

## **Town of Arlington**

### **200th Anniversary Committee**

#### **Final Draft Report to the Town Meeting May 7, 2007**

The 200th Anniversary Committee was created by Article 53 of the 2005 Town Meeting. Its role is to establish a plan for the observance of the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of the Town of Arlington. On June 1, 1807, Arlington was incorporated as the Town of West Cambridge. Our town was known by this name until 1867 when it changed its name to Arlington.

The mandate of the 200th Anniversary Committee is to plan, promote and foster a series of events commemorating the town's 200th birthday which began in the fall of 2006 and will culminate in December of 2007. Many public and private organizations are participating.

#### Accomplishments to date:

Created a "200th Anniversary" logo by conducting a logo design contest for Arlington students.

Established a web site, [www.Arlington200.org](http://www.Arlington200.org).

Sponsored an Anniversary Committee booth at the September 2006 Town Day celebration.

Held a "Countdown to the 200th Dinner and Fundraiser" in October, 2006.

Supported a series of illustrated lectures at Town Hall cosponsored by the Arlington Historical Society. The final lecture will be held on May 29th.

Held a flag raising ceremony on January 1, 2007 using the 200th Anniversary flag.

#### Major programs planned for the remainder of 2007:

Decorate Massachusetts Avenue with commemorative pole banners sponsored by local businesses and fraternal organizations.

Conduct a student essay contest based on the theme "Arlington Past, Present, and Future".

Hold a gala birthday celebration on the weekend of June 1st including:

A concert by the Arlington Philharmonic Orchestra, a sing-along, birthday cake and fireworks on Friday evening.

A parade on Saturday with the Arlington Parade Committee.

A picnic on Saturday, for our senior citizens.

A jazz concert at Arlington High School on Saturday evening.

Observance of Arlington's anniversary in local places of worship on Sunday noting the importance of community.

A "Run for the 200th" road race with the Arlington Rotary Club.

Sponsor a Family Day on September 29th at Spy Pond Field in coordination with the Friends of Spy Pond.

Celebrate an "Autumn in Arlington" Harvest Ball in Town Hall.

Conduct a flag lowering ceremony on December 31, 2007 to mark the end of our bicentennial year.

There are many government officials, citizens and businesses who have contributed to the success of the 200th Anniversary Committee's programs. We gratefully acknowledge receiving donations of more than \$35,000.00. And we thank those museums and organizations who have contributed with affiliated events of their own. We also welcome those who wish to help us enhance the excitement of this special year.

Respectfully submitted,

Roland E. Chaput, Co-chair  
George Arena  
Angela Olszewski  
Natalie Zani

Pamela J. Meister, Co-chair  
William Carey  
A. Michael Ruderman  
Kim Haase (Treasurer)