



*The Lynchburg Museum System*



**ANNUAL REPORT  
FY 2010**

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**Goals**

The Lynchburg Museum System accomplished a number of important goals in FY 2010. Among them were increases in visitation at both the Museum and Point of Honor, the hosting of the Library of Virginia traveling exhibit *Old Dominion Songsters*, completion of the Phase I planning study for Point of Honor, and a Federal IMLS grant award.

*I. Visitation*

A. 13,806 people were served by the Lynchburg Museum System in FY 2010 versus 12,898 in FY 2009, an overall increase of 7.1%.

	Visitors FY 2010	Visitors FY 2009	% Increase or Decrease	Note
<b>Lynchburg Museum</b>	5,484	4,731	16%	
<b>Point of Honor Museum</b>	4,824	4,318	12%	
<b>Events at Point of Honor</b>	2,606	2,997	(15%)	Day at the Point event had light rain
<b>Outreach Programs</b>	892	852	5%	Museum staff members go to assisted living facilities, civic groups, recreation centers, and related venues to deliver outreach programs

B. **Visitor Origin:** The Museum had visitors from 44 states and 17 countries. Approximately 35% were from the local region/Virginia and 65% were out of state. Point of Honor had visitors from 48 states and 10 countries, with approximately 50% from local/Virginia and the rest out of state. These figures are based on visitor surveys and guest books.

C. **Websites:** The Museum and Point of Honor websites had a total of 12,764 hits versus 8,175 hits last year.

D. **Facebook:** A Facebook page was created in FY 2010 and had 13,609 hits.

We are especially pleased with the increases this year as they came in spite of ongoing economic uncertainty, a severe winter that limited visitation from December 2009 through March 2010, and the continued closing of D Street Bridge access to Point of Honor.



## *II. Volunteers*

The Volunteers of the Lynchburg Museum System, with 46 active members, **provided 2,764 hours** of service with a value of \$55,529 based on the Federal volunteer rate of \$20.09 per hour. Liz Paull and Ed Tinsley provided over 200 hours of service this past year. Doris Chapin, Patsy Meyer, Laura Crumbley, Gene Tomlin, and Vince Desmond each gave over 100 hours. In FY 2009, volunteers gave 2,073 hours valued at \$45,787.

## *III. Lynchburg Museum Foundation*

The Lynchburg Museum Foundation, a 501(c) (3) educational and charitable corporation, received \$21,150 in gifts in FY 2010 compared to \$81,354 in FY 2009. The 2009 figure reflects the bulk of the Robert “Peck” Merchant bequest and a grant from the Patterson Foundation; the remainder of the Merchant bequest will come in FY 2011. Gifts given for particular purposes are kept in sub-accounts and other funds are classified as non-restricted. The Foundation supports all properties and programs of the Museum System.

- Donations Received in FY 2010: \$21,150
- The Foundation had financial assets of \$224,865 (total of all accounts, as of June 2010)

## *IV. Programs and Events*

### Day at the Point ☞ October 10, 2009 ☞ 1,550 visitors

The largest event of the year for the Museum System, Day at the Point, is a fall festival held at Point of Honor. Living history demonstrations, musical groups, tours, food, and games for children are all part of this annual event. Rain in the morning lessened the attendance compared to last year.

### Christmas Open House ☞ December 6, 2009 ☞ 505 visitors

Each year on the first Sunday in December, Point of Honor hosts a free open house with period decorations, music, and living history.

### Lights Out at the Museum ☞ January 22, 2010 ☞ 30 children February 12, 2010 ☞ 22 children

### Blues Exhibit Opening Concert ☞ March 6, 2010 ☞ 92 visitors

The Museum hosted Gregg Kimball and band for a concert and workshop at the Museum to open the exhibit: *Old Dominion Songsters*. The exhibit was loaned by the Library of Virginia through August 2010.

### Garden Day ☞ April 20, 2010 ☞ 191 visitors

Point of Honor’s grounds have benefited from the long-term relationship with the Garden Club of Virginia. Each April during Garden Week, Point of Honor is opened free to Garden Day ticket holders.



Home School Day ∞ May 6, 2010 ∞ 515 visitors, Museum & POH

Families who home school children came from across Virginia and North Carolina for this first-time event.

Discover Lynchburg Summer Camp ∞ June 21-25, 2010 ∞ 23 children

The Museum held the Discover Lynchburg Camp in June 2010. Visits were made to City Hall, a fire station, police department, water plants, and a picnic on Percival's Island.

Campers also experienced programs and activities at Point of Honor and the Museum ranging from Native American life to classic architecture.

*V. Significant Maintenance Projects*

Point of Honor

The City paid for repairs to the side and rear porches where wood had deteriorated on railings, pickets, and steps. Artist Sonny Harlow touched up paint in the interior of the house and repainted the parlor cornice to a single color. Regular preventive maintenance was done to the mechanical systems in all buildings. Wells Fargo/POH, Inc. paid \$1,775 to repaint the portion of the Carriage House metal roof that was flaking and \$900 to treat a termite swarm on the main house.

Lynchburg Museum

The Museum had no major repairs with only preventive and routine maintenance during the year.

*VI. Significant Enhancement Projects at Point of Honor and Museum*

No significant physical projects were initiated in FY 2010. A small herb garden was added at the rear of the kitchen by the staff at no cost. This location is outside of the contract area with the Garden Club of Virginia.

*VII. Special Projects, Significant Artifact Donations*

The Point of Honor Planning Team comprised of experienced curators, architects, architectural historians, and preservation professionals from across Virginia reviewed Point of Honor's restoration, interpretation, furnishings, audience, programs, and related matters during the year. The report was presented to the Board in October. The Board endorsed the report and subsequently hired lead scholar David Voelkel to draft an interpretive and furnishing plan, due in October 2010.

The staff and volunteers continued with the re-housing and study of POH archaeology collections and research on Cabell family papers in the Clerk of the Court's holdings that had not been evaluated.



The Museum System added several educational programs in FY 2010. There are now 10 programs that are offered to school groups with each one having a hands-on component and directly tied to Virginia's Standards of Learning.

The Museum System is a member of the City Marketing Partnership, comprised of staff from Parks and Recreation, Economic Development, Marketing and Communications, City Schools, Lynch's Landing, and Tourism. This group pools funds to promote events and tourism within the community and partners on a variety of projects.

Lynchburg TV, the City government cable channel, did three programs on the Museum System during the year that ran for several months each: *Clock and Bell Restoration*, *Educational Programs*, and *Curatorial Care of Artifacts*. The station also advertises programs and events for the Museum System.

The Museum System accepted 230 donated artifacts this year. They include Lynchburg silver, an early tripod camera used by the Lynchburg Police Department, original artwork of Scott's Mill, photographs, documents, clothing, and a variety of other objects. Lynchburg College and Randolph College loaned original works of art to the Museum in the past year from artists including Queena Stovall, Georgia Morgan, and Pierre Daura.

After a successful fundraising effort, the clock and bell at the Museum were put back into service on December 5, 2009 as the kickoff to the Lynchburg Christmas Parade. The community donated \$21,320 to the project in a three month period.

#### *VIII. Advisory Board*

The Lynchburg Museum System Advisory Board is appointed by City Council and the current members are: John Arnold, M.D., Mary Morris Booth, Jane Bowden, Melanie Christian, Robert Craighill, Laura Crumbley, Lucille Deane, Michael Doucette, Langhorne McCarthy, Laura Munson, Florence Perrow, Ray Stokes, Marie Waller, and Sandra Whitehead. Members Arnold, Christian, and Cresson were appointed by Wachovia Bank as the three stipulated in the revised contract. Lisa Cresson resigned during the fiscal year and a new member will be appointed in the upcoming cycle.

The Board advises the City Council, City Manager, and Museum Director on the growth and development of the Museum System and also acts as the Board for the Lynchburg Museum Foundation. The Board meets a minimum of four times during the fiscal year: all minutes are available for review at the Museum System administrative offices.