



Graceland Gazette

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ACHS Firebrick Museum Project *Firebrick Museum Fundraising Begins!*

The Firebrick Museum fundraising campaign officially “kicked off” November 1st at the Society’s 2005 Annual Meeting. The campaign goal is \$150,000 which, if successful, will be 100% matched from a challenge grant provided by the Allen P. and Josephine

B. Green Foundation. Campaign brochures are now available at the Museum or from Jack Creason, John Dial, Glenn Hatfield, Bruce Oliver or Jim Williams who have served on the Firebrick Museum Planning Committee.

SADDLESEAT EQUESTRIAN TEAMS



The American and South African Saddleseat Equestrian Teams competed at William Woods University in December. During their visit to Missouri they took time out to visit the American Saddlebred Horse Museum. Jim Simmons and Museum Curator, Jan Nesheim visited with the team whose members ranged in age from 13 – 20.

From the Director

As I begin my 4th year as director of the museum I continue to be amazed at energy and enthusiasm of the people of Audrain County. We are so blessed to have so many friends that continue to generously share their time, talents and resources with us.

Without the efforts of many area businesses, civic organizations and countless volunteers, annual events like the Walk Back In Time, Children's History Camp, and Dinner Theatres, would not be possible. Additionally, volunteers, along with Mexico Parks and Rec. Department and the Audrain County Master Gardeners ensure that the grounds on which we reside stay immaculate.

I am also encouraged and motivated by those who are selflessly working in our county to save such historical jewels as the Simmons Stable, Lincoln School, and the Martinsburg Jail. Aside from historic preservation, these efforts, if successful will offer our county many more opportunities for tourism. Thank you for not letting these historic sites fall by the wayside.

I am anxious to see what 2006 has in store for Audrain County. Stay in touch and keep up the good work!

Dana Keller

ACHS Executive Director



Valentine Dinners Return to Graceland

Back by popular demand, the second annual Valentine Dinners will be held February 10th and 11th. Enjoy a romantic evening at Graceland Mansion, featuring Scott Weber performing love songs from the 30's and 40's. Guests will enjoy valet parking, wonderful food and complimentary wine. The menu includes your choice of Ribeye or Mio Chicken with a vino bianco Lobster Sauce served with a twice baked potato, vegetable medley, salad and French bread, and red velvet ice cream cake. Seating is limited; make your reservations early by calling the museum office at 581-3910. Dinner will begin at 6:00 PM. Tickets are \$30.00 per person.

MACT Returns to Graceland, Performing GREATER TUNA

Dinner and a Show, anyone? Yes! It's time again for dinner theatre at the Audrain County Historical Museum. "GREATER TUNA", a hilarious two act play, is coming to the greater Mexico area this spring as a dinner theatre, Thursday, March 23, Friday, March 24, and Saturday, March 25. A cast of four men (Jesse Greever, Mike Briggs, Steve Hagan, and Greg Pauley), directed by Cathy Zinkel, will play multiple roles and require quick costume changes throughout the performance. Make it a complete evening with a luscious dinner in the Museum, followed by a very entertaining play in the Old Country Church.

VANDALIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



October 25th ACHS President, Jason Lamb and ACHS Director, Dana Keller toured the New Vandalia Area Historical Society and the Historic Lincoln School. Pictured above are some of the many historical pictures displayed in the Vandalia Historical Society. Below, Carolyn McBride, Jessie Salmon, Jason Lamb, and Charlene Teague standing in front of Lincoln School.

LINCOLN SCHOOL



Poet Laureate of the United States **Ted Kooser To Join Celebration Of Literacy**

Audrain County Historical Society to host Salute to Literacy Awards.

Hold your calendars for the afternoon of May 17, 2006. The Thirteenth Annual North Central "Salute to Literacy" will be held on the grounds of the Audrain County Historical Museum Complex. This year's guest speaker will be Ted Kooser, Poet Laureate of the United States.

Keep your eye on The Mexico Ledger for time of the Salute and other details of the program.

2006 Membership Dues

The membership dues for 2006 are now due. Thank you for your continued support of the Audrain County Historical Museum. Some members may have received a 2005 membership letter. We apologize for the mistake. We had problems with the copier and when it was finally repaired we inadvertently printed the 2005 letter. Membership dues for a family are \$30.00 annually and \$15.00 for an individual membership. If you haven't yet returned your dues please continue to support the historical preservation of our county by remitting dues to ACHS, PO Box 398, Mexico, and MO 65265.

Tour Guides Needed

If you enjoy history and can spare a few hours a month the Audrain County Historical Society is in need of volunteer tour guides. Feb. 4th we will have a training session from 1:00 – 3:00.

Volunteers are primarily needed for Saturdays from 10:00 – 4:00 and Sundays, 1:00 – 4:00. Participants will always be scheduled with a museum employee. If you can volunteer a day (or more) a month, please call the museum office at 581-3910 to make reservations for training.

Audrain County is rich in history, come learn a little more about it!

Calendar Of Events

January 1 – 31	Museum Closed to the Public	June 4	ACHS Garden Tours
January 17	ACHS Full Board Meeting, Noon	June 7	Evening at Graceland, Miss Missouri Contestants
February 1	Museum reopens	June 12-16	“Wild, Wild West” History Camp
February 4	Tour Guide Training, 1:00 – 3:00	July 18	ACHS Full Board Meeting, Noon
February 10-11	Valentine Dinner	September 5	Business After Hours, Courtyard, 5:00 – 7:00
February 21	Leadership Mexico, Meeting Room, 11:30	September 22	Walk Back In Time Education Day
March 21	ACHS Full Board Meeting, Noon	September 23-24	Walk Back In Time
March 23-25	MACT Dinner Theatre presentation of Greater Tuna	November 7	Annual Meeting
May 6-12	Prairie Pine Quilt Guild Quilt Show	November 21	ACHS Full Board Meeting, Noon
May 9	Museum Quilt Luncheon, Noon	November 17-18	Christmas Dinners
May 11	Quilt Guild Luncheon	December 1-3	Christmas open house, enjoy the Christmas decorations and free self guided tours of Graceland
May 16	ACHS Full Board Meeting, Noon	December 19	ACHS Board and Employee Christmas Lunch, Noon
May 17	Salute to Literacy Awards, Country Church and Courtyard	December 21	Museum Closes
May 20	World War II Convoy, ACHS Grounds		