THE CHURCHILLIAN

SPRING 2011 | VOLUME 2 | ISSUE 1

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL CHURCHILL MUSEUM

The Kemper Lecture by Sir Max Hastings

Plus: The 'Iron Curtain' Sculpture Unveiling Ceremony is Announced, Churchill and America by Roland Quinault & 65^{th} Churchill Anniversary

A very warm welcome from Fulton



Dr. Rob Havers addresses the crowd at the Churchill Weekend Brunch.

In

Dr. Rob Havers *Executive Director, National Churchill Museum*

Welcome to the second edition of *The Churchillian* magazine. We have just about recovered from the wonderful 2011 Churchill Weekend. I know many of you attended in person or supported the event and let me extend a very big thank you to everyone. The weekend was a tremendous success with both Sir Nigel Sheinwald, the British Ambassador to the USA, and Sir Max Hastings delivering tremendously illuminating and insightful talks at the Churchill dinner and the Kemper Lecture, respectively. Sir Nigel spoke of continuity and change in the Anglo-American relationship and brought his 30 years of diplomatic experience to bear on this fascinating topic. Sir Max, as befits an author of his standing, delivered a truly inspiration Kemper Lecture to a packed Church of St. Mary. The title, *Churchill: The Indispensable Man*, painted a portrait of a very human Churchill and conveyed, too, the sense of greatness that the war years engendered.

We were joined at the weekend by Churchillians from across the nation as well as many staff, students and faculty from Westminster College. Particular thanks go to the staff at the National Churchill Museum and to Westminster College's IT and College Relations departments for their herculean efforts. A very big thank you also to the event benefactors, Novus International and Wells Fargo Advisors; to The Boeing Company, the event underwriter; to Ambassador and Mrs. Brauer; to Emerson Electric and Edward Jones, the event sponsors; Linda and Steve Taylor as a Friend of the event and to the Enid and R. Crosby Kemper Foundation for all their help and support. The only piece missing was that, due to insurmountable weather and foundry-related delays, we were unable to unveil the 'Iron Curtain' sculpture. This will now happen on May 13th at 11:00 a.m.

I hope as many of you as possible can make it for this wonderful occasion.

While these events showcase the Museum and help raise our profile to a much wider audience, we continue to make a difference daily in reminding the world of the life and legacy of Sir Winston Churchill in much smaller but no less significant ways. Our educational programs continue to be well received and the monthly 'Churchill's Kid's Club' and public programming all have solid regular attendees. As ever, we strive to increase numbers at all our events and the quality of our offerings is first rate. In this edition of *The Churchillian*, you can read about some of these activities in our Educational Update section.

This edition also features a central article penned by Dr. Roland Quinault, this year's visiting Fulbright-Robertson Professor of British History. Roland has been actively involved with the Museum since arriving in Fulton and this piece will be followed in a future edition of *The Churchillian* by an article culled from our archival holdings.

I wish you a happy spring!

Board of Governors Association of Churchill Fellows

William H. Tyler Chairman & Senior Fellow Pebble Beach, California

Robert L. DeFer Chesterfield, Missouri

Earle H. Harbison, Jr. St. Louis, Missouri

William C. Ives Chapel Hill, North Carolina

> Hjalma E. Johnson Dade City, Florida

R. Crosby Kemper, III Kansas City, Missouri

Barbara D. Lewington St. Louis, Missouri

Richard J. Mahoney St. Louis, Missouri

Jean-Paul Montupet St. Louis, Missouri

William R. Piper St. Louis, Missouri

Suzanne D. Richardson St. Louis, Missouri

The Honorable Edwina Sandys, M.B.E. New York, New York

James M. Schmuck Wildwood, Missouri

The Lady Soames L.G., D.B.E. London, U.K.

> Linda Gill Taylor Kansas City, Missouri

John E. Marshall, Emeritus Fulton, Missouri

John R. McFarland, Emeritus St. Louis, Missouri

Harold L. Ogden, Emeritus Seal Beach, California

Marvin O. Young, Emeritus St. Louis, Missouri

Churchill Institute & Memorial Committee of the Board of Trustees, Westminster College

Heather A. T. Biehl, Chair *Acton, Massachusetts*

Linda Gill Taylor, Co-Vice Chair Kansas City, Missouri

James M. Schmuck, Co-Vice Chair Wildwood, Missouri

Ron J. Kostich *Upland*, *California*

Jerry N. Middleton St. Louis, Missouri

C. Robert Monroe Overland Park, Kansas

John C. Panettiere
Atlanta, Georgia

Suzanne D. Richardson

St. Louis, Missouri
Patricia Kopf Sanner

Arlington, Virginia
Anne E. Schneider

Jefferson City, Missouri

William H. Tyler Pebble Beach, California

Ronald D. Winney Edwardsville, Illinois

George B. Forsythe, Ph.D. President, Westminster College

Robin Havers
Executive Director

The Churchillian

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL CHURCHILL MUSEUM

SPRING 2011 | VOLUME 2 | ISSUE 1

4 Churchill and America:

Personal Contacts in War and Peace by Roland Quinalt

8 65th Churchill Anniversary Dinner

The Churchill Dinner commemorated the anniversary of Churchill's visit to Fulton with our guest of honor His Excellency Sir Nigel Sheinwald.

10 The Kemper Lecture

Sir Max Hastings, author of more than 20 historical works, delivers the 2011 Enid & R. Crosby Kemper Foundation Lecture.

12 "Iron Curtain Sculpture"

Don Wiegand discusses the upcoming sculpture to be placed on the grounds of the National Churchill Museum.

13 Museum News and Notes

A recap of the fall events through wonderful photos.

14 Many Thanks!

A quarterly message from the Museum's Director of Development, Kit Freudenberg.

16 Conservation at Home

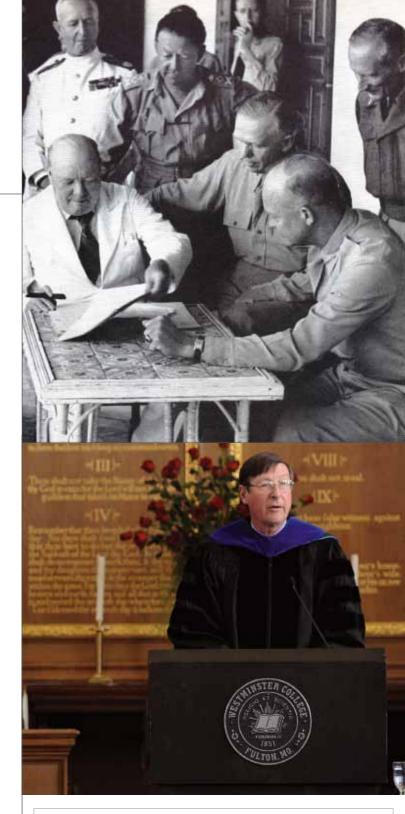
In this issue, Liz Murphy reviews how to care for your special items at home.

18 Educational Programming

A quarterly education & public programming update from Mandy Plybon.

19 Calendar of Events

Find out what great events are happening soon!



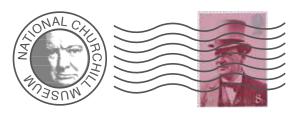
Special thanks

Roland Quinault, Fulbright-Robertson Visiting Chair of British History
Dak Dillon, Kemper Lecture Photographer
James Fashing, 65th Churchill Anniversary Dinner Photographer
Kay Jarboe, Westminster College
Dale Ley III, Westminster College

THE NATIONAL CHURCHILL MUSEUM IS ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER!

Follow us on **twitter**: @ChurchillMuseum
Find us on **facebook**: Churchill Museum





Churchill and America:

Personal Contacts in War and Peace

by Dr. Roland Quinault

inston Churchill was half American by parentage and – as he pointed out to the U.S. Congress in 1941 – if his father had been American and his mother English, he might have pursued a political career in the States. As it was, however, Churchill was brought up in England and his personal connections with the United States were slow to develop. That was mainly because the female members of his mother's family, the Jeromes, spent most of their lives in Europe. His mother, Jennie, and her two sisters all married Brits and both their parents died in England. Jennie's marriage to Randolph Churchill, in 1874, gave her an entrée into high society and her husband became a leading politician. Consequently, their life was centered on England, although they did make several visits to the U.S. Their two sons - Winston and his younger brother, Jack - were educated in England in preparation for English careers.

Consequently, Winston might never have had much to do with America if it had not been for his interest in, and involvement with, war. It was war – or the threat of war – that led Winston to turn his attention to America and which occasioned most of his visits to the U.S. It was also war, or the aftermath of war, which generated most of his American friendships - with politicians, businessmen and others.

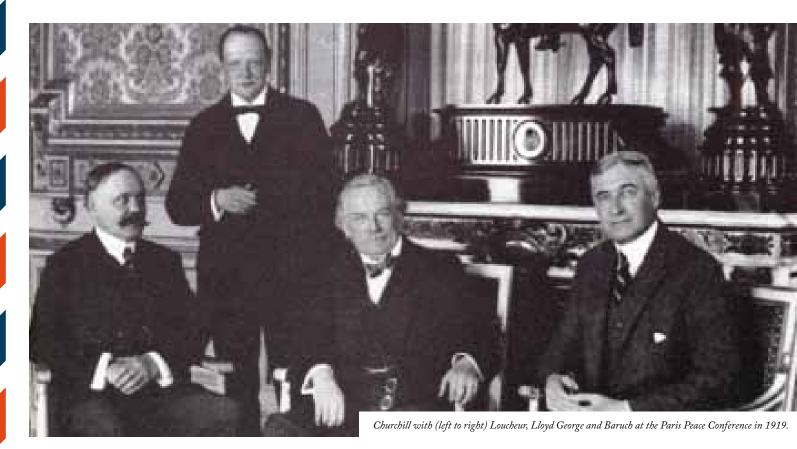
Winston first showed an independent interest in the United States when he was at a preparatory school. There he perused back volumes of the satirical magazine, *Punch*, and was particularly taken with the cartoons depicting the American Civil War. They aroused in him a desire to know more about that conflict and he asked his mother to give him General Grant's *History of the American War*. At Harrow School, Churchill wrote an examination essay on the American Civil War, which helped him to gain a place at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst. While he was an army cadet, he ordered a number of books on the Civil War. He was particularly taken with Stephen Crane's novella *The Red Badge of Courage: An Episode of the American Civil War*, which dwelt on several themes of interest to Churchill. Like Crane's young hero, Churchill was unsure

how he would act under fire. Therefore, he arranged what he described as 'a private rehearsal' to test his coolness under fire. That was a visit, in 1895, as a war correspondent and observer, to the Spanish troops fighting nationalist guerillas in Cuba. It was there, on his twenty-first birthday, that Winston first heard shots fired in anger.

On his way to Cuba, Churchill made a brief stopover in New York. He stayed with a friend of his mother, Bourke Cockran, whom he described as 'one of the most charming hosts and interesting men I have met.' They talked on every subject and formed a strong friendship. Cockran was an Irish-born lawyer, a Democratic Congressman and one of the finest orators of his age. He made a strong impression on Winston and encouraged his support for free trade, but they strongly disagreed about Irish home rule and the monarchy. Winston was most impressed by American hospitality and he concluded that the best Americans were in business rather than in government.

The purpose of Churchill's second visit to America, in 1900, was, in his own words, 'profit not pleasure.' In order to finance his activities as a newly elected Member of Parliament, he made an intensive lecture tour of the eastern States, when he spoke about his recent experiences as a journalist, soldier and prisoner during the South African War. He got a mixed reception because many Americans disapproved of what they regarded as Britain's aggressive imperial war against the Boers and the financial rewards of his tour were disappointing.

It was nearly thirty years before Churchill returned to America – mainly because he was almost continuously in government office from 1905 until 1929. His political career did, however, widen his circle of American contacts. When he was Minister of Munitions during the later part of the First World War, he had regular cable contact with his opposite number in America, Bernard Baruch, who was the head of the War Industries Board. The two men met, for the first time, at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919, and became good friends. On Churchill's subsequent visits



to New York, he usually stayed with Baruch – or 'Bernie' as he called him.

In 1929, Churchill lost his post as Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Conservative government and he took advantage of his freedom from office to visit the United States. As in 1900, his visit had both a financial and a military dimension. He was commissioned to write some articles and he wanted to invest in the still booming American economy. He travelled from Canada and Chicago to California, where he visited Charlie Chaplin at Hollywood. On his return to the east, he visited the Civil War battlefields in Virginia with Bernard Baruch, whose father had been a surgeon with the South Carolina Infantry, and with the historian Douglas Freeman, whose father was a surviving veteran of the Army of Northern Virginia. Churchill was fascinated by the remaining physical and personal mementoes of the battles. A few years later, he wrote a ten thousand-word account of the American Civil War, which he regarded as 'the most interesting of all the wars of which I have read.'1

Churchill's study of the Civil War influenced his attitude to American participation in both World Wars. When the United States entered the First World War, Churchill welcomed 'the grandsons of the men who fought with Grant and Sheridan, with Jackson and Lee.' When the U.S. entered the Second World War, Churchill was sure that the Americans would stand blood-letting because 'I had studied the American Civil War, fought out to the last desperate

inch.' Although Churchill greatly admired the bravery of the South during the Civil War, he did not believe that it redeemed their cause from the stain of slavery. But the magnanimous conduct of Lincoln and Grant towards the Confederate army, at the end of the Civil War, partly inspired the moral which prefaced Churchill's *History of the Second World War*, 'In War: Resolution. In Victory: Magnanimity.'

The personal relationship between Churchill and President Roosevelt played a key role in forging the Anglo-American alliance, which helped to secure victory in the Second World War. In the 1930s, Churchill had been quite critical of Roosevelt's New Deal, which he regarded as too socialistic, but he shared with FDR an hostility to Nazism and a common democratic ideology rooted in the Anglo-American tradition. Consequently, their foreign policy speeches before the war often echoed each other. But it was their common interest in military history that led to direct contact between them.

Roosevelt greatly enjoyed reading Churchill's biography of his famous ancestor, John Churchill, the first Duke of Marlborough, who had defeated the French in numerous battles in the early 1700s. It was the navy, however, that was Roosevelt's passion and he was delighted when Churchill sent him a 'tremendous' account of the Battle of the River Plate, when British warships entrapped a German pocket battleship in 1939. In 1941, the two leaders met on a battleship off Newfoundland, but it was not until Churchill visited Washington, after the United States had entered the

war, that they established a personal friendship. Although they enjoyed each other's company, the President could not keep up with Churchill's capacity for staying up late and drinking spirits. As the war progressed, Roosevelt's health declined and his policy differences with Churchill increased, particularly with regard to relations with the Soviet Union. The President died, moreover, shortly before the end of the war in Europe.

Churchill's wartime meetings with Americans, other than the President, usually took place in England and especially at the Prime Minister's official country home, Chequers. There he received a succession of American diplomats, including Harry Hopkins, John Winant and Averil Harriman. Generals Eisenhower, Marshall and Clark were also regular visitors to Chequers, where they got to know Churchill in a way that would have been impossible in London. Eisenhower, as the U.S. commander in the European theatre and then as the Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force, answered to both Churchill and Roosevelt. But Ike had little direct contact with Roosevelt, whereas he had frequent meetings with Churchill, either on his own or in the company of the Chiefs of Staff. At the end of the war, Churchill praised Ike for his consideration of the British point of view and predicted that he would work to keep Britain and the U.S. together in the future.

Churchill considered that the biggest mistake he made during the war was his failure to meet President Truman after Roosevelt's death. But when the two men did meet, at the Potsdam conference in July 1945, they got on well. A week later, however, Churchill's government was defeated at the British general election. Although Churchill was now out of office, his experience was still valued by Truman who, in 1946, invited him to speak at Westminster College, in Fulton, Missouri. The President accompanied Churchill on his visit and listened to his speech, but it was another year before he publicly endorsed Churchill's stance on 'the iron curtain' in Europe and relations with the Soviet Union.

At the 1952 Presidential election, Eisenhower was the Republican candidate. Churchill had hitherto preferred a Democrat President, but he realized the value of having of a close associate in the White House. His recent return to the premiership in Britain had encouraged Eisenhower to run for the presidency for Churchill was the only leading statesman that Ike knew well. As President, Eisenhower had a few foreign policy differences with Churchill, not all of which were resolved. But their personal relationship was always warm and close. When Churchill retired from the premiership in 1955, Ike felt that 'a treasured partnership been broken' and when Churchill died in 1965, Eisenhower was the only American invited to speak at his funeral.

Churchill believed that direct personal contact was of the first importance both in politics and in life more generally. But in the first 55 years of his long life, he made only two brief trips to the United States. Consequently, most of his personal contacts with Americans took place in England or Europe. His American friendships were mostly confined to leading government officials and soldiers or rich businessmen. His direct contact with ordinary Americans was limited, but he encountered many of them during his lecture tours and he was impressed by their interest and attention. He thought that the best way to get to know Americans was by personal visits to their homes. He reached into American homes through the new medium of radio and also through his many books and prolific journalism, which was syndicated across the U.S.A.

On the way back to Washington after giving his Fulton speech, Churchill said that if he could live again, he would wish to be born in the United States. He presumably felt that as an American he would have been in a much stronger position to mould the world to his liking. Ironically, however, Churchill exercised more influence over the U.S. as an esteemed outsider than would probably have been the case if he had been an American party politician. There were, moreover, limits to Churchill's identification with America. He disliked some American customs and he was always critical of the role that money played in the American political system. Nevertheless, there was something indubitably American about Churchill's self-confident, ebullient and extrovert personality characteristics which sometimes acted as a break on his British career. When Churchill became Prime Minister, in 1940, a leading Conservative described him as 'the greatest adventurer of modern political history ... a half-breed American.' But it was precisely because Churchill was a half-breed that he was so effective in promoting both the Anglo-American alliance and the Anglo-American concept of liberty and democracy.

(Endnotes)

¹ Martin Gilbert, <u>Winston S. Churchill</u>, Companion volume V. Part 3, p 1520: W.S.C. to Brigadier-General Sir James Edmonds, 15 June 1939.



Dr. Roland Quinault is the visiting Fulbright-Robertson Visiting Professor of British History at Westminster College.

THE CHURCHILL WEEKEND 65th Churchill Anniversary Dinner







Pictured on the left page:

- 1. Board of Governors Richard J. Mahoney and Jean-Paul Montupet in deep discussion with Sir Nigel.
- 2. Westminster Alumnus and Trustee Brock Ayers, his wife and daughters meet Sir Nigel.
- 3. Congressman Blaine Luetkemeyer with Sir Nigel.
- 4. Sir Nigel has a chat with Executive Director Rob Havers, Novus International CFO Mr. John Wade and his wife Susan.
- 5. Novus International poses in a group shot with Sir Nigel.





Pictured on the right page:

- 6. The wonderful dining room for the Churchill dinner.
- 7. Westminster College President Dr. Barney Forsythe proposes a toast to Her Majesty the Queen.
- 8. Robert Chatterton Dickson, British Consul General in Chicago, proposes the toast to Westminster College.
- 9. Mr. David Ray, Will Cornett, Mrs. Melinda Ray, Emma Ray, Vicki Flynn and Logan Ray enjoy the port and cigars (to be smoked outside the Museum!) post-dinner.
- 10. Sir Nigel Sheinwald delivers his post-dinner address, formally entitled, 'Continuity and Change in International Relations: honoring Churchill at Fulton', from the very lectern that Churchill himself spoke in 1946.



THE CHURCHILL WEEKEND

The Enid & R. Crosby Kemper Foundation Lecture: Delivered by Sir Max Hastings



- 1. Executive Director Rob Havers, Sir Nigel and Sir Max discuss WSC's career while viewing the "Breakthrough" sculpture.
- 2. Sir Max gathers his thoughts before speaking.
- 3. Sir Max speaks to a full house in the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Aldermanbury.
- 4. As Sir Christopher Wren looks on, Sir Max, Sir Nigel, Rob Havers and Westminster Alumnus Jack Marshall and British Consul General in Chicago Robert Chatterton Dickson re-fight the Blitz.
- 5. Westminster College President Barney Forsythe at the lectern.
- 6. Sir Max signs his literary works after delivering the Kemper Lecture.
- 7. Crosby Kemper III together with Rob Havers, Barney Forsythe and Sir Max after the book signing.



THE CHURCHILL WEEKEND

"Iron Curtain" Sculpture with Don Wiegand

- I. Museum Governor and Westminster College Trustee Linda Gill Taylor examines the sculpture macquette and base as George Crickard III look on.
- 2. Don Weigand explains his art to WWII veteran John Wolfe and his son Matt Wolfe.
- 3. A closer look at the artist's rendering and the piece, in miniature.
- 4. Don Weigand talks to the packed Churchill Brunch crowd as he explains the process of creating the 'Iron Curtain' sculpture.
- 5. Westminster College Professor of Political science Dr. John Langton engages with the crowd.



ove the lives of individu r communities

MUSEUM NEWS AND NOTES









Missouri's former First Lady

Jean Carnahan came to the National Churchill Museum January 24, 2011, to help open the museum's temporary exhibition, "Outstanding Women of Missouri." The exhibition was put together by The Missouri Women's Council to honor those women who received the Outstanding Woman Award. It was on display from January 7, 2011-February 7, 2011.

EVENT PHOTOS

- 1. On September 30, 2010, the National Churchill Museum's Education & Public Programs Department received a \$500.00 donation from Wal-Mart. With this generous donation, the Museum will host a public program, "Knight for Hire" on May 14, 2011. Sir Karl Kindt, III, from St. Louis, Missouri, will share stories, reenactments and do a live sword demonstration in the Church of St. Mary. Wal-Mart's donation will allow the Museum to offer this wonderful family-friendly event to multiple generations, from the grandkids to the great-grandparents. Thank you, Wal-Mart! Pictured above is Mandy Plybon with Tony Loehr, Store Manager of Wal-Mart.
- Former Missouri First Lady Jean Carnahan speaks at the opening of the temporary exhibition, "Outstanding Women of Missouri."
- Children make flags and Big Ben at the Martin Luther King Activity Day, January 17, 2011.
- A young girl shows off her Big Ben at the MLK Activity Day, January 17, 2011.

Many thanks to ALL of our supporters.



Kit Freudenberg

Director of Development

When the winter days seem so long and grey, I sometimes slip away from the office and make my way up into the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Aldermanbury. Sitting in a side pew, I watch the light shine on those beautiful windows that Sir Christopher Wren planned for the renovation after the Great Fire of London. And if I am very lucky, a student is practicing a music piece on the Noel Mander Organ and I am treated to the private concert.

We are so fortunate to have this historic building to house the National Churchill Museum. It makes a person stop and reflect on those who came before us and, hopefully, the many who will benefit from our service.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the many supporters who help preserve the Church and the legacy of Sir Winston Churchill by attending the exhibits, events and programs – and becoming members and donors. Last year, Roy Hickman, one of the original crewmembers who placed the stones, contributed funds to help preserve the Church. The Mid-Missouri Friends of the Memorial assisted with funding to restore the Church doors and are now hard at work to raise money to replace the antiquated outdoor lighting.

We celebrated Churchill's 136th birthday in November and many Churchillians across the United States joined in the festivities with donations and memberships. Our local community enjoyed the wonderful portrait cake donated by Chez Monet of Jefferson City.

Other recent contributors....

Mrs. Hilda P. Jones - she believes everyone would benefit from learning a little bit about Churchill. We thank her for her support of an upcoming Churchill exhibit. The exhibit, curated by our Museum staff, will travel to museums and libraries nationwide.



The National Churchill Museum in association with Churchill Fellow Richard Mahoney and sculptor Don Wiegand presents

IRON CURTAIN

Sculpture Unveiling Ceremony
11:00 a.m.
May 13, 2011
Museum Entrance

Featuring guest speaker Edwina Sandys, Churchill's granddaughter

- Staff and management of Fulton's Wal-Mart Supercenter and their donation for the upcoming May education program, Knight for Hire.
- Missouri State Archives grant through the Secretary of State to preserve archival materials pertaining to the Winston Churchill Memorial and Library.
- ❖ The J.M. Kaplan Foundation and its support to preserve papers and photographs of the Churchill family.
- Mr. Brock Ayers and his support to republish the Friends of the Memorial Cookbook first published in 1977.
- ❖ Mr. Jack Taylor and his generous gift to support the Museum's exhibits and programs. He joins a list of donors who have contributed large and small to ensure that Churchill's words and service are not forgotten.

The challenges to preserve this Church and bring history to life through the Museum are many. We are so grateful to the many, many people who have contributed through time, talent and treasures to support the education programs, exhibitions, and archives and collections program. Thank you so much.

Just for fun

Come celebrate the Royal Wedding on April 29th with the Mid-Missouri Friends! Ladies are encouraged to wear hats for the occasion. The special event begins at 4:30 pm in the Church. A wedding cake and champagne reception follows in the Museum with a chance to view the wedding and toast the new couple. In lieu of gifts for Kate and William, consider a donation to fund new lights at the Church. The reception guestbook and a Mid-Missouri Friends cookbook will be sent with congratulations to the newlyweds. Come join the fun!

Do you love freebies? We all love freebies!

And you now have reciprocal membership privileges with **485 museums** at the *Member of Parliament* (and above) membership. See the complete list at *www.churchillmemorial.org/go/museums*. For more information, visit our website at *www.churchillmemorial.org/aboutus/Pages/Membership.aspx* or call Kit Freudenberg at 573-592-5022.



Conservation at Home is a three-part miniseries that will create a miniature conservation tool kit to help preserve your fondest memories.

How to Care For Your Family Treasures

by Liz Murphy, National Churchill Museum Archivist (pictured below)



Since our last edition of *The Churchillian*, the collections committee has accepted two separate gifts of Churchilliana. So, fitting with our 'Conservation At Home' theme, this edition will focus on conservation of three-dimensional objects. Churchilliana is a phrase used in reference to a piece of memorabilia related to Winston Churchill. Throughout this article, you will find pieces of Churchilliana from the museum's collection. As you will see, the variance ranges from identifiable and functional objects to fun-looking and decorative objects.

In writing this article, I found myself looking around my apartment at the objects I personally own and found they are made of three main materials; wood, ceramic, and metal. I am sure if you were to do the same preliminary glance, your findings would match my own. We are going to take a brief look at each type of material and how to go about preserving and storing these materials. After that, we will look at how the Churchill

Museum uses many of the same methods with its collections.

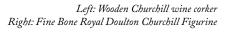
WOOD

Of the three material types mentioned, wood is the most porous and responsive to immediate temperature and humidity change. Wood's natural ability, while living, to transport water does not stop when the tree has been felled. The wood will dry considerably, but the channels created to move water will still exist. Wood will almost always try to 'season' or adjust itself to its immediate environment. For example, have you ever left a wooden spoon in water over night, and then taken it out to dry? If you do that enough times, it will eventually crack.

Cracking and disfigurement can at times be prevented in wood by following a few simple steps:

- 1. Keep the object free from extreme temperature and humidity changes. As mentioned in the last article—avoid basements, attics and garages. These drastic changes cause the wood to swell and shrink, and like that kitchen spoon, eventually crack.
- 2. Keep dust from building up on the objects. Dust can gather in the crevices of wood and also carry dirt and dried skin with it. That will invite pests in for the dirty dust and then keep them around for the wood. Different waxes can be applied yearly to wooden pieces; wax can seal the holes in wood that would normally attract dust. However like your car, if you wax it too often it does more harm then good.
- 3. Lastly, keep the objects covered; a nice curio cabinet is always good for various types of objects. If your wooden objects are furnishings, which they usually are, keep them clean and follow all instructions when it comes to caring for the piece. Dusting with a damp rag is the best care for wood. My grandma, who would put a quilt over her dresser or table cloth on the family table, really knew what she was doing.

Sometimes cracks can not be prevented, pieces age and the wood shrinks. When purchasing wooden pieces, you want to look to see if the wood has been cut perpendicular to the growth rings of the piece of lumber. That means as this piece of wood ages, it has less of a tendency to warp or bend.





METAL

In home furnishings, metal usually comes in the form of silver. Silver is usually brought out for that special occasion then immediately stored away until next year. While silver is not as porous as wood, it can still be damaged. This damage is called tarnishing. Silver is incredibly sensitive to the oils and salts found on the human hand as well as the chloride salts found in washing detergents. In a sense, every time silver is handled and then cleaned, the silver is worn down. However, you do not live in a museum and I would not expect you to leave your silver in a bag and stare at it longingly every holiday season!

Instead of storing your silver in the cabinet, which can be open to the air, consider wrapping it first in tissue and then placing it in a pillow case. This will keep the sulfurs in the atmosphere from tarnishing your silver. You can also use anti-tarnish strips, purchased from a jewelry store to help keep that sulfur off your silver. Be careful, though, and do not allow the strips to touch the actual silver as that can cause damage, too.

Your silver needs to be cleaned at least once a year. This ensures it does not tarnish and allows the owner to create a mental (or handwritten) list of condition of the pieces. Commercial products work well on silver; however, beware of products that advertise "anti-tarnish" as they are incredibly abrasive. An age old 'trick' (and one that works well!) has been to take one ounce of washing soda and mix it with one pint of distilled water in an old aluminum tub. If you do not have an aluminum tub, take a few pieces of aluminum foil and add it to the mixture. Once clean, rinse off with distilled water and clean with soft cloth. ONLY use this method on pure silver objects because if it is used on objects plated in silver, it could strip the plating. This method can result in dull-looking silver, in which case all you need to do is apply some polish.

CERAMICS

Fine bone china is made, generally, to use and therefore the most durable. Personal ceramic artifacts are incredibly stable due to the fact that they have been fired in a kiln. The same guidelines apply to ceramics that did for our other materials. Keep them clean and free of dust, and store them out of the elements. Many ceramics can be cleaned in mild detergent and then hand dried, to prevent water spots. The greatest harm to ceramics is breaking, due to falling. When storing them avoid stacking them on top of each other, especially fine bone china as this can crack the finishing.



MUSEUM STORAGE

At the National Churchill Museum, we follow these exact guidelines to care for our objects. The Churchilliana we just accepted was cleaned and is stored in a safe environment. Above is a picture of one of our storage cabinets; these methods will keep these pieces looking their best for years to come. We work to keep the temperature at a steady 70 degrees Fahrenheit and the humidity between 45-50 percent. We monitor these settings with a device called a data logger. This device logs the temperature and humidity of approximately 1,500 square feet around it. The data it generates is downloaded monthly and analyzed. This has helped us level out the fluctuations.

In next and our last edition of *Conservation at Home*, we will look at paintings and discuss the wide range of paintings the museum has.

Book citation: The care of Antiques and Historical Collections. A. Bruce MacLeish, ed. An American Association for State and Local History Publication

NOTE: AS WITH ANY 'DO-IT-YOURSELF' PROJECT, PLEASE CONSULT A PROFESSIONAL FIRST. THIS WILL KEEP YOU AND YOUR TREASURES SAFE.



The Churchill Trolley
by Mandy Plybon, Education and Public Programs Coordinator

From Southeast Missouri to Kansas City and St. Louis, 1,300 students

participate in a National Churchill Museum field trip each year. Teachers and school administrators, hit hard by these tough economic times, are looking for ways to keep hands-on educational experiences in their budget. We are doing our part with a "Buy 2 Student Admissions Get 1 Student Admission Free" coupon program to help schools with their budget tightening. For every two student admissions purchased, educators get the third student admission free. While this does not alleviate the entire field trip cost, it does cut the total admission price by one-third. Previous field trip visitors have already received their coupons. On September 21, 2010, I received this email from a coupon recipient:

"Just wanted to thank you to you and your staff and leadership for making one of the best museums around more accessible because of the cost defrayment! We will see you in March!" Matt Kuensting, teacher, Grant Elementary School, Columbia MO

Besides this coupon incentive program, the Museum's Education Department also wants to offer a field trip transportation scholarship - the Churchill Trolley. The Churchill Trolley is a school tour program offering free transportation (i.e., bus cost, gas cost, and driver fee) for Missouri schoolchildren, bringing them to the National Churchill Museum for a field trip. The program coordinates to ensure that each Missouri K-12 school who requests a Churchill Trolley receives at least one per school year. We will also rotate classrooms each year to offer the opportunity to different classes.

If you would like to make a donation, and for more information, please contact me. Providing students the opportunity to learn about an internationally significant artist, author, and political leader is an important step in creatively supplementing the education of our youth.

Traveling Trunk Grant

We received a substantial grant from Mexico, Missouri's The Allen P. and Josephine B. Green Foundation, Inc. to fund a traveling trunk program. The theme for this groundbreaking educational program is Winston Churchill's 1946 visit to Fulton. This topic is ideal, particularly for Missouri fourth grade classes, as Missouri history is a major component of their curriculum. Our trunk will focus on replicating authentic items so that children can tangibly experience this world-changing event. Items in the trunk include Churchill's speech, the parade route, tickets, buttons, invitation correspondence, event pictures, reading glasses, robe, and beefeater. Along with the hands-on materials will also be lesson plans and activity ideas appropriate for kindergarten through twelve grades.

ATTENTION EDUCATORS!

"Cultural Landscapes" *Teacher Seminar*

June 22-24, 2011

Find details & registration guidelines at www.nationalchurchillmuseum.org

Click on School Programs, Teacher Seminar

For information, contact
Mandy Plybon,

Education & Public Programs Coordinator
at (573) 592-6242 or
mandy.plybon@churchillmemorial.org.



April

1 Eleventh Annual Watercolor Missouri National (ends May 18)

May

Family Fun: Knight for Hire 11am-12pm Free

Fun for all ages! Fun stories, first-person reenactments, and a sword demonstration! Get a behind-the-scenes "tour" of a knight's life.

June

**The new 2011-2012 calendar of events will be available June 1st. Call for your copy!

Traveling Exhibit: Lives Remembered Photographs of a Small Town in Poland
1897-1939 (ends June 29)

This exhibition illustrates Jewish life in Europe before the Holocaust through reproductions of more than 100 photographs of the small town of Szczuczyn, Poland. These photographs capture the ordinary lives of the residents during the years leading up to the Nazi invasion, enjoying life, advancements in technology and living free of labels or hate.

11 Children's Program: Fun Day!

11am-12pm Free

Open to any child ages 3-12. Join us for a kick-off to summer. Make your own rain sticks, Winston Churchill bobble heads, and tie-dye t-shirts. Be sure to stay afterwards to hear from our special guest, Rachel Miller, a Holocaust child survivor.

Gallery Talk & Reception

1pm-3pm Free

Special Guest: Rachel Miller, Holocaust child survivor

Join us for a gallery talk inspired by the current traveling exhibit "Lives Remembered." Special guest, Rachel Miller, will speak about her experience as a Holocaust child survivor. A reception will follow.

12 Summer Break (ends August 31)

We will take a break from all public programming from June 12, 2011, through August 31, 2011. *Have a wonderful summer!*

National

Museum

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
JEFFERSON CITY, MO
PERMIT NO. 210

Thank you to our supporters:







Benefactor





Edward Jones®

Ambassador and Mrs. Stephen F. Brauer

Sponsor Sponsor Sponsor