



Nicholas County Historical Society

Vol. 33 No 1

Building Our Future By Preserving Our Past

January 2009

Victorian Christmas

Children's activities held at Neal Building

The Neal Building hosted several activities during the second Victorian Christmas event held this year preceding the annual Carlisle Christmas Parade.

Courthouse Square Arts Guild provided ornaments and paints for children to decorate a personalized Christmas tree ornament. This activity was very successful in 2007, and many children returned to make another ornament this year as well.

Becky Reid, librarian at the Nicholas County Library, hosted storytime for children with the Historical Society providing refreshments. The children enjoyed the story and the homemade cookies.

The Methodist Church Bell Choir performed a selection of Christmas songs. The group, under the direction of Allison Grant was made up of younger youth from the church than not only played but sang was well. They were great.

Lastly, a group of local musicians entertained until the parade began. The group meets in the Neal Building one Sunday a month and played a variety of music for those gathered.

The Historical Society is pleased by the number of people who made use of the building during the holiday.

Neal building available for parties, activities

The Neal Welcome Center was used extensively throughout the holiday season and it is great to have had so many visitors.

The building is available for rental at a cost of \$75 for private functions, \$50 for non-profit groups using the kitchen facilities, and \$25 for non-profits as a meeting place. All that is asked is that each group clean up after

themselves, put away any tables and chairs they have used and bag up the trash.

Please consider using the Neal Welcome Center for your next event. We have tables and chairs for 100 people, a complete kitchen with an ice machine, and plenty of room for receptions, showers, graduation parties, etc. Call Michelle McDonald at 289-2614 to schedule the building.

The Curator's Report

Since the last newsletter we have received several very nice items for our museum.

The Hopewell Museum in Paris was willing a house full of papers, books, etc., from the estate of Buck Collier. Several items in this estate were from Carlisle and Nicholas County and were graciously donated to us. There were several old Mercury papers, an autograph album that belonged to Lizzie Brinnegar from 1894, a wonderful botanical specimen book from Jesse Hazelrigg from 1900 from Carlisle High School, some local maps and other fine items of interest to us.

We recently received a package from S.W. Campbell of Deland, Florida. This package contained many papers from the family of B.P. Prather, and John Campbell from 1822-1874. Among these fine items was a tax receipt from Nicholas County for 1857 and included tax paid for 8 slaves owned by B.P. Prather. We sincerely thank Mr. Campbell for these items.

I am also very pleased the an-

Society Newsletter available electronically

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nounce that the Reddy Kilowatt KU signed which has been in the Neal Building since it was given to Eugene Neal in the early 90's is getting a complete make over thanks to the generosity of Kentucky Utilities and Danny Long. Danny, a KU employee, worked with Carolyn Dotson to obtain the grant. When completed this sign will serve as a beacon to hopefully draw people to the museum. The sign is currently in the front window of the museum.

By Jim Haag

History of Nicholas County Available

To order a copy of the History of Nicholas County, complete the information below and send the form with a check for \$50 per copy, plus \$5 per copy for postage and handling, to:

Nicholas County Historical Society

P.O. Box 222

Carlisle KY 40311

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Number of copies: _____

Also available at the Neal Welcome Center and the Nicholas County Library.

Welcome Center is asset to the community

The Neal Welcome Center has had a very busy and productive year providing a service to the community as well as visitors to the area. The Welcome Center wing and the recently opened Museum and Genealogical Library wing are open every Thursday through Saturday from 9-5 and staffed by volunteers from the Historical Society and Nicholas County Tourism.

The facilities have been rented for reunions, receptions, showers and parties on several occasions. The building serves as a focal point for tourists as well as history buffs and genealogy researchers visiting the area.

Opal Kelly reviewed our guest register for 2008 and developed some interesting information.

There were 437 visitors who signed the guest book at the

Neal center. Of the visitors, 128 were from Nicholas County while 277 were from outside Nicholas County, including 206 from elsewhere in Kentucky, 69 from other states, and two from outside the United States. The two were from Japan and Honduras. Thirty-two of the visitors did not give any address.

Of course numerous visitors did not sign the guest book so we probably easily had more than 500 visitors during 2008.

By Bob Garvin

Don't forget your pledge

If you made a pledge to the society for 2008 and have not forwarded your check, it is time to do so. We are also accepting 2009 pledges. This includes pledges made to the Neal Building Fund and the Garvin Fund. A big thank you for all your generosity over the last few years!

Condolences and Congratulations

The membership of the society wishes to express our sympathy to the families of members we have lost since our last newsletter. Mrs. Lois Ockerman and Mrs. Dorothy Neal were longtime members of our group. Mrs. Neal, along with her husband Eugene, made it possible for us to have the building that has become the Neal Welcome Center.

In addition, we send our

condolences to Kay Shankland, secretary of our board, on the loss of her mother Clarine and to member Mary Stewart on the loss of her father.

In the area of congratulations, we send best wishes to members Will and Kim Adams Leger on the birth of their daughter. Myla Anne Leger arrived December 13 - mom and baby are doing fine.

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PO Box 222

Carlisle KY 40311-0222

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Dues

Check your mailing label and make sure you are up to date on your dues. Money from member dues help keep our organization running – and now with two buildings to maintain, dues are more important than ever.

