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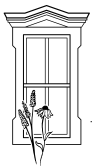
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Please make checks payable to:
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Mail this form with your check to:
Lawrence Preservation Alliance
PO Box 1073
Lawrence, KS 66044

Thank you!



Lawrence
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Alliance

LPA Officers: Dennis Brown (President),
Ernie Eck (Co-Treasurer), Dale Slusser (Co-Treasurer),
Joni Hernly (Secretary)
LPA Board: Phil Collison, Josh Davis, Virgil Dean,
Mike Goans, Chris Millsbaugh, Dale Nimz,
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Lawrence Preservation

The newsletter for the Lawrence Preservation Alliance

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Turnhalle Open House

900 Rhode Island

Sunday, June 29, 1-4pm

Presentation 2-2:30pm

Historic Turnhalle, built in 1869 as a German immigrant community center, will be briefly opened to the general public for the first time in over a year. LPA, which purchased the property in September 2012 in an attempt to save it, is celebrating the completion of the Phase I Stabilization Project, funded by a Natural and Cultural Heritage grant from the Board of Douglas County Commissioners.

Severe water infiltration issues, as well as major structural repairs at connection points between the original masonry structure and the frame addition, have now been addressed. While much rehab remains to be done, this initial activity has stopped the rapid deterioration that was occurring at this critical cultural site.

To celebrate, we look forward to a special program at 2pm, featuring remarks from the Chair of the Douglas County Commission, Nancy Thellman, and Mike Amyx,



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the Mayor of Lawrence. The Turnhalle is now for sale (the objective of LPA all along), and talks with interested parties are progressing. This one-day open house would be a good time to visit what once was one of the most threatened cultural resources of the downtown and our entire city.

Clearfield School No. 58

Turnhalle isn't the only German immigrant community building in Douglas County that's listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is benefitting from a Douglas County Natural and Cultural Heritage grant, and is blessed with a public non-profit trying to save it. Clearfield School No. 58 (1900), a wood frame one-story structure northeast of Baldwin City in Palmyra Township, enjoys all the same distinctions.

The school, moved from the east side of Clearfield about a mile to the west about 1910, was one of a number of thriving structures in Clearfield's early days. From 1946, when the school was closed for good, until the 1990s, when the Clearfield Community Historical Society was formed expressly to purchase and protect it, it was mainly used as a meeting place for the Clearfield Grange.

The driving force behind the small historical society is a dedicated LPA duo: Ron and Linda Wright. Ron's great-great grandfather, Henry Selzer, emigrated here from Germany and over the years, Ron's mother and many family members attended school there. Ron and Linda still live in the old family home about a mile from the school. But the town of Clearfield is now largely gone, except for the school, Clearfield Church and the cemetery.

With the \$29,000 county grant, the society was able to reroof the structure, finish shingle siding and window repair, and paint the exterior. Still to come is installation of the tin ceiling inside. The school still

has boys' and girls' entrances, original windows, floors and blackboards, and even the teacher's desk.

John More has worked step by step with the Wrights in this project. He wrote the county grant application, and worked closely with Sarah Martin of the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), to research and write the nomination for state and national listings. LPA members owe these folks our thanks for caring for this important property. Without them, it would almost certainly be meeting its final days as an agricultural outbuilding, as have so many church and school structures throughout the American Midwest.

Board Member Nominations

LPA is accepting nominations of candidates to join the LPA Board until July 14. At its July meeting, the board will recommend a slate of directors for approval by the general membership at the annual meeting this fall. Terms are three years, with board meetings on the third Monday evening of each month. LPA is a volunteer working board; not an advisory board. A critical current need is event planning, publicity and outreach. Interested members can send a letter outlining their qualifications and interests to LPA, PO Box 1073, Lawrence KS., 66044.



An old photo of Clearfield School with its original bell tower.

Awards and Listings

The Seybold building in downtown Eudora has been placed on the Register of Historic Kansas Places. A number of Lawrence properties have been designated as Landmarks on the Lawrence Register of Historic Places, including 1047 Massachusetts (Watkins Bank building), 1040 New Hampshire (Old English Lutheran Church), the John Haskell house at 1340 Haskell and the Elizabeth Haskell-French house at 1300 Haskell, and 621 Ohio. Other important nominations are on the way as we try to fill in the many blanks on our Lawrence Register.

Board member Ernie Eck and member Tim Keller received a medallion award from the Kansas Preservation Alliance (KPA), for their complete rehab of a Rooming House at 1145 Indiana in the Hancock Historic District. The large house was built in 1911 by Harriet Tanner, who financed and/or designed a number of homes in the Oread neighborhood. A number of preservation-minded design decisions, including a reconstruction of front porches to match the original design, allowed this property to change its designation within the historic district from non-contributing to contributing. State Senator Marci Fransisco, an original founder of LPA and long-time Oread neighborhood leader, helped present the award.

LPA announced two winners of our Preservation in Progress award (PIP). David Frayer and Jeanette Spencer were honored for their successful nomination of their property at 1500 Haskell to the Lawrence, State and National Registers of Historic Places. They received their award at the Old Housewarming at their residence which we all enjoyed on April 27. Billy Construction also won a PIP for their whole house rehabilitation of 830 E. 13th., taking it from an unoccupiable condition to the sale of a completely finished project to a happy young family. Billy Construction will receive their award at the Turnhalle open house June 29th, so come on out!

Great Job Everyone!