



Central Kentucky Heartland

RURAL HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2006

The RHDI Partners are happy to bring you the July 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**.

Rural Resource Team Visit –Public Presentation Held Thursday, August 3 – St. Catharine’s College

On July 31 through August 4, a resource team consisting of regional, state and national consultants will tour the Central Kentucky RHDI region. The public is invited to hear preliminary observations and recommendations from the team on Thursday evening beginning at 7 p.m. at St. Catharine’s



College Board Room in Springfield. Areas to be addressed include farmland and farm structure preservation; tobacco barn preservation and reuse, agritourism; rural design, land-use, and financial incentives for farmland preservation.

National team members include Gerry Cohn, Southeast Director, American Farmland Trust, Graham, North Carolina; Dr. Charles Law, Director, Local Government Center, University of Wisconsin—Extension, Madison, and President, National Barn Alliance; and Jim Lindberg, Director, Preservation Initiatives, National Trust Mountains/Plains Office, Denver.

Regional team members are Rick Greenwell, University of Kentucky Agriculture Extension Agent, Washington County; Janet Johnston, Bardstown – Nelson County Planning Department; and Bill McCloskey, Regional Project Analyst, Governor’s Office of Agricultural Policy. Throughout the course of the week, the team will meet with several state and local partners including the Kentucky Heritage Council (State Historic Preservation Office), representatives for the Department of Agriculture and Department of Tourism, local government officials, Farm Bureau, and UK Agriculture Extension agents from each county. Potts, Central Kentucky field representative for the Rural Heritage Development Initiative, and Greenwell are coordinating the team locally.

According to Rick Greenwell, the Rural Resource Team will provide information and resources for local farmers and property owners who want to preserve their farm buildings and landscapes, while addressing opportunities for new crops and markets to improve sustainability of small family-owned farms. “We’ll be looking at a wide range of issues and opportunities—from agritourism to new uses for tobacco barns. We want to come out of this with strategies for moving forward as a region to protect our farms and provide more economic opportunities,” Greenwell said.

Team leader Jim Lindberg sees a long-term public policy component resulting from the team’s efforts to identify key rural preservation strategies. “Across the country rural areas are looking for model policies and legislation that will help them sustain their economic base, while maintaining rural communities and farms as great places to live and visit,” Lindberg added.

Over the course of the week, team members will be visiting farms and meeting with key agriculture leaders in the Central Kentucky region encompassing Nelson, Washington, Larue, Green, Taylor, Mercer, Boyle, and Washington counties. Among the highlights in the week’s itinerary are a home-cooked farm luncheon prepared by Larue County farmer and Executive Director of Preservation Kentucky, Joanna Hinton, and a stay at Maple Hill Manor in Washington County, where the team will get a first-hand look at a working alpaca farm. Observations and insights gained from touring the eight counties will help shape preliminary strategies that the team will outline at the public presentation on Thursday evening.

If you are interested in more information, please contact Amy Potts at amy@preservationkentucky.org or call (270) 765-9235.

Transportation Enhancement Act Awarded for Lincoln Heritage Trail

The Kentucky Heritage Council, on behalf of the State Lincoln Commission received \$250,000 in funding from the Transportation Enhancement program to update the existing Lincoln Heritage trail which traverses many sections of the Central Kentucky Heartland Region.

These funds will be used to update an existing map, provide new directional and interpretational signage, and create an audio driving tour. This project will help work toward the RHDI goal of creating further interpretation of the Lincoln corridor including interpretational and directional signage and promotional materials. The enhancement of the trail will be complete in time for the beginning of the Lincoln Bicentennial celebrations. For complete information on the Transportation Enhancement funding awarded during this cycle visit <http://www.tea21.ky.gov>

July Steering Committee Meeting at Shaker Village

The RHDI July Steering Committee Meeting was held on the 13th at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill. Shaker Village hosted a wonderful meeting complete with complimentary musical performance and boat ride on the Kentucky River aboard the Dixie Belle.



Valecia Crisafulli, National Trust for Historic Preservation (left) talks with Sandy Brue, Lincoln's Birthplace NP. – photo by Bob Sims

Members of the steering committee and the state and federal advisory committee heard a presentation on the status of year one goals and upcoming projects and were given a chance to add suggestions and ask questions.

The RHDI partners would like to offer a big thank you to all at Shaker Village who made this meeting a success. If interested in more information on hosting your next meeting at Shaker Village, visit www.shakervillageky.org or call 1-800-734-5611.

2006 Kentucky Historic Preservation Conference

The 2006 Kentucky State Historic Preservation Conference will be held in Covington on September 26-30 and celebrates 40 years of Historic Preservation in Kentucky. This conference is coordinated by the Kentucky Heritage Council and Preservation Kentucky, Inc. in cooperation with Renaissance Covington, Inc.



The conference will include sessions on the preservation of historic and endangered buildings and places, downtown revitalization and community redevelopment, rural heritage preservation and cultural landscapes, preservation advocacy, heritage tourism, preservation case studies, tax credits and incentives and preservation legislation as well as a presentation on the RHDI.

Further registration material will be available in August. For registration materials or information about sponsorship and exhibit opportunities, contact the Kentucky Heritage Council, (502) 564-7005 ext. 126, kyheritage@ky.gov or Preservation Kentucky, Inc., (270) 258-9069, director@preservationkentucky.org.

Make hotel reservations early by calling the Marriot at RiverCenter, (859) 261-2900 and request the Kentucky Preservation Conference Rate.

National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference

The National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference will be held in Pittsburgh, PA – October 31-November 5, 2006. There will be a session on the Rural Heritage Development Initiative during the week and informative sessions on many preservation topics.

The National Trust will be glad to send a preliminary program to anyone who is interested, or you can check the conference schedule and register online at <http://www.nthpconference.org/>.

There is an early bird registration rate if registered before July 31, 2006. Please contact Amy Sparrow Potts – (270) 358-9069, amy@preservationkentucky.org if you are interested in a program or further information on the conference.

Become a Preserve America Community

Kentucky still leads the nation in *Preserve America* communities and the Central Kentucky Heartland region already has 10 *Preserve America* designations. Counties may also apply for special designation as a *Preserve America* Community, even if they already have a designated *Preserve America* cit. *Preserve America* community status extends the possibilities for available funding for projects within the county.

Preserve America designation recognizes communities that:

- protect and celebrate their heritage;
- use their historic assets for economic development and community revitalization; and
- encourage people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs.

Benefits of designation include:

- White House recognition;
- a certificate of recognition;
- a *Preserve America* Community road sign;
- authorization to use the *Preserve America* logo on signs, flags, banners, and promotional materials;
- listing in a Web-based *Preserve America* Community directory;
- inclusion in national and regional press releases;
- enhanced community visibility and pride.

Four application and designation cycles occur each year. The remaining 2006 application deadlines are September 1, and December 1. For more information on applying, visit <http://www.preserveamerica.gov/communities.html> or contact Karen Keown, Kentucky Heritage Council, (502) 564- 6005 or Karen.keown@ky.gov.

Remember to Visit our Website at www.preservationkentucky.org for the new Regional Calendar of Events to find out about upcoming events in the Central Kentucky Heartland this month!

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.



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