



Harrison Heritage News

Monthly newsletter of Harrison County Historical Society, PO Box 411, Cynthiana, KY, 41031

www.harrisoncountyky.us/historical-society & www.harrisoncountyky.us/harrison-heritage-news

25th Year Celebration Issue

March 2007—Vol. 8 No. 3

Friends of Griffith Woods Update

Bill Penn

President's Corner

Bob Owen



Historic Griffith Tavern was built by William Griffith in 1827. The Friends of Griffith Woods must raise \$190,000 to begin to stabilize the foundation and exterior walls. View from the rear showing the ell. Photo, 1984, Bill Penn.

The Friends of Griffith Woods is a non-profit group whose goals are to :

- Facilitate preservation, restoration, and public use of the unique ecological, cultural, archaeological, and structural features of Griffith Woods, including ownership and operation of rehabilitated historic structures on the site

- Facilitate scientific and transdisciplinary research, education, and outreach at the site and at related ecological and cultural sites in the Bluegrass Region

- Support and collaborate with the Griffith Woods Management Committee, raise funds in support of activities at the site, and communicate with relevant organizations and the general public

- Provide native plants and associated restoration services for Griffith Woods and cooperators elsewhere in the central Bluegrass Region.

Passers by can see the new temporary roof that has been installed on the front section of the house.

Upcoming events include on Saturday, April 21st, 10 am-12 noon a wildflower and tree walk lead by Dr. Julian Campbell and Melinda Boyer. On Sunday, April 22, 2 pm -4 pm Frank Boyer will lead a historical walk across the road from the house to see the site of the old stone Amende house and graveyard and the old Cincinnati turnpike roadbed. A plant sale will follow each walk.

Griffith Woods (745 acres) is owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy, the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission. To become a Friends member see the Web page below.

*Information provided by Melinda Boyer and the Web page,
www.friendsofgriffithwoods.org.*

Based on recent concerns, I want to clarify my words in the December 2006 newsletter. First of all, I think the Griffith Tavern is an important historic building that should be restored. Other society members and I attended some of the earliest meetings about the Tavern at the Fiscal Court and championed the cause of the building. It is unfortunate that the early state support was withdrawn. It is a shame that the building has deteriorated to the extent it has and as a result, may require some extraordinary work to restore it. But that is no reason to write it off. I commend the recent efforts of the Tavern support group to preserve the building by putting a temporary roof on building. I and the Historical Society champion the saving of our historical buildings and sites and we have invited and will continue to invite the Friends of Griffith Woods to address the Society to keep us informed on their progress.

Another landmark in trouble is the A. Keller Distillery stone barrelhouse, which dates back to the early 1800's. Last year, the owner, interested in saving the building, contacted us to seek our help in identifying possible funding sources. Unfortunately we were unable to find any which would qualify based on the owners requirements. The owner recently informed me that more of the roof had collapsed, further endangering the integrity of the building.

While we encourage the owners of old and historic buildings to preserve them, it can be a difficult and costly endeavor. When owners take such positive action, the community needs to praise their actions letting them know we appreciate their saving the history of the community.

Harrison County Historical Society

Bob Owen, President
Billy Fowler, Vice President
Janie Whitehead, Secretary
Dorothy Slade, Treasurer

February 15 meeting notes: President Bob Owen presented a program about Kentucky Military Institute complete with pictures and other memorabilia. Bob attended KMI two of his high school years.

Other business: Bob asked for suggestions for future meetings. He noted that Melissa Jurgensen will speak at a future meeting on her research of Kentucky covered bridges, including several from Harrison County. She will have copies of her book on covered bridges for sale. Melissa is considering doing a book in the future on Cynthiana's covered bridge. She also needs photos of the Colville and Shady Nook areas (see Query p. 4).

Billy Fowler mentioned that he and wife Sharon had noticed the addition of some new painted metal roofing to part of the Griffith Tavern roof. We assume the Friends of Griffith Woods group has had this installed as part of the preservation effort.

Bob announced that the Kentucky Historical Society would present our Historical Society an award for the newsletter, to be presented March 3 in Frankfort.

Harrison History Calendar

March 16—Martha Barnes will discuss the museum move and recent acquisitions.

April 19—Historical Society Monthly Mtg.—Speaker TBA

April 21-10am - 12 noon wild-flower walk Griffith Woods

April 22—2—4 pm historical walk Griffith Woods to Amende house and Cincinnati Road sites.

May 17—Melissa Jurgensen will discuss and sign her new book, Kentucky's Covered Bridges.

Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum

112 S. Walnut St., Cynthiana, Ky. 41031

Hrs: 10-5 Fri-Sat

Martha Barnes, President

Museum Educates Visitors On Our Government

A recent newspaper article gave sample questions for those applying for citizenship in the United States of America. A new citizenship test has been designed. It requires applicants to answer more concept-oriented questions, rather than the current test which requires memorization of facts related to U. S. history and government. How would you answer this question from the current test - "What is the most important right granted to U.S. citizens?"

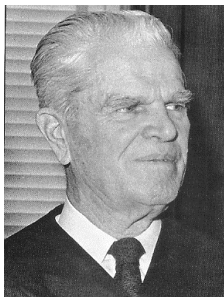
Obviously, the questions were related to freedom and living in America. I thought about the museum and our collection. We strive to be a learning place. We hope that the displays will not only entertain, but especially will educate and enlighten citizens of all races, all religions, all ages. (This week, we anticipate yet another visit from a group of scouts.)

Many of our exhibits relate to government - local, state, and federal. We have a special copy of the Declaration of Independence (this museum copy has an interesting story to go with it), presidential pictures, gubernatorial pictures as well as other officials' pictures on all levels of government (especially local), judicial information particularly related to our own Judge Mac Swinford, campaign buttons and other political items, two large metal ballot boxes - one with lock, pictures and items from our courthouse, and a wealth of reading material.

An overview of the entire museum reflects life in our own U.S.A., but most especially life in this special place, Harrison County and Cynthiana. A tour of the museum provides the opportunity to consider how people live, work, play, worship, educate their young, serve their country, and fight for their rights. A museum visit provides the opportunity to reflect on being citizens of this country and this community. We hope to educate and enlighten not just on how we were, but how we are. One of our most recent museum additions was an Iraqi flag donated by a Harrison Countian who served there.

(According to the test answers, the most important right granted to U.S. citizens is the right to vote. Would that have been your answer?)

Exciting things are happening at the Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum. Come see - the best is yet to come!



Among the museum exhibits about our federal, state, and local governments are items used by Federal district judge Mac Swinford (left). Students who visit the museum will learn about his career, some of which was mentioned in our newsletter October 2004.

Harrison County, Ky., Genealogy Files: Family Files of the Christine Burgan Kentucky Room at the Cynthiana-Harrison County Public Library

The library maintains eight drawers of file cabinets of files specifically dedicated to family surnames of the county, and includes files on nearly 300 surnames and family associations. The following text updates a list which was published six years ago in this newsletter. The files contain many notes and genealogies which have been compiled by genealogists locally and from afar who have connections to Harrison County families. While the drawers may not contain the family name of your research subject, keep in mind that any genealogy contains many surnames of those who married into a family and if you recognize the surnames of one of these collateral branches, you may be able to find material on the families you are researching in the genealogies of others. The library does not accept research or photocopy requests, and so a personal visit may be required to access the files. [Philip Naff]

Anderson	Clarke	Eward	Hofman
Ashbrook	Clary	Faulconer	Hogg
Ashcraft	Clough	Feeback	Holland (See also
Bailey	Clough & Whalen	Feix	Prows et al.)
Baird	Cole	Fields	Huerkamp
Baker	Coleman	Fightmaster	Huffman
Banks	Collier	Fitzwater	Hutton
Barnett	Colvin	Florence	Ingles
Barritt	Conner	Flynn	Inscoc/Insko
Baskett	Conrad	Forsythe	Insko
Beagle	Cook	Fryman	Ireland
Beckett	Coon	Furnish	Jackson
Bedford	Courtney	Garnett	Jett
Benson	Craig	Garrard	Johnson
Biggs	Crawford/Crofford	Gammel	Johnston
Blackerby	Creason	Ggrig	Jones
Blair	Crosthwaite	Goodnight	Jones
Boas	Croxton	Gross	Jordan
Bogges	Current	Gruelle	Juett
Bonar	Curtis	Hamilton	Karrick
Botts	Daniel	Hannon	Kearns
Bourbon	Daubenspeck	Harden	Kelsch
Boyd	David	Harney	Kimbrough
Brannock	Davis	Harrington	King
Brock	Dawson	Hart	Lafferty
Brooks	Desha	Hatcher	Lair
Brown	Doan	Hausberger	Lanter
Browning	Doane	Haviland	Larimore
Buckner	Duncan	Hayes, James	Laughlin
Burton	Dunn	Hedden	Lebus
Buzzard	Durbin	Hedgers	Lee
Cain	Edwards	Henderson	Lemmon
Caplinger	Egnew	Hendrichs	Lenox
Casey	Eichhorn	Henry	Lewis
Cassidy	Endicott	Henson	Linehan
Chambers	Epperson	Higgins	Linville
Cheatham	Evans	Himes	Livingood
Clark	Ewalt	Hiten	

Lowe (See also	Moore	Roberts	Tate
Prows et al.)	Moran	Rogers	Taylor
Lowry	Moreland	Rohs	Terry
Lowther	Mountjoy	Roland	Thomas
Lucas	Mullen	Romans (See also Petty)	Thommen (See
Luig & Niehoff	Muntz	Rose	Schaublin)
Madison	Musselman	Routt	Toadvine
Maffett	Myers	Ruddell	Townsend
Mahoney	Nelson	Ruddle	Turley
Mahuron	Nesbitt	Sands	Turner (See also
Makemsome	Newby	Schaublin & Thommen	Prows et al.)
Malcolm	Oder	Scheiffle	Van Hook
Marsh	Palmer	Scott	Vardaman
Marshall	Parish	Sellers	Waggoner
Martin	Patterson	Shawhan	Waits
Mastin	Patton	Shively	Walker
Maybrier	Pavey	Short	Walton
McCauley	Petty & Romans	Shropshire	Walton
McClenachan	Phillips	Simpson	Ward
McClintock	Pierce	Skinner	Webbers
McClure	Poindexter	Slade	Webster
McDanell	Pope	Smith	Whalen (See also
McDowell	Powell	Snell	Clough)
McFarland	Prows	Snodgrass	Whaley
McKee	Prows, Holland, Lowe,	Speagle	Whitaker
McKinley	Stevens, & Turner	Spears	White
McShane	Pugh	Spradlin	Whiteker
Menefee	Rankin	Stevens (See also Prows et	Williams
Midden	Rawlings	al.)	Withers
Miller	Renaker	Stites	Wohlwinder
Million	Richarden	Stout	Workman
Minter	Richardson	Summit	Worle
Mitchell	Richie	Swinford	Wyther
Mobley	Robb	Talbert	Yager

Harrison County Genealogy Queries

Community/Post Office Questions From: Melissa Jurgensen <melissa@melissajurgensen.com> Needt old photos of the communities and/or post offices of Colville and Shadynook

Mt. Pleasant ME Church records From: Elderbarry6@wmconnect.com. According to newspaper obituaries and funeral home records, several of my Mahorney relatives and family members were members of the Mt. Pleasant ME Church. I am aware that the church was destroyed in 1974. Is anyone aware of extant church records membership, etc)? Thanks, Barry Mahorney

Paul -Is my ancestor from Harrison county? The 1820 census says Jno Paul "south side of Licking River." Contact Shirley at SurelyDareTwoTry@aol.com.

Join Today or Renew Your Membership in the

Harrison County Historical Society

Established in 1982 and Celebrating 25 Years of Service in 2007!

Membership includes an [informative monthly newsletter](#) with original articles focusing on the people, places and historic events of Harrison County's past, along with reports of the [monthly meetings](#) of the historical society, as well as news of exhibits & events at the Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum. And, of course, membership includes [an open invitation](#) to attend all of the society's meetings & events in Cynthiana.

**Dues are only \$12 per year
(January thru December).**

If you have any questions you can write to:

**The Harrison County Historical Society
P.O. Box 411
Cynthiana, KY 41031**

or e-mail:

**Bob Owen (robert_owen@bellsouth.net)
President, Harrison County Historical Society**

**Bill Penn (pennwma@aol.com)
Editor, Harrison Heritage News**

Why should you become a member? *Some members have just recently become residents of the county, while others have family ties that go back to the county's establishment. Many others join from afar (Three of every seven members reside outside of the county), having discovered that Harrison County was once home to their ancestors, aunts, uncles, or cousins, and would like to learn more about the home places and current historical or genealogical research. Libraries and other historical societies are members, too, helping to preserve and to pass on the word of the "goings on" of the Harrison County Historical Society. So Please Join by Sending In This Form Today!*

Visit the historical society online at

**www.harrisoncountky.us/historical-society
www.harrisoncountky.us/harrison-heritage-news**

Yes, I would like to become a member of the Harrison County Historical Society in 2007!

Name: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt. No. _____

City, State, & ZIP: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Genealogy (Surname) or Local History Interests *(Optional)* _____

Are you a new member? Please check here _____. Is this a renewal? Please check here _____.

**Personal checks & money orders accepted. Please return this form to the
Harrison County (Ky.) Historical Society, P.O. Box 411, Cynthiana, KY 41031**