

Oral History Project Update

CAG has been awarded a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to collect and record a “living” history of Georgetown’s remarkable homes, buildings and structures as seen through the eyes of long time residents. The project will record the history of Georgetown buildings and places (houses, institutions, schools, churches, parks, cemeteries, and businesses) as experienced, remembered, and articulated by exceptional long time residents.

In January the steering committee gained two more experienced hands. Annie Lou Berman, who ran the oral history division for the Smithsonian’s Archives of American Art, has signed on and Leslie Wheelock, who helped with legal issues regarding orals histo-



Steering Committee: (l-r, seated) Annie Lou Berman, Karen Cruse, Denise Cunningham, Leslie Wheelock and (standing), Nola Klamberg, Betsy Cooley, Louise Brodnitz and Hazel Denton. Not shown: Leslie Kamrad.

ries at the Museum of the American Indian, has also volunteered to help.

The CAG Living History project will involve volunteers who will conduct interviews with people who have played significant roles in Georgetown over many years.

Dozens of long-time residents will be tapped (many in their eighties and nineties) to record their rich experiences and invaluable memories of growing up, living, or raising families in Georgetown. And the very good news is that we have already been contacted by several fascinating people (or their family members) who would like to be interviewed — including one gentleman who is a third generation Georgetownner.

Please let CAG know if you would like to be interviewed — or if you have people to suggest for interviews. We are also looking for volunteers to do research, conduct interviews (training will be provided), take photos, and help in other ways.

—Betsy Cooley

NEWSBYTES

Exquisite Fabrics opened at 3222 M Street offering designer silks, imported cottons, couture woolens, and other fine apparel fabrics ... Georgetownner **Kim Cameron**, a DC singer (of the Side FX band), will celebrate the release of her debut album “Contradictions” at Blues Alley on March 5th where she’ll be performing two sets...While we are waiting for the new Apple store at Wisconsin and Prospect to resolve design issues, take note there is an **Apple Campus Store** located in the back of the first floor of Georgetown University’s bookstore... Did you see **Tom Hanks and Ben Affleck** outside Maureen Dowd’s crowded Inaugural party on N Street?... Checkout the new history signs and photos at the Rose Park tennis courts and at the First Baptist Church (2624 Dumbarton Street)—that are part of the African American Heritage Trail.

Public Safety Guard to the Rescue!

We continue to have very positive feed back about the Public Safety patrols—such as this note from Kate Langdon:

Dear CAG,

I am writing to tell you how grateful I am about Tesfaye Terefe, the newest security guard. On New Year’s eve, I was about to set off to Mt. Vernon to meet friends and found that my car would not start — the battery having run down. Tesfaye was driving by and stopped to help jump-start my car. It was a cold night and he did not need to stop, but he did, and I am very grateful as I was able to spend New Year’s eve with my best friend and her brand new twin boys!

Thanks again for all you do in our community.

*Sincerely,
Kate Langdon*

Reminder: In December, CAG sent a letter to residents asking for donations (tax-deductible) to support the Public Safety Program in 2009. If you haven’t already sent in your donation, we urge you to do so.

Call CAG (337-7313) or visit our website—www.cagtown.org—if you need another copy of the letter and/or a donation form. Contributors for 2009 will be listed in the April newsletter.