



Harrison Heritage News

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Historic Tourism: Among the many recommendations found in the Cynthiana-Harrison County Chamber of Commerce's 2006 Civil War Resources Preservations Plan (see pages 4-5) is one to identify locations for interpretive signs. Below are possibilities for interpreting the covered bridge site and Keller's Bridge battlefield, only two of the many Civil War sites around Cynthiana.



Recommended interpretive sign.



This important site of the beginning of both Battles of Cynthiana has no interpretive signs and construction insensitive to the historic viewshed has been built.



Morgan's Raiders used a similar cannon at the covered bridge and a replica at this location would attract historic tourism.



There are no interpretive signs for Keller's Bridge Battlefield. Above is the "Surrender field" at Lebus Farm, which is on private property. Photo, B. Penn



Interpretive signs, such as these at the Richmond Battlefield, are needed for the Cynthiana battlefield sites. Photo, courtesy of Blue Grass Army Depot.

Harrison County Historical Society

Billy Fowler, President
Bob Owen, Vice President
Marilynn Bell, Secretary
Dorothy Slade, Treasurer
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Program Notes - April 15

The April 16 meeting of the Harrison County Historic Society was opened by President Billy Fowler, who then turned the meeting over to Ms. Cunningham, a teacher of the Northside Elementary School. She brought with her several pupils who had researched individuals having participated in the Revolutionary War in one capacity or another. The children were dressed in costumes appropriate to the individual they represented and gave one minute presentations of that individual's life and efforts in the war. Following their program, each one was presented with a copy of Cromwell's Comments. The program was well received by a full house and they were invited to return.

Marilynn Bell, Secretary

Ruddle's & Martin's Stations Historic Association Gathering 2010 Date Announced

The Gathering 2010 will be held in the 1790 Kinnett Tavern. Fal-mouth. KY. 9 AM, on June 26. A luncheon Buffet will be served across the Street in The Assembly Cafe. The all-you-can-eat buffet will be available for a donation of \$7.00. After lunch we will motorcade along the exact road cut by Capt Bird and his forces as they went to attack Ruddle's & Martin's stations. This is the same route on which Bird returned with his captives en route back to Detroit. We will see Bird's Crossing on Licking Creek (S. Licking River) and walk on a portion of the old dirt road on which our ancestors walked. We will also visit the Ruddle and Martin fort sites.

If you plan to attend please let me know at Hdlee9936@aol.com, so the lady who prepares the buffet will know how much food to prepare. Also, if you have a small hand-held walkie-talkie, bring it along. We will use them to communicate during the motorcade so we can describe the points of interest along the way. At the morning meeting we will discuss the Ruddle's Station Memorial Brick project, so plan to attend.

Don Lee, hdlee9936@aol.com, Ruddle's & Martin's Stations Historic Association, <http://ramsha1780.org/>

Harrison County History Calendar

May 20 - History projects - Eastside Ele. 5th grade history class.

Jun. 17 - Jerry Dailey, ex-FBI career with four presidents.

Jun. 26 - Ruddle's & Martin's Station Historic Assoc. mtg. (see notice on this page)

July 15 - A presentation by Kevin Stonerock in a performance of "The Steamboat's A Comin' ", which will tie in to the Cynthiana library's summer reading theme of water.

President's Corner

Billy Fowler
billyfowler@kymail.com

In my last column, I ended by saying I would let you know what happens next with the Archaeological Survey at the Handy Farm. Well, what happened next is we are still waiting for a written report from the team performing the survey. You probably remember me saying they took hundreds of bags containing artifacts back to the lab. We cannot forget that all those artifacts had to be cleaned, cataloged and studied to determine what it all means. This process takes a lot of time and must be done before a report can be issued. Communication from the team tells me they hope to have a report issued by the end of April. I will continue to let you know what is happening in future issues.

I would like to end this column talking about some of the great students in our elementary schools. Joe Moss, as part of a Eastside Elementary School Fifth Grade History Club project, discovered errors on two historical markers here in Cynthiana. Now I am sure others may have discovered or suspected these errors in the past, but for one reason or another did nothing about the errors. Well, Joe not only discovered the errors, he reported them to his teacher and to the Kentucky Historical Society. He and his teacher, Jeff Kinney, were invited to Frankfort to discuss his findings. Upon arriving in Frankfort, Joe was asked to show his research to the Executive Director of the Kentucky Historical Society along with the head of research for the Society. There was no disputing his facts! He had brought an error to the attention of the right people to do something about it. And they did something; they had a new marker made to replace incorrect State Highway Marker number 109.

At a ceremony attended by local and state dignitaries this past Saturday, Joe proudly unveiled the new correct marker located just south of the John Hunt Morgan Bridge (see photos page 3.) The other marker located at the entrance to Battle Grove Cemetery has also been replaced by the cemetery with a new correct marker.

I said I was going to talk about great students and Joe is just one of them. We were treated to presentations by Northside Elementary Fifth Grade Students at the April meeting. These students each picked a person from the American Revolutionary War period. They researched the person they picked and while in period costumes made a one minute speech as if they were the person from history. I have to say they not only did something I am sure I could not have done as a fifth grader, but they were also excellent! (Look for a photo in the next newsletter.)

We will be treated to presentations by this year's Eastside Elementary School Fifth Grade History Club at the May meeting. Don't miss it!

Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum

Martha Barnes, President www.cynthiana-harrisoncountymuseum.org.

“History: Cynthiana’s main attraction?” was the title of a recent editorial in The Cynthiana Democrat. The writer told of the ceremony to unveil the corrected Civil War marker and Kent Brown’s Witnessing History bus tour. Indeed, Saturday, April 24 was a good day for history in Cynthiana. The focus was there on that particular date - but a group of us have been advocating a greater awareness of our community’s history for some time. We are not suggesting that we go back to live in the past. Who among us would want to use a privy, to wear hoop skirts and waist cinchers, to kill hogs, to sit in a metal dentist chair, and on and on and on. A visit to the museum to see the way we were surely can make one respect the past and learn from it.

We are trying to preserve and share the history of our special community - Cynthiana and all the tiny villages scattered throughout our county. We preserve and share the history so that we might become more aware and more appreciative of those who lived and worked and served before us and are continuing to do so.

It has been encouraging to have greater numbers of visitors during the past two weekends. The Raggedy Ann Festival brought a different group of guests - very young as well as old - from near and far. A tiny little Raggedy Ann from right here in River City and then a tall Raggedy Ann from New York were among our visitors - both aficionados of Raggedy Ann and dolls as well as local pride and history. Harold Slade shocked them

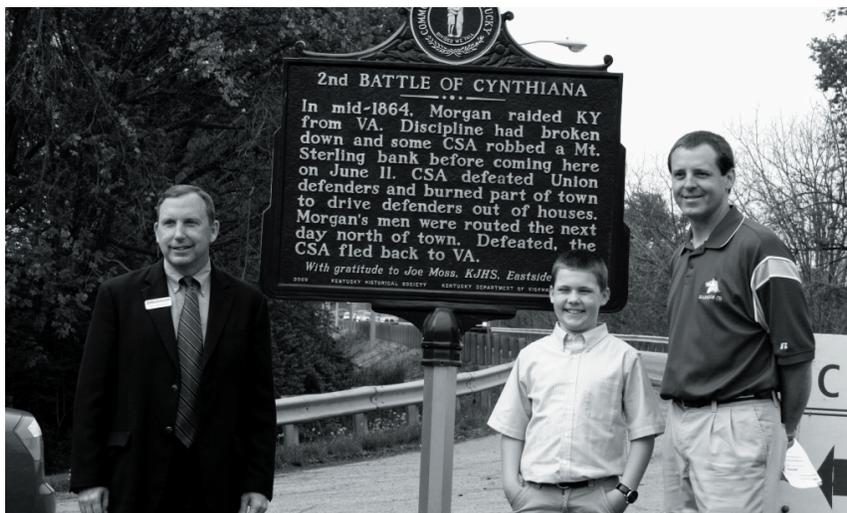
when he expressed an interest in putting them on permanent display.

I believe those who do not care about our local Raggedy Ann Festival - the eighth annual - surely know little of the history of Raggedy Ann or would never admit to hugging a rag doll or have a heart perhaps made of ...well, something like hard candy. Accolades to those who work diligently to continue our Raggedy Festival. We shall always have our Raggedy exhibit at the museum - it is a part of our history to preserve and share.

Last weekend, it was encouraging to have visitors of various ages and interests. After the impressive unveiling ceremony of the Civil War marker with dignitaries and Joe Moss’ heartwarming smile, many came to the reception at the museum - many of them for the first time. It was great! History was drawing people to town.

We anticipate more visitors and more history awareness. A teacher has selected a date to bring her fifth graders for a museum visit with others also planning to come for end of the year trips. Elementary students will present their history projects at the next historical society meeting. Mary Grable is working with me to arrange a Kentucky Humanities Council - Smithsonian six week exhibit for our town. Billy and Sharon Fowler and others are working on a very important history project. As well, although it will not run in the historic Kentucky Derby, our museum horse awaits your visit. History: Cynthiana’s main attraction???

Dedication of New Battle of Cynthiana Highway Historical Marker



A new Cynthiana, Ky., highway historical marker on the south end of the John Hunt Morgan bridge on U. S. 27 was dedicated on April 24, 2010. (Above) “2nd Battle of Cynthiana” side, with Kent Whitworth, left, Executive Director, Kentucky Historical Society, Joe Moss, center, and Jeff Kinney, Eastside Elementary fifth grade social studies teacher.



(Right) Joe Moss unveils the new marker. Photos, Sharon Fowler.

Civil War Historic Tourism in Cynthiana, Ky.: An Action Plan

Excerpted from "The Battles of Cynthiana: A Civil War Resources Preservation Plan, Cynthiana, Harrison County, Kentucky," prepared by Gray and Pape, Inc., for the Cynthiana-Harrison County Chamber of Commerce, December 11, 2006, with a grant from the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, American Battlefield Protection Program. Below is only Phase I. See copy in the Chamber office for Phase II and Phase III recommendations and suggested implementation guidelines. This information is presented to encourage community discussion of the Plan.

THE ACTION PLAN

The following action plan outlines recommended steps necessary for the community of Cynthiana to protect their rich Civil War history and enhance the interpretation of that history to promote heritage tourism. Actions proposed in this chapter presuppose that the protection of critical battlefield structures and sites is a prerequisite to enhanced public interpretation and a successful heritage tourism program. At the same time, there are low-cost, easily achievable actions that can be taken in the short term to improve interpretation and increase heritage tourism.

Phase I

❖ Organization

- Create Cynthiana Battlefield Foundation – 501(c)3 non-profit organization to implement battlefield plan.
- Establish Battles of Cynthiana Battlefield Preserve
 - Utilize the battlefield boundary identified in this plan (Figure 1) to establish the Battlefield Preserve boundary.
- Establish Voluntary Archaeology Ordinance and a mechanism to operate.
- Renaissance Kentucky
 - Collaborate with Town of Cynthiana to develop and administer façade rehabilitation grant program.
 - Pursue Community Development Block Grant funding as source for corpus.
 - Collaborate with Town of Cynthiana to revise draft historic district ordinance, incorporating battlefield plan recommendations.

❖ Mitigation – West Cynthiana Bypass and Extension

- Immediately engage at a more active and proactive level in the building of the bypass.
- Community leadership engaged in the development of this plan take an active role in mitigation recommendations to address adverse effects to Cynthiana's Civil War resources.
- Address need for additional archaeology to identify boundaries of Camp Frazer and associated entrenchments.
- Negotiate need for funding of visitor's center as mitigation for adverse impacts to Civil War viewsheds.
- Depot Site
 - Inquire as to interest in donation for tax deduction and/or bargain sale - partial reduction in value as donation and lowered purchase price.
 - Negotiate and secure right of first refusal/option to purchase agreement for property/properties.
 - Initiate private/public strategy to raise funds for purchase, as necessary.

- Keller's Bridge Area
 - Complete negotiations to secure property control of pristine, high integrity battlefield land.
 - Donation, conservation easement, bargain sale and fee-simple purchase methods should be utilized for these properties.
 - Accept donations in this phase if willing property owners.
 - Secure right of first refusal/option to purchase, as necessary.
 - Initiate private/public strategy to raise funds for purchase of easements and/or land, as necessary.
- Cynthiana-Harrison County-Berry Planning Commission
 - Review resources identified and mapped in battlefield plan, and issues to be addressed in the historic overlay.
 - Prepare historic overlay to address battlefield plan recommendations for review and adoption by the Harrison County Fiscal Court.
 - Pass and/or support as authority allows, the voluntary archaeology ordinance
- Town of Cynthiana
 - Review and modify draft historic district ordinance to address findings and recommendations in battlefield plan.
 - Initiate public hearing process for adoption of ordinance.
 - Pass and/or support as authority allows, the voluntary archaeology ordinance.
- Camp Frazer
 - Explore utilization of mitigation measures for West Cynthiana Bypass to further delineate original boundaries of the camp.
- Civil War Relic Hunting
 - Institute public education program to limit loss of archaeological data that could inform the location of sites of battlefield engagement, and other battlefield associated cultural resources.
- ❖ Management Agreements - negotiate and secure management agreements for the following sites and structures:
 - Magee Hill, now know as Standpipe Hill
 - Negotiate to establish permanent pull-off location.
 - Understand & address property owner concerns.
 - Identify best location for interpretive signage.
 - Battle Grove Cemetery
 - Work with cemetery leadership to enhance interpretation.
 - Establish viewshed location for Second Cynthiana.
 - Formalize partnership w/Battlefield Preserve.
 - Collaborate to address concerns/needs of cemetery to extent feasible.
- ❖ Interpretation
 - Make minor, easily adapted, changes to existing walking and driving tours utilizing new information in battlefield plan.
 - Limit addition of sites to account for concerns of property owners and visitor safety.
 - Apply for ABBP Interpretive Plan grant funding.

Source: Gray and Pape, Inc., 2006 "The Battles of Cynthiana: A Civil War Resources Preservation Plan Cynthiana, Harrison County, Kentucky," pp. viii-x.

Genealogy Puzzle: I'm My Own Grandpa

Bill Penn

I'm My Own Grandpa

Lyrics: Dwight Latham, Moe Jaffe
Music: Dwight Latham, Moe Jaffe

Oh, many, many years ago
When I was twenty-three
I was married to a widow
Who was pretty as can be
This widow had a grown-up daughter
Who had hair of red
My father fell in love with her
And soon the two were wed

This made my dad my son-in-law
And changed my very life
For my daughter was my mother
'Cause she was my father's wife
To complicate the matter
Though it really brought me joy
I soon became the father
Of a bouncing baby boy

This little baby then became
A brother-in-law to Dad
And so became my uncle
Though it made me very sad
For if he was my uncle
Then that also made him brother
Of the widow's grown-up daughter
Who of course is my step-mother

Chorus

I'm my own grandpa
I'm my own grandpa
It sounds funny I know
But it really is so
Oh, I'm my own grandpa

My father's wife then had a son
Who kept them on the run
And he became my grandchild
For he was my daughter's son
My wife is now my mother's mother
And it makes me blue
Because although she is my wife
She's my grandmother too

Now if my wife is my grandmother
Then I'm her grandchild
And every time I think of it
It nearly drives me wild
For now I have become
The strangest case you ever saw
As husband of my grandma
I am my own grandpa

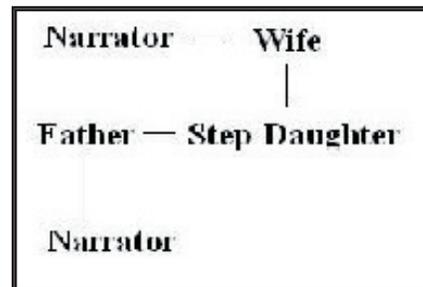
Many readers are familiar with the novelty song, "I'm My Own Grandpa," and listened in vain to figure out the complex relationships as they played out in the song. I was reminded of this when listening to it on a CD by Kentucky Blue, a Lexington-area bluegrass group.

With a little research on the Web, I found that the song was written by Dwight Latham and Moe Jaffe and performed as a hit tune originally by Lonzo and Oscar in 1947. While Latham was seeking ideas for a novelty song to be used on the Grand Old Opry radio show, he came across a book stating that Mark Twain proved a person could be their own grandfather. Latham expanded the idea into the song.

The genealogy puzzle is explained as follows: The song is "about a man who, through an unlikely (but legal) combination of marriages, becomes stepfather to his own stepmother — that is, tacitly dropping the 'step-' modifiers, he becomes his own grandfather."

"In the song, the narrator marries a widow with an adult daughter. Subsequently, his father marries the widow's daughter. This creates a comic tangle of relationships by a mixture of blood and marriage; for example, the narrator's father is now also his stepson-in-law. The situation is complicated further when both couples have children."

Below is a flow chart that more clearly shows the song's family tree.



Source, including quotes and chart: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I'm_My_Own_Grandpa



Lonzo and Oscar (left) recorded in 1947 the hit novelty song, "I'm My Own Grandpa." The idea for the song came from an anecdote by Mark Twain (right).

