

Leadership Central Kentucky class visits Bourbon County

Article by Lisa Highley, Kentucky Bank

Our day in Bourbon County began at the Hopewell Museum with a welcome by Susan Lemons, Day Chair, and Lucy Cooper, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce. I reported on who I thought was an influential leader in our county. John Sosby certainly fit the bill. He has been very active in the community his entire life and has devoted a lot of his time. Our community would not have been the same without him. After the influential leader report, our first speaker was the very charismatic Estill Pennington. He spoke on the History of Agriculture in Bourbon County and Central Kentucky. Mr. Pennington is very well versed in many subjects and therefore also incorporated several other issues into his speech. The class was so intrigued by his knowledge, we asked him to join us for the remainder of the day.

After listening to Mr. Pennington, we hopped on the bus to depart for our first tour, the famous Claiborne Farm. We were greeted at Claiborne Farm by Assistant Farm Manager, Charles Koch. Mr. Koch gave us some history about the farm and then took us for a tour of the breeding shed. We were then enlightened on how breeding takes place in the thoroughbred industry. It is one industry that does not allow artificial breeding to take place. Every mare is bred "naturally" by a stallion with a little supervision by humans. Next, we moved on to the stallion barn to see some of the famous stallions. We saw Pulpit and Eddington (son of Unbridled). Stud fees range from \$5,000 to \$125,000. Following the viewing of the stallions, Mr. Koch took us on a bus tour of the farm to see their facilities.

After our tour of Claiborne, we made a quick stop at the Farmer's Market, which is open year round. They mostly sell Kentucky Proud products and they have an outdoor market with fresh produce in the summer season. Several class members found something they had to have at the Farmer's Market.

After everyone made their purchases, we were on our way to the Bourbon County Extension Office for lunch. Marilyn Campbell of Campbell's Restaurant catered our lunch. During lunch, our speaker was Bourbon County Extension Agent, Glen Mackie. He spoke about the current agricultural industry in Bourbon County and fielded several questions. Our lunch went by quickly and we had to move on to our next stop, which was Adena Springs.

Adena Springs is a fairly new horse farm to Bourbon County. They purchased over 2,000 acres in 2005 in order to consolidate several Woodford County farms into one. They finally had all operations moved to the new location in 2007. It is a magnificent place to see. We were first greeted by Bill Drury, the Stallion Manager. We were shown several of their stallions, one of which was the 2005 Kentucky Derby Winner, Giacomo. Their stallion fees range



James Trader (right), curator, spoke to the Leadership Central Kentucky class about the history of the Cane Ridge meeting house.

from \$7,500 to \$150,000. After seeing the stallions, we climbed the stairs to the top of the office/stallion barn where we could see for miles. What a magnificent view!!! We then met up with Assistant Farm Manager, Donald Wells, to take a driving tour of the farm. We stopped at one of the foal barns where we got to see several foals. On our way out, we went through the village, which is home to many of the farm workers. They have installed a soccer field, basketball court, clubhouse, and in ground pool that can be used by any farm employees.

Our next stop was Cane Ridge Shrine. James Trader, the curator, spoke to us about the history of the Cane Ridge meeting house. Several religious revolutions took place there. We then walked next door to take a tour of The Ridge. This is the home of Mrs. Dorothy Clay. Mr. Pennington gave us a tour of her historic home and gardens. Then, we had to board the bus to head back to Paris for our last speaker of the day.

Sannie Overly, our State Representative, concluded our day with discussion about how decisions made in Frankfort affect Bourbon Countians as well as everyone else in the Commonwealth. An example of work she accomplished during her first session was a bill she worked on to create something similar to an Amber Alert for elderly or mentally challenged people. This bill was signed into law by the Governor. She encouraged everyone to be in contact with their representatives anytime during the year and not just while they are in session. A lot of work goes on when they are out of session.

Overall, everyone had a wonderful day touring the beautiful, preserved Bourbon County. This county is different from most of the others we have toured because it is not as industrialized. We have worked very hard to preserve our green space. We had a beautiful sunny day for all of our outdoor tours. We would like to thank everyone who gave us a tour or participated in any way to make our day great!

Leadership Youth Program: Arts & Media Day

Day Chairs Ann-Phillips Mayfield of Trademark Realty Partners and Lesley Farmer of the Lexington Children's Theatre planned an informational day for members of the Leadership Lexington Youth program. The objective of Arts and Media Day was to assist future leaders in understanding the role that art and media play in our society.

The class began the day at ArtsPlace in downtown Lexington, and then later traveled to the WKYT-TV (Channel 27) studios on Winchester Road. The group heard from several WKYT anchors/reporters, toured the facility, and got to participate in a mock newscast.

During lunch at the Lexington Herald-Leader, the class heard from Rich Copley and Tom Eblen, and then it was on to the

Lexington Children's Theatre to take part in a theater workshop with Vivian Snipes and Jeremy Kisling. Meanwhile, Joan Brannon talked about African drumming and filmmaking.

Closing out the day at Spencerian College, the group learned about the graphic arts. Special thanks to Blue Ribbon Charters for transportation throughout the day.

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2007-08 Leadership Lexington Youth class at WKYT-TV Channel 27 during Arts and Media Day.