Support Preservation Kentucky and Get a Chance to Win a Stephen Powell Art Glass Piece

Centre College Art Professor and renowned glass artist Stephen Rolfe Powell has graciously donated a piece of his best art glass, known as Sassy Sarcastic Swooper, to Preservation Kentucky. Stop by 21c Museum Hotel and Proof on Main in Louisville to view the work, beginning Monday, October 10, 2011. 21c Museum is free and open to the public 24/7.

The raffle will end on Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at Louisville’s 5th Pecha Kucha event. Pecha Kucha evening consists of a series of abbreviated lectures given at a lively pace. The drawing for Powell’s piece will be at the conclusion of the lectures. In addition to 21c Museum, Pecha Kucha partners include: the Louisville Urban Design Studio, AIA Central Kentucky Chapter, and Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest. Pecha Kucha night will be held at 21c Museum Hotel’s Atrium Gallery | 700 West Main Street beginning at 8 pm. You do not have to be present to win the Powell piece.

Don’t miss this unique opportunity to win a prized Powell work, valued at $22,000! Tickets are $100 a piece. No limit on ticket number. ONLY 300 Tickets Will Be Sold. Your chances of winning are great.

To purchase tickets, please visit: www.pkpowellraffle.org or phone the Preservation Kentucky office at 502.871.4570. Tickets are also available for purchase at 21c Museum Hotel.

Letter From a PK Advisor

David L. Morgan

Many of you remember me as the former director of the Kentucky Heritage Council/the State Historic Preservation Office. I now live in Washington, D.C. on Capitol Hill with my wife Marcia. I’m extremely proud of all that we accomplished in Kentucky over the last 30 years. I still think of the extremely successful KY Main Street program that we began over 30 years ago, the Rural Heritage partnership with Preservation KY, the Pine Mountain Settlement School craft training programs, and the successes in getting Transportation Enhancement funds for historic preservation projects. Though a lot has changed since I left Kentucky, especially given the poor state of the economy, the groundwork we laid in good economic times remains solid.

As many of you know, I remain involved with Preservation Kentucky through the newly inaugurated PK Advisory Committee. I am committed to PK financially and as a volunteer because I believe in their mission of preservation education and advocacy in Kentucky. As the former SHPO, I—like you—know the value of an independent statewide historic preservation nonprofit. Without PK, the state would have never had a state historic preservation tax credit. With threats of budget cuts and programmatic changes at the Kentucky, national, and local levels, the role of PK as a voice for preservation is even more important.

As Preservation Lobby Days approach on January 25th-26th, I would ask you to attend this event and lend your voice to the chorus of preservationists who have made a difference in this state. I would also ask you to consider making a donation to PK before the end of 2011. If this is your first donation of the year, please be as generous as possible. If you have already given, please consider making an additional contribution. PK can only thrive with your financial and volunteer support. I know you already know the importance of PK, which is why you are a member. Let’s all work together to strengthen the statewide voice for preservation education and advocacy. Have a great Christmas and New Year. I hope to see you in January.

LOBBY DAY ALERT!

Kentucky Historic Preservation Lobby Days will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, January 25-26, 2012, in collaboration with the KY Main Street Program’s Quarterly meeting. PK asks that you contact your legislator NOW and request a meeting to discuss preservation needs during that two day period.

Preservation needs were defined at August’s Legislative Summit and were refined over a two month period by PK’s Legislative Advocacy Committee. Special thanks to Chair Don Stosberg for his work with this effort.

Preservation Kentucky’s Historic Preservation Platform consists of two separate, yet intertwined messages:

•Remove the $5 million cap from the State Historic Preservation Tax Credit and
•Support the Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet’s recommendation of additional funds for the KY Heritage Council/SHPO

A brief training session will be provided on these requests at the KY Main Street meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 from 2:30-3:30 EST location TBA. This portion of the training is open to PK membership and concerned preservationists across the Commonwealth. Members are invited to the Main Street Awards Ceremony that evening.

After the training session, preservationists will visit their legislators armed with economic data—specific to our requests for improved financial and technical resources.

We hope that you will attend on this date and encourage others in your community to attend. We will only increase our resources when we work together to achieve a common goal—that of moving historic preservation forward in Kentucky!

For more information on these issues, please visit: www.kypreservationsummit.org.
**National Trust for Historic Preservation Unveils Preservation 10X**

Karen Nickless, Charleston Field Office of the National Trust

The National Trust has implemented a new strategic framework called Preservation 10X that is a mission-driven response to calls for the National Trust to focus its programs and make historic preservation more relevant to a broader and more diverse segment of the public. Preservation 10X seeks to increase the Trust’s impact and scale by a factor of 10.

The new framework involves changes in our work and structure. Field offices will remain in the same locations, including the office that serves Kentucky from Charleston, SC, which is now called the Charleston Field Office. The new Eastern Regional Office, covering most areas east of the Mississippi, is also located in Charleston and led by John Hildebrand, Vice President for the Eastern Region. Inquiries about Kentucky should still be directed to Karen Nickless at Karen_Nickless@ntrust.org or 843.722.8552.

Many requests for information will be forwarded to the Trust’s new information coordinators in the Washington, DC headquarters, but for now the Charleston Field Office is still the initial point of contact.

Although field offices will continue to serve constituents and work with partners, such as Preservation Kentucky, the emphasis will shift from information sharing, grants management, and local issues to taking direct action to save historic places. The Trust will eventually focus its work on a revolving portfolio of 100 threatened sites that are nationally significant or have national implications for preservation. Nominations for these sites will be solicited from partners, advisors, and other interested parties. The 11 Most Endangered Historic Places will continue to take nominations from the public at large.

As the National Trust transitions into an organization that is more focused on direct action, one thing that will not change is the Trust’s commitment to working with partners to identify and save places that matter. This new focus will help us all save more places and bring more people into the preservation movement.

**Introducing KY’s 2011 National Trust Diversity Scholar**

Nancy Dawson

What does quilting, a park; a theatrical production and the blues singer Mary Ann Fisher all have in common? All of the above are the rare and varied interests of preservationist Dr. Nancy J. Dawson, who recently was selected as a diversity scholar to the National Trust for Historic Preservation conference held in Buffalo, New York in October and received an Edith Bingham Scholarship from Preservation Kentucky to enable her to attend.

Diversity Scholars receive special hands-on training to assist them with their preservation projects. They participate in specialized field trainings and network with hundreds of preservationists living throughout the United States. In addition, the National Trust stays connected with these individuals after the conference so that they can assist them with their projects in the future.

Dawson, a former director of African American Studies at Austin Peay State University, in Clarksville, Tennessee, has spent the last 10 years of her life helping to preserve various historical sites and cultural practices and traditions in Western Kentucky and Middle Tennessee. Although Dawson has trouble ordering her projects in importance, one would definitely place the preservation of Cherokee Historical Park in Marshall County, Kentucky near the top.

Cherokee Park is a 325-acre park owned by the Kentucky Department of Parks, and is one of only three known state owned segregated parks in the United States. The park operated as a segregated facility between 1951 and 1964. The park had a boat ramp, 12 cabins, a dining facility and a beach. Famous African American entertainers performed at the park which still has fond memories for many former stayers.

Dawson, a preservationist from Cadiz, Kentucky, worked with the Kentucky Department of Parks, Marshall County government officials, and a team of dedicated citizens to reopen the park officially last year. For more information on Dawson please visit: www.storiesfromadirt.com.
For many preservationists, the routine of our daily lives—focused upon the specific work we do—is like Section 106 compliance, historic district administration, or saving the old schoolhouse in our neighborhood, necessitates that we rely on an 'toolbox' containing longstanding financial and technical support from our state and local government and nonprofit partners. Our success, as a movement, is what has led to the existence of these tools. From time to time they may be revised, updated, or augmented to better serve our needs.

But if what one day we were to open that tool box and instead of finding a set of resources we find only one—or a completely different set. Or none at all! Too often we take for granted what we have grown familiar with, forgetting the legislative mechanisms in place that bring us the tools we depend upon. For many, it is hard to imagine that the restoration of a storefront on Main Street may be made possible by a huge set of federal laws and state incentives that interact in a complex and multifaceted way.

Gatherings such as the Kentucky Legislative Summit are a key ingredient in defending our toolbox. Having the ability to deliver the message directly to preservationists is an effective way to engage and to help connect federal policy to state and local initiatives. Throughout the Summit, preservationists were able to not only network and learn more about the programs and initiatives they have found successful, but they were able to connect them to the legislation that makes them possible. This allowed us to ask questions and, in the process, become more empowered!

By now, everyone knows that Washington is currently embroiled in major conflict over how to deal with a lagging economy. Every day a different set of legislators seems to come up with a new set of ideas for cutting spending or increasing revenue. Unfortunately, very often our tools become bargains chips as the debate. From major funding cuts, to program elimination, to the potential for reduced funding, too often we see too much of our toolbox being eaten away.

Erik Hein addresses Legislative Summit participants in August 2011

Now, perhaps more than ever, we need to be knowledgeable, vigilant, and vocal. It is Preservation Action’s goal to help make this happen. Consider joining today—your support helps to not only make sure we have a voice in Washington, but to be sure you have the tools you need to be effective in Frankfort. More information at: www.preservationaction.org

2011 Preservation Trades Network Conference

Thanks to the support of Preservation Kentucky and PK member Chris Black, I was fortunate to be able to attend the Preservation Trades Network (PTN) conference in Lancaster Pennsylvania this past August. Attending these events helps to stay in touch with current trends and craft techniques from experts at PTN, which I share with other Kentuckians at the Pine Mountain Settlement School for Preservation.

PTN’s main demonstrations were held on the campus of the Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology. Over 30 trades were represented by craftsmen and women from all over the USA, Canada, and even from a few Europe. Some new trades this year included ornamental plaster, paper hanging, and stained glass work, finishing techniques as an example. Through a PTN tradition, the final day of the workshop is open to the public. Based on the strong interest shown at the IPTW in Frankfort, we set up multiple stations to allow children and adults to get acquainted with craft tools and learn about various trades. PTN expanded the event this year to include wood and slate roofing, brick and stone masonry, timber framing, clay tile making, and even serpentine fence building. The event was well-attended by children and adults alike.

• Pine Mountain School for Practical Preservation has announced part of their 2012 schedule: June 10-15-Steel Window Restoration, Instructor Jim Tumber — learn how to restore steel windows and make them energy efficient
    July 15-20-Wood Window Restoration, Instructor Duffy Hoffman — learn how to restore wood windows and make them energy efficient
    October 5-7-Drystone workshop, instructor Richard Tufnell — learn the ancient art of dry stone construction

Erik Hein, Preservation Action Action

News and Updates

• The PK Board held our 2011 Strategic Planning Retreat at the Beaumont Inn in Harrodsburg, KY, Saturday November 5th. The all-day retreat focused on developing a strategic plan for PK, using input from regional planning meetings, membership surveys, and more intensive stakeholder interviews. The plan, which has received support from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will be complete by January 2012. An online version will be available at that time.

PK Board at planning retreat in Harrodsburg

• PK is pleased to announce that the Whiskey Row block in downtown Louisville has been saved from demolition and plans for rehabilitation are moving forward. PK attended a meeting in early November where roundtable discussions were discussed. Kudos to Main Street Revitalization LLC, investors led by Laura Lee Brown and Steve Wilson for taking on this worthy project. This save was truly a community-minded effort!

• On a separate, but related note, the “Centrepointe project” in downtown Lexington has stalled again. Chicago architect Jeanne Gang was hired in March to develop plans for the block—vacant since the 2008 destruction of the “Dame block.” Gang, who is a recent recipient of the MacArthur prize, was revered as her design duties by Dudley Webb in PK wonder with any hope that if Gang was brought in to rehab significant existing buildings and redevelop the vacant properties. Financing for historic rehabilitation projects is a much easier get in this environment, than financing for new, construction projects. The future of our cities is likely in rehabilitation and smaller-scaled new construction, if these two projects are any indication.

• Did you know that use of the Kentucky State Historic Tax Credit since 2006 has generated approximately 4,000 new jobs, half of which are in the construction industry and has contributed $161.5 million to the state’s economy? The credit has also contributed nearly $12,000 in state and local tax revenues. Think that’s impressive? Let your state legislator know about the success of the state historic preservation tax credit to KY’s economic health.

• Thanks to a grant from the Richard and Julia Moe fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, portions of PK’s First Legislative Summit was filmed! These films range in subject matter and expertise—from Renee Kuhnman’s (National Trust) assessment of preservation programs in KY to Jody Robinson’s eloquent tale of the KY Main Street Program in Bellevue. To view these videos, please visit: www.kypreservationsummit.org or search for the Preservation Kentucky channel on YouTube.

• PK was selected to present a three-minute success story at the 2011 National Trust conference in Buffalo, New York. PK Director, Rachel Kennedy, presented the results of the 2011 Preservation Pedal Bike Tour at the annual partners’ luncheon to rave reviews.

• Kentucky was well-represented at the 2011 National Trust conference in New York. Participants from the Commonwealth included: Amy Potts (PK), Rachel Kennedy (PK), Eric Whisman (PK and UK), Ann Elder Sutherland (Louisville), Anne Arengens (Louisville/NTHP Advisor), Marianne Zickuhr (Preservation Louisville), Jody Robinson (Bellevue Main St), Margo Warnmings (Newport), and Beth Johnson (PK and City of Covington). Thanks to assistance from Edith Bingham and Barbara Hulette, a preservation graduate student and a NTHP Diversity Scholar were able to attend.

• PK presented our Best Practices Award to the US Forest Service on Thursday, September 22, 2011 for their efforts in preserving and protecting Endangered Rockshelters. For more information on their efforts, visit: http://www.fs.fed.us/r12/boone/newsroom/2011_09_27rockaward.shtml

• PK’s work on the Lincoln Heritage National Scenic Byway was featured in a presentation by RHDI Program Manager Amy Potts at the National Scenic Byway conference in Minneapolis, MN in August. Amy also presented in November on the Rural Design Guideline project at the Eastern Tennessee Preservation conference.

Preservation Trades Network board member Jeremy Ballard helps a future preservationist with the basics of using a chiseling horse and a spoken shave to shape wood.
ENDANGERED LIST

Hogan’s Fountain Pavilion in Cherokee Park

Hogan’s Fountain Pavilion was constructed in 1964 by architect E.J. Schickli near Hogan’s Fountain. The Pavilion was intended to be used as a shelter for events, gatherings, and simply “hanging out” atop the Scenic Loop hill. The architect paid special attention to materials that would be appropriate for the park setting, such as wood beams and wood shake roofing. In spite of its strong verticality, Schickli’s creation retained a sense of horizontality, connecting it to the designed landscape surrounding it. As a result, Hogan’s Fountain Pavilion, or the teepee as it is popularly known, is an important historic structure in Cherokee Park. The structure is an important iconic historic feature in Cherokee Park that is used and loved by Louisvillians of all ages and walks of life. The pavilion is rented on a regular basis and provides a steady funding source for Metro Parks. Currently, the pavilion is in danger of demolition by neglect, in spite of the best efforts of local preservation group, Save Hogan’s Fountain Pavilion.

The situation impacting Hogan’s Fountain Pavilion is representative of difficulties that endanger historic structures in municipal parks across the Commonwealth: (1) inadequate preservation knowledge and expertise and (2) a lack of funding. In the case of Metro Parks, there is no historic preservation professional on staff to manage the historic and cultural resources in the park, though Metro Parks has proposed employment of such an individual. A historic preservation professional would have recognized Hogan’s Fountain Pavilion as an important piece of historic architecture, thereby planning for its protection. For more information, visit: http://www.preservationkentucky.org/pages.php?id=17.

Rockshelters & Archaeology

Rockshelters represent one type of landform occupied by the many cultures that have lived in Kentucky for nearly 12,000 years. Among the different types of archaeological sites, rockshelters are particularly important, in part because they provide a dry environment that has successfully preserved fragile prehistoric artifacts such as seeds, nutshell, cordage, wood, leather, and textiles. These seemingly simple items hold a wealth of information about past diets, technology, and environment. Rockshelters also include the remains of many historic period industries, such as saltpeter mining and moonshining.

Federal and state budgets are under increasing scrutiny for potential spending cuts. In August, the U.S. Congress recessed without finalizing plans to cut federal spending on historic preservation programs by nine percent. This proposed cut is in addition to this budget year’s reductions of 32 percent, which zoned out successful historic preservation grant programs, such as Preserve America and Save America’s Treasures (SAT). In Kentucky, these grant programs have been used to help projects such as a Discover Covington! a city-wide heritage and walking tour (Preserve America), rural heritage surveys in Washington and Marion Counties (Preserve America), restoration work at Pine Mountain Settlement School (SAT), and funding for the Justice Joseph Holt house in rural Breckenridge County (SAT)—among many others. The loss of these funds is felt acutely throughout our Commonwealth. In these uncertain times, it is important to reiterate the economic and social benefits of historic preservation to our state’s economy and heritage tourism efforts. Learn more about the importance of historic preservation funding at: http://www.preservationkentucky.org/pages.php?id=13.

Interested in making a contribution to Preservation Kentucky? Consider planning giving options, such as remembering PK in your will or trust. To discuss these options, contact Rachel Kennedy, executive director at 502.871.4570 to set-up a meeting.