to Right:* Larry Smedley, Mike Swartzmiller, and Lori Kimball. They are standing near the burial site of the time capsule. Time capsule contents will be donated to the Weirton Area Museum & Cultural Center after a ceremony on Oct. 10. The bell in picture, originally from Weirton Grade School on County Road, was placed in front of the new City Building in 1976. Cove School was located on knoll above Cove Road on left of picture.

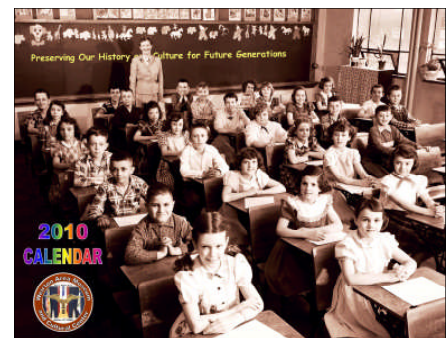
Many childhood memories stay with us throughout our lives, and one memory of Lori (Rice) Kimball from her schooldays at Cove Elementary would not go away. Although she cannot recollect the exact date and year, she does remember the excitement of her class burying a time capsule in front of the city building sometime around the 1979 - 1981 time period. With Cove School now demolished, she wants very much to satisfy her curiosity about what they buried in the capsule. The last month has been spent contacting former teachers and students along with Gary Smedley and Mike Swartzmiller, who buried the capsule over 25 years ago, when they were teachers at Cove School. When she contacted WAMCC President, Dennis Jones, he put her in touch with City Manager Gary DuFour, who has granted permission for the excavation. A special ceremony will be held on October 10 at 11:00 am at the Mary H. Weir Public Library to unveil capsule contents. WAMCC will provide the programs, picture show, and Cove School history cards for attendees.

## Movie Provided to WV State Archives



The Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center was recently contacted by Richard Faust, archivist for the West Virginia Division of Culture & History, in search of a movie titled "West Virginia and Its Natural Resources." The movie was produced by the U.S. Bureau of Mines in 1954 in cooperation with the Weirton Steel Com-

pany. WAMCC has several movies about Weirton, including the requested movie on 16mm reel. Mr. Faust stopped by at the museum and picked up the movie earlier this summer and has now converted it to DVD. At the beginning of the DVD he is giving a credit "Courtesy of Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center." Mr. Faust and the State Archives are most grateful for this movie, which shows colorful scenes from every corner of the state, including Weirton Steel and the making of tin plate. Dennis Jones also plans to visit the WV State Museum later this fall and meet with Director Randall Reed Smith and curator Jim Mitchell. The Weirton Area History Game was donated to the state museum earlier this year and WAMCC would like to see how they can further help the state museum show the history of Weirton.



**History Picture Calendars  
Produced By WAMCC**  
[www.weirtonmuseum.com](http://www.weirtonmuseum.com)  
see bottom of page 4 for details

## First Annual Art Exhibit Set for October 17



On left, Harry Ameredes is shown with one of his many famous books of sketches.



Harry created this artwork from various types of wood. The main body is made of a highly desirable and expensive variety of Manzanita Wood. The head & eyes are from a branch of local sumac.

On October 17, the Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center will be sponsoring the First Annual Robert Haworth Art Exhibition. The show is presented in honor of Robert Haworth, Art Instructor at Weir High School from 1932 through 1969. Dr. Raymond S. Greco,

WAMCC board member and art exhibition committee chairman, has long been an admirer of Mr.



Photo above shows Harry discussing event with Dr. Greco

Hayworth and the many students he had influenced to become successful artists. He commented, "The names of his successful students just keep coming out of the woodwork - the list just keeps growing and growing." WAMCC plans to make this an annual event, featuring one of Mr. Haworth's successful art students each year. This year's feature artist will be Harry Ameredes, and all of Mr. Haworth's other students are also encouraged to bring examples of their art. The event will be at the Mary H. Weir Public Library, Saturday, Oct. 17 from 10:00 til 4:00.

## Museum is Visited by Three Men of Local Art and History

On September 9, 2009, the Weirton Area Museum and Cultural Center was honored with these three gentlemen, who were once considered great artists on the Weir High football field and basketball court.

### Bob Kelly

Bob Kelly portrayed his artistry as a running back for Weir High School, leading them to the 1960 AAA state title over Nitro. In that game he ran for 4 TD's and threw for another. He became the first underclassman to ever win the coveted Kennedy Award. Throughout his high school football career, he compiled 2730 yards and 42 touchdowns and won many honors & MVP awards. Bob continued his success playing for the Cameron Junior College, where he was referred to as "The West Virginia Flash." Bob was inducted into the OVAC Hall of Fame in 2007.

### Bill Tucker

Bill Tucker (in center of picture) was a football running back and basketball player for championship Weir High teams, along side Bill Thompson, and went on to play college football at Tennessee A&I State. He was drafted by the San Francisco 49'rs and played with them 4 seasons before moving on to the Chicago Bears. He also became a successful artist off the field and gives credit to his former Art Instructor, Mr. Haworth, for his guidance in his paintings. He explained one of his favorite paintings, titled "Losing", shows players of a team that is being defeated as they sit on the bench with their heads down. He plans to be at our Art Exhibition on October 17.



Left to Right: Bob Kelly, Bill Tucker, and Bill "Tob" Thompson

### Bill Thompson

Bill Thompson was a senior guard for the 1961-62 Weir High Basketball Team with the best record in the school's history (24-1), and was recently inducted into Shepard University's Athletic Hall of Fame. He led Shepherd in scoring all four years and led the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in scoring as a senior. He was also the first Shepherd basketball player to be drafted by an NBA team. Bill has been passionately performing research at the museum and library on Weirton's African-American history.

# Historic Photo Gallery Now on WAMCC Website



Chuck Cronin is standing next to one of Weirton's 100th Anniversary Photos which is on display in the lobby of First Choice America and also posted on WAMCC's website. Starting out in 1939 as Weirton's Steelworks Employees Credit Union in 1939, they are celebrating their 70th Anniversary this year.

As Weirton's 100th Anniversary Photo Gallery was on display this summer, WAMCC is receiving many phone calls from people who they have touched in some way. Many of the pictures show relatives of long ago or show places that bring back memories of the good times. The pictures are now being put on the WAMCC website so people from all over the world can see them. To view the pictures, go to [www.weirtonmuseum.com](http://www.weirtonmuseum.com), click on the "Projects" button (see illustration below), and select the "100th Anniversary Photo Gallery" link. Pictures are being added as time permits. Let us know of your request.

## Future Plans for Photos

Future plans for the photo gallery include a book, which will be available by April, 2010, and a choice of 2 different photo calendars, which will be available by October 16, 2009. As with everything the Museum produces, the book and calendars will be of the highest quality.



Webstie front page

Click on the "Projects" button to access Photo Gallery.

## Jimmy Hair Leaves \$500 to WAMCC



James C. Hair  
1922 - 2009

As mentioned in our March newsletter, our fellow museum member and devoted supporter, Jimmy Hair, passed away on February 19, 2009. This month, after the settling of his estate, WAMCC received a check in the amount of \$500 from his attorney's office, and we are most grateful. At our next meeting WAMCC will discuss how to use his donation to honor his name and promote his ideals of kindness, humor, and community leadership. Thank you Jimmy.

## History Picture Calendars Coming

WAMCC's first in a series of picture calendars for 2010 will be available by mid month of October, 2009. There will be a choice of two different calendars. One calendar has a picture of Weirton's old P&W busses, trolley cars, taxis, or trains, that provides the tour through Weirton's history as the calendar unfolds. It is titled "All Aboard for the History Tour." The other calendar shows different school scenes with children from the 1950's and 60's in action with their various activities. This calendar is titled "For Future Generations." Each calendar is available for a donation of \$8.00 or one of each for \$15.00 (see bottom of page 2).

## Movie Night at the Library



Ben Stiller is shown in a scene from "Night at the Museum" when T-Rex and all the other Museum characters come to life.

WAMCC was invited by Mary H. Weir Public Library Director, Rik Rekowski, to kick off the library's movie night season on September 23. WAMCC had the honor of introducing the library's new audio/visual projector and sound system recently installed at the library. The public was invited to a free showing of the Movie "Night at the Museum" starring Ben Stiller. Several children and adults came and enjoyed the evening. Also, free pop and popcorn were served.