

# The ALEXANDRIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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**DATE:** Wednesday, March 23, 2016

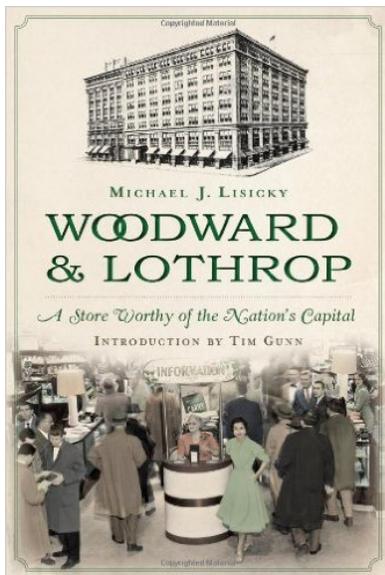
**PLACE:** The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria, VA

**TIME:** 7:30 PM

**SPEAKER:** Michael Lisicky, department store historian, lecturer and author

## LECTURE

# Woodward & Lothrop: A Store Worthy of the Nation's Capital



Please join us for a lecture with Michael Lisicky, nationally-recognized department store historian, lecturer and author. He will discuss his research and thoughts on Woodward & Lothrop, the beloved department store that stood at the heart of downtown DC for over a century and was affectionately called “Woodies” by loyal Washingtonians. His books have received critical acclaim in several major newspapers including *The Washington Post*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Washington Times* and *The Baltimore Sun*. His book *Gimbels Has It!* was cited as “one of the freshest reads of 2011” by National Public Radio’s *Morning Edition* program.

Mr. Lisicky has also given lectures at such varied locations as the New York Public Library, Boston Public Library, New York Fashion Week, DC Public Library and at the 2011 Wanamaker Organ Centennial Week celebration in Philadelphia. He served as a historical consultant for the Oscar-nominated film *Carol*, and has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, National Public Radio and CBS’s *Sunday Morning* television program. Mr. Lisicky resides in Baltimore, where he is an oboist with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.



*Please arrive early—seating is limited.*

The program is offered by the Alexandria Historical Society and is free to members and \$5 for non-members. Light refreshments will be served and books will be available for signing and purchase following the program. Please arrive early—seating is limited.

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### **In Memoriam—Anne Smith Paul (1941 – 2016)**

For almost twenty years, I had the pleasure of calling Anne Smith Paul a friend. We worked together as board members of the Alexandria Historical Society (AHS) and at different times we both shared the honor of serving as president for the AHS.

Anne's legacy with the AHS began with her father, Air Force Col. Wilfred Smith. He was one of the founders of the society in 1974 as well as our first president. Anne joined the board in the 1990s and was appointed president for the first time in 1998. For many years, she also served as treasurer. Her attention to detail was meticulous and the AHS has remained fiscally sound due to the policies and standards she incorporated many years ago.

Anne's love of history and her detailed record-keeping saved the AHS from disaster several years ago. Due to tragic circumstances, most of the AHS archive was destroyed. Anne came to the rescue and donated her personal records and almost single-handedly restored the AHS archive.

Everyone who knew Anne remembered the lovely way she left telephone messages, saying "T'was Anne Paul calling ..." She left such wonderful messages it was impossible to turn down any request she made. Her beautiful home at the Swann-Daingerfield was the site of wonderful gatherings for history lovers—a place where Anne made every guest feel like an old friend. She went out of her way to see that you were comfortable and engaged in great conversation.

Anne supported each AHS president and offered board members wisdom on the changes she had witnessed in Alexandria. She felt that the AHS must educate the public about both the pleasant and painful aspects of the city's history.

Anne Smith Paul was a wonderful friend. She was smart, gracious, stylish and forthright in her unerringly polite manner. Her death on February 14<sup>th</sup> leaves a void in the Alexandria history community and in our hearts. I think about Anne often and how she would handle certain situations. If we all acted with her kindness and grace our world would be a much better place. She will be deeply missed.

Audrey Davis  
Vice President, AHS  
Past President, AHS (2008 – 2011)

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### **Accepting Nominations for AHS Board Members**

There are several board member positions open for the next year at AHS (beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>). If you would either like to nominate someone for a position or become a board member, please contact the President, Debra P. Ackerman ([alexandriahistoricalociety@gmail.com](mailto:alexandriahistoricalociety@gmail.com)) or the Vice President, Audrey Davis ([audrey.davis@alexandriava.gov](mailto:audrey.davis@alexandriava.gov)).

## 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Alexandria History Awards

**April 27:** On Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, the Alexandria Historical Society will present awards to individuals who have made significant contributions to the understanding and appreciation of local history. Each year, the AHS honors authors, researchers and exceptional history students from Bishop Ireton, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes, Episcopal and T.C. Williams high schools. The ceremony is free to the public and will take place at 7:30 PM at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street in Alexandria.

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## AHS Spring Speaker Schedule

### **May 25: Alexandria's 1939 Library Sit-in: Its Impact, Aftermath & Legacy**

A lecture by Dr. Brenda Mitchell-Powell.

### **June 22: The Real Mercy Street**

Join local historians Sarah Coster and Audrey Davis as we explore the true stories behind the first season of PBS's new drama, *Mercy Street*.

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## Mercy Street Renewed by PBS for a Second Season

The popular series and original PBS Series, *Mercy Street*, about the chaotic world of the Mansion House Hospital in Union-occupied Alexandria during the Civil War, has been renewed for a second season. For more information, please visit <http://www.pbs.org/mercy-street/home/>

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## Upcoming History Events in April

**Saturday, April 9: 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Rum Punch Challenge** at Gadsby's Tavern Museum (134 North Royal Street, 7:00 – 9:30 PM). Just as guests to the tavern did over two hundred years ago, enjoy different rum punch creations from local distilleries, restaurants and caterers and vote on your favorite! The winner will be announced at the end of the evening. Also enjoy food—both period and modern—as well as a silent auction full of great items. Visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx> for more information. **Saturday, April 16: Firefighting History Walking Tour** at Friendship Firehouse Museum (107 South Alfred Street, 1:00 – 2:30 PM). Explore Alexandria's firefighting history, including three devastating fires and five volunteer fire companies. The tour begins at historic Friendship Firehouse, proceeds east on Prince Street and returns via King Street. For age ten and older. Visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov>. **Saturday, April 23: Civil War Surgeon and Field Hospital Program** at Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site (4301 West Braddock Road, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM). Learn about military medical practices presented by Civil War historian and interpreter Von Barron. Mr. Barron will portray U.S. Army Regimental Surgeon Captain Turner Kitt in a hospital setting that features a variety of medical tools and equipment of the era. Rain date is April 30. Visit <http://fortward.org>. **Saturday, April 30: Civil War Ball** at Gadsby's Tavern Museum (134 North Royal Street, 8:00 – 11:00 PM). Enjoy an evening from the 1860s in the historic Gadsby's Tavern ballroom at the Civil War Ball. The evening will include live music, dance instruction and period desserts. Period attire, either civilian or military, is encouraged. For more information, visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx>.