

Board Member Nominations

Our nominating committee is accepting nominations of potential candidates to join the LPA Board until June 15. The Board will then recommend a slate of directors for approval by the general membership at the annual meeting in the fall. Terms are for three years, with board meetings on the third Monday evening of each month. This is a working board; not an advisory board. Any expertise is welcome, but a current critical need is for event planning, publicity and outreach. A willingness to work positively with others is as important as preservation knowledge. Interested members may send a letter outlining their qualifications and interest to LPA, PO Box 1073, Lawrence Ks., 66044.

Preservation In Progress awards

The PIPs are meant to recognize projects/people that are doing preservation work which improves a structure, environs, promotes preservation concepts, or sets the stage for future preservation efforts.

March 2013 Awardees

Dave and Annie Gnojek: 2910 Peterson Road

Brad Eldridge: 1028 Rhode Island

Nathan & Summer Wiedemeyer: 646 Rhode Island

Tim Keller, Ernie Eck: 1145 Indiana

Great job everyone!



LPA Board member Josh Davis (Left) present Dave and Annie Gnojek their PIP award.

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Lawrence Preservation

The newsletter for the Lawrence Preservation Alliance

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2013 Achievement Award Winners

Thursday, May 16, 7pm

Castle Tea Room

LPA will honor Betty Alderson, Carol Francis, and Ray Wilber and Cathy Dwigans at our 4th annual Awards Event. We've all been working so hard for Turnhalle; it's time to have fun, celebrate National Preservation Month, and remember all the great preservation work that has happened in our community.

Both Betty and Carol are former LPA presidents. Betty has an astoundingly consistent record of participation in public testimony at the local government level. Carol lovingly undertook the rehabilitation and reuse of one of downtown's most significant structures, the House building at 731 Massachusetts. Ray has compiled a lifetime of outstanding brick/masonry work on historic properties in Douglas County. He and his wife Cathy have been very active on preservation projects in the Vinland area, and have given consulting advice to many appreciative organizations and property owners.

Invitations to members are delivered, but non-members are welcome to attend. Include \$25 per attendee, list their names, and send to Lawrence Preservation Alliance, PO Box 1073, Lawrence Ks. 66044. This will place you on the list to check in when you arrive. Come on out to honor this outstanding slate of award winners, enjoy the company of your neighbors, and have a great time!

www.lawrencepreservation.org
www.facebook.com/lawrencepreservation

Turnhalle Grants

LPA has received three \$5000 grants, totaling \$15,000, as we raise funds to evaluate the Turnhalle's structural condition and document the building's history. On March 1, we received a grant from the general fund of the Douglas County Community Foundation Board of Directors, and a second grant from the Shelley Miller Charitable Trust Fund. On March 28, we received a grant from the National Trust for Historical Preservation.

These three grants help with the project's monetary needs but also provide evidence that it enjoys the support of both the local community and the powerful endorsement of the National Trust. Personal donations are also still coming in and now total \$40,000. All of this support is pivotal as we move the project closer to our goal of rehabilitation and resale.

Thank you to the over 300 people who attended the Turnhalle open houses April 13 and 21! Photos can be found on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/lawrencepreservation

News Update: On May 1 the Douglas County Commission approved a recommendation from the Heritage Conservation Council to award LPA \$125,000 to begin exterior rehabilitation of Turnhalle. The project scope will complete exterior work on the frame addition on the building's east end. This is a major development that will allow rehab work to begin later this year after completion in mid-summer of the Historic Structures Report (HSR).

LPA Officers: Dennis Brown (*President*)

Joni Hernly (*Secretary*), Ernie Eck (*Co-Treasurer*), Dale Slusser (*Co-Treasurer*)

LPA Board: Josh Davis, Virgil Dean, Kate Dinneen, Mike Goans, Anne Marvin, Chris Millsbaugh, Dale Nimz, Michael Shaw, Mary Lynn Stuart, Verdell Taylor, Jr., Carol von Tersch

Emeriti Board Members: Dennis Domer, Marci Francisco

Lawrence Preservation is published quarterly by the Lawrence Preservation Alliance. Our mission is to preserve historically significant buildings and natural environments, and to educate the community about the benefits of historic preservation. We welcome your comments, suggestions, and questions. Email us at lawrencepreservation@gmail.com

Historic Register Listings

Since last reporting on this important issue, a number of positive preservation steps have been taken at virtually every level of government.

In October 2012 the Black Jack Battlefield Trust received notice that the U.S. Civil War battlefield site they have worked so hard to protect and promote has received National Historic Landmark status. This is a tremendous development for both the hardworking volunteer board and those promoting historic tourism in Douglas County through the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area. In August 2012, the State Bank building at 707 Main in Eudora was placed on the Register of Historic Kansas Places. In October, the Charles and Elizabeth French house at 1300 Haskell in Lawrence was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, followed by the Beni Israel Cemetery near Eudora in January 2013.

On the campus of the University of Kansas, a Historic District surrounding Jayhawk Blvd. at the crest of Mt. Oread was listed on the Register of Historic Kansas Places in February 2013, and the National Register in April. In November 2012, the Douglas County Commission approved the Douglas County Kansas Heritage Conservation Plan, which allowed the county to become a Certified Local Government (CLG). This will help the county to apply for competitive grants from the Kansas Historic Preservation Fund.

In February 2013, the Kibbee Farmstead at 1500 Haskell in Lawrence was placed on the Register of Historic Kansas Places, and the National Register in April. Of note, however, is that the property owner, LPA member David Frayer, is also seeking listing on the local Lawrence Register of Historic Places. The LPA Board is also pursuing local designation for the Turnhalle. The local register offers no current monetary incentive, but

does have some environs protection, and is an option LPA would encourage historic property owners in Lawrence to utilize.

Brick Street Guidelines

Central city neighborhoods will have an important topic to discuss with city planners this summer: Lawrence Public Works is proposing guidelines for maintenance and reconstruction of the city's brick streets. The Historic Resources Commission (HRC), at their April meeting, was the first civic group to see the guidelines, presented by city staffer Mark Thiel. Most of the city's brick streets are asphalt-covered, and those that qualify for maintenance rather than reconstruction would stay that way under the proposed guidelines.

While brick street reconstruction is significantly more expensive than concrete, it has a longer life, is more appropriate in designated historic neighborhoods, and is an effective traffic-calming device. Besides cost, another problem for the city in reconstruction scenarios is the availability of bricks and limestone curbs. As proposed, brick reconstruction guidelines would not include streets designated as arterials or collectors. Residential streets with houses fronting them would receive priority. Thiel also pointed out that having guidelines in place does not create the actual funding to do the work.

HRC was full of thoughtful questions and comments on the subject. Should Historic Districts get priority for brick street reconstruction, and could the state Historic Tax Credit program apply? Some residential streets are questionably labeled as collectors. The city should seek estimates for new limestone curbstones rather than replacing broken ones with concrete. Thiel plans to visit with a number of advisory commissions and neighborhood groups this summer before seeking City Commission approval late this year. Find the complete proposal under item No. 5 at www.lawrenceks.org/assets/pds/planning/hrc/hrcagendaApril13Full.pdf