

Central Kentucky Heartland
RURAL HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2006

The RHDI Partners are happy to bring you the April issue of the *Central Kentucky Heartland Rural Heritage Development Initiative Newsletter*. This newsletter is sent out monthly to update interested parties on the progress of the Rural Heritage Initiative and events important to the area. If you would like to submit information to the newsletter or have any questions, please contact **Field Representative, Amy Sparrow Potts, PO Box 262, Hodgenville, Kentucky, 42748, (270) 358-9069, amy@preservationkentucky.org**.

-African American Heritage Workshop, Saturday, May 13

The first annual “*Documenting Your African American Historic Resources*” will be held from 8 a.m.- 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 13 at the Springfield Opera House (124 West Main Street, Springfield). This workshop is being co-sponsored by the Kentucky Heritage Council, Preservation Kentucky, RHDI, and Springfield Main Street/Renaissance. Registration is free and will include refreshments. Topics to be discussed at the workshop include deed research, survey work and preserving rural heritage. A walking tour of historic Springfield and the African American Methodist Church will follow.



Wilson McElroy House, Springfield

For more information or to register, please contact Nicole Wallace at the Kentucky Heritage Council no later than Tuesday, May 9 – KHC, 300 Washington Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, **502-564-7005, Nicole.wallace@ky.gov**.

-Next Steering Committee Meeting Set – Thursday, July 13

The next RHDI Steering Committee Meeting will be from **1-3:30 p.m.(EDT) on July 13, at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill**. The meeting will begin with a performance of Shaker music and end with a beautiful trip on the Kentucky River aboard the Dixie Belle riverboat. Please mark your calendar for this date and more information will follow as the meeting time approaches.

-Greensburg Steering Committee Meeting

The RHDI April Steering Committee Meeting was held on the 18th in Greensburg. The community hosted a wonderful meeting complete with a musical performance by the Glover’s Station String Band and a downtown architectural walking tour led by students of the B.R.I.D.G.E.S (Building Renewed Interested in Downtown Greensburg) group. A big thank you to all in Greensburg who made this meeting a success.

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-Greensburg Steering Committee Meeting (continued from page 1)

During the meeting working committees were established for each of the following year one goals:

- Preservation Education
- Heritage Tourism
- Local Business Development
- Farmland Preservation
- Image Development, Branding and Marketing

These committees will help guide each of our year one goals. If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please contact Amy Sparrow Potts at amy@preservationkentucky.org or call (270) 358-9069. The committees will have members from the steering committee as well as the local communities.

-Civil War Heritage Trail Committee Formed

The Kentucky Historical Society is partnering with the Rural Heritage Development Initiative to produce a Civil War Heritage Trail in the RHDI region. Stuart Sanders, Kentucky Historical Society, will chair the committee and Rachel Kennedy, Kentucky Heritage Council will co-chair. An advisory committee with two members from each community has been named and will begin to meet quarterly to consult on trail development. The trail will include an interpretive guide and brochure and interpretational signage at key Civil War sites within the RHDI region. If you are interested in providing information, please contact Amy Sparrow Potts, at amy@preservationkentucky.org or call (270) 358-9069.

-Perryville Craft Festival

The Perryville Commemoration Committee is beginning a juried craft show during the Perryville Battle National reenactment, October 7-8, 2006. This show will be held on historic Merchant's Row in downtown Perryville at the Baril Park.

The 2006 national reenactment hopes to attract over 25,000 spectators this year with bus transportation to the battlefield making frequent stops in the Merchant Row area. The committee has taken this opportunity to return the Perryville community festival to true crafting and will host no flea market booths. A 10'x10' booth space will rent for \$40 for both days, or a 10' x 20" space will rent for \$75.

If you have questions, need more information or would like to submit an application, please contact John Gentry at 859-332-9100 or jgentry191@yahoo.com. Deadline for submission of a craft booth is August 18. For more information on the Perryville battle reenactment go to www.perryville.net.

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-Lincoln Wedding Reenactment

This event will be hosted at the Lincoln Homestead Park on June 3, 2006 and is the start of Lincoln Bicentennial in Kentucky. The following information was taken from the official event website – www.lincolnhanks.net

--On June 3, 2006, [Lincoln Homestead State Park](#) will kick-off the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial in Kentucky with the 200th wedding anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's parents, Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks. The wedding celebration will take place at the park with a reception immediately following. The event is sponsored by the Springfield/Washington County Chamber of Commerce, the Kentucky Parks Department, and the Kentucky Historical Society.

The celebration begins on June 3rd at 9 am EDT with the opening of "The American Experience." Guests from all ages will enjoy this extraordinary gathering of first person characters including George Washington, Thomas Walker, George Rogers Clark and Isaac Shelby. Visitors will also enjoy demonstrations by a wagoner, flintnapper, shoemaker, spinner, period music, and experience hands on log cabin construction.

At 1:00 pm, the outdoor performance titled "Dearly Beloved: The Vows of a Lincoln Legacy," will tell the story of the simple union between two people whose son would become one of the world's great leaders.

All events are free. There will be fees for parking, and for the reception. For more information call the Chamber of Commerce at (859) 336-3810, ext. 1.

-Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site Management Plan Meetings

April 28, 2006 –Taken from a National Park Service Press Release, for more information please contact Keith Pruitt, Superintendent 270-358-3137:

The next step in the on-going General Management Plan planning process will be a public meeting associated with the release of the draft Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site plan. This public meeting will be held in the Lincoln Museum Community Room in downtown Hodgenville on Monday night, May 15, 2006. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

The draft General Management Plan has been released and the park is accepting comments until Sunday, June 4, 2006. If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive a copy of the draft plan, and subsequent editions, please contact: Superintendent, 2995 Lincoln Farm Road, Hodgenville, KY 42748, 270-358-3137.

The draft plan is also available on the Internet at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>. There, you are able to retrieve public documents from all national parks. Look for Abraham Lincoln National Historic Site (ABLI) and enter your comments on this page. The ABLI plan will be open for public comment beginning April 17 through June 4, 2006

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-Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site Management Plan (continued from page 3)

There has been significant progress in several key areas of the management plan. This is due primarily to the involvement of the public and the work of the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Team from the beginning of the planning effort. Anyone interested in the future of the Lincoln Birthplace and the Boyhood Home: Knob Creek Farm to attend this meeting.

-Rural Assets Survey Meeting Held

On Thursday, April 27 a meeting was held at the Springfield Opera House to present information on the upcoming Rural Asset Survey to be conducted in Marion and Washington counties. This survey is made possible with a grant received through the *Preserve America* program and will document historic resources throughout the two counties in an effort to record many under documented historic sites. Of the eight RHDI counties, Marion and Washington have the fewest surveyed historic sites on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council. A goal of the RHDI is to provide similar survey work in other counties if future funding is available.



Representatives from Marion and Washington Counties – Rural Assets Survey Meeting – Springfield Opera House – photo by Regina Johnson (SWEDA)

Work is scheduled to begin in July and will be administered by Rachel Kennedy and Bill McIntire of the Kentucky Heritage Council, in addition two full time staff persons will be hired to survey the area. The next informational meeting is scheduled for May 31 in Springfield. For more information, please contact Rachel Kennedy, Site Identification Coordinator, Kentucky Heritage Council, (502) 564-7005 or Rachel.kennedy@ky.gov.



Melissa Riba, Amy Spray – Public Sector Consultants; Amy Sparrow Potts, RHDI; Todd Allen, Maple Hill Manor – photo by Nell Hayden

-Public Sector Consultants Tour the Region

Melissa Riba and Amy Spray of Public Sector Consultants toured the Central Kentucky Heartland region April 17-21. In compliance with regulations of the Kellogg Foundation, the National Trust hired this consulting team to prepare and evaluate a list of tracking indicators to be used for the three year grant period to determine the effect of the RHDI initiative. Thanks everyone to helped welcome Melissa and Amy to our region and for the incredible hospitality shown. They will be visiting our region periodically during throughout the grant process.

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-Travels throughout the Region - April

- Greensburg – with Main Street manager, Mike Mills; BRIDGES advisor, Brenda Hall and Terry Mills
- Perryville – with Town Festival committee chairperson John Gentry, and Committee Secretary, Beverley Devins
- Perryville – tour of Devins Farm – JD and Beverly Devins
- Bluegrass Area Development Districts offices with Lora Littleton, project manager
- Dry Stone Conservancy offices – with Jane Wooley and Jean Anne Tulloch
- Lebanon – Centre Square with Lebanon Tourism Director, Christ Hamilton
- Springfield – Opera House with SWEDA Director, Hal Goode
- Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill – with Madge Adams, Larrie Currie, Susan Hughes, Ralph Ward and Jennifer Broadwater
- PSC Consultants Tour:
 - Bardstown – Kim Huston, NCEDA and Rita Riley, Main Street
 - Hodgenville – Robin Terry, LaRue Chamber of Commerce, Joanna Hinton, Preservation Kentucky, Jeremy Hinton, Hinton’s Orchards
 - Shaker Village
 - McClure Barbee House – Mary Quinn Ramer, Director of Tourism, Boyle County/Danville Tourism Commission Board of Directors, James Crider, Danville/Boyle County Economic Development, Julie Wagner, Heart of Danville, Patricia Kilby, Danville/Boyle County Chamber of Commerce
 - Campbellsville – tour of downtown
 - Greensburg – Depot – Steering Committee Meeting – Downtown Tour
 - Lebanon- Mary Lou Brock and Nadene Spragens, Main Street, Chris Hamilton, Lebanon Tourism, Melissa Knight, Farmer’s Bank
 - Loretto
 - Springfield – Nell Hayden, Main Street, Laurie Smith, City of Springfield, Claire McGowen , New Pioneers for a Sustainable Future, Elaine Simms, Lincoln Wedding Reenactment, Regina Johnson, SWEDA, Kathy Taylor, Washington County Chamber of Commerce
 - Springfield – Todd Allen, Maple Hill Manor
 - Harrodsburg – Sarah Jackson, Harrodsburg First, David Shewmaker, Harrodsburg First, Del White, HMCIDA

The Rural Heritage Development Initiative is a three year grant program to help preserve rural heritage in an eight county Central Kentucky area. The grant is sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation Kentucky, The Kentucky Heritage Council and funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. For more information please visit www.preservationkentucky.org or call (270) 358-9069.

