

Beautification at the Museum

08/14/22

This past week a group of us gathered at the museum after hours for a 'beautification' session. This group consisted of board members, volunteers, and staff. I think we are fortunate to have board members who are committed to every aspect of the museum and are willing to pitch in.

We have several big events coming up and all wanted to pitch in to fix up and spruce up a few areas. For a building that was built in 1866, it is holding up amazingly well, in some areas. We do have some exterior work that needs to be done, but this group was mainly working on the inside of the museum.

One of the first things to be tackled was the peeling paint on the main supports on the central level. For an unknown reason, the last application of paint, years ago, did not adhere to the posts and we were literally peeling off long portions of the paint. This came in handy when we were ordering more paint and needed a color match. We had lots of peeling and scraping and sanding to do before the new paint could be applied. Thankfully we had a ladder and some tall people to help up high. (We still have a small portion at the top of one post that was not covered if any tall person needs 30 minutes of work).
along all the windowsills and in the front by the big windows.



Some of the crew headed downstairs to the lower level. It got a good brushing and vacuuming. Since it is a stone floor, there tends to be a buildup of what I call stone dust. When we open the delivery doors to the River, we also get a little more dust. We also decided to paint the stairs leading to that area which left the downstairs closed for one day. We will be installing stair treads and then those should be set. The upstairs was fully vacuumed, and all areas dusted.

The biggest job of the evening was putting in a new floor in the men's room. For those of you who have ever put down a floor, you know that job is never as easy as it sounds. We started by cleaning the current floor, then removing the baseboards around the perimeter of the floor. Piece of cake! Well, turns out the new floor wouldn't just slide under the toilet, so that had to be removed, and there is some wood trimming to do around the door to make the floor fit under. Needless to say, that job is still in progress, and we now have a unisex lady's room.

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Around 5:30 Martha decided to call for pizzas. She picked up the nearest phone, but alas, there was no



operator to help her. She ended up using her cell phone.

I turned out to be a nice group effort and we each got to know one another a little better. Now if you are coming for Meet the Authors, The Night at the Museum, Meet the Press or the Gallery Talks, you might see the results of our hard work.