



# MUSEUM NEWS

McCreary County Heritage Foundation



Volume 1, Issue 1

April 2005

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The McCreary County Museum has begun its 17<sup>th</sup> Season. Museum workers and volunteers have been busy this past winter preparing displays for the new season. As usual the Museum's "Gallery" features works by local artists and craftsmen. This season we have on exhibit the works of Mrs. Effie Watson Neal which includes as many as 20 oil paintings and prints whose subjects range from attractive scenes to farm animals. In addition we have one of her prize-winning quilts, several of her original crocheted doll designs and many other crafts on display. This winter the workers were also very excited to be

working with the new addition of a facade for the bank room. Thanks to The First National Bank of Oneida, this exhibit was made possible. It honors Dr. Frank Thomas, a retiring member of their Board as well as a former member of the Museum Board of Directors. The bank facade includes a display counter for vintage coins, scrip, money clips and more.



Gallery

## Wall of Memory

The wall of memories is a portion of the interior walls of the restored freight depot in Historic Stearns, KY currently used as the passenger depot for the Big South Fork Scenic Railway. Upon this wall are names of employees of the Stearns Coal & Lumber Company, the Kentucky & Tennessee Railway, and any subsidiaries of these companies. These name plaques are placed by friends or family members of the living or deceased employees as a tribute to their employment at one of Kentucky's largest coal and lumber industries. If you wish to place a name on the Wall of Memories please contact the Museum to request more information.

## Special points of interest:

McCreary Heritage Community Center Opens—for more information about renting the center call 606-376-5330.

Free admission offered to County Residents on Wednesdays.

McCreary County Historical Society needs photos for "Images from our Past" a pictorial history of McCreary County.

Genealogy Assistance

## New Museum Exhibit



Bank Facade

## Wall of Memories



Stearns Depot



**The Museum primarily collects, preserves and protects the artifacts of McCreary County for future generations.**

## McCreary County Museum Mission & Purpose

### *Our Mission*

The Mission of the McCreary County Museum is primarily to collect, preserve & protect the artifacts which reveal the heritage of the people of McCreary County and to interpret for our visitors life as it was lived during different periods of time in McCreary County from the earliest inhabitants of pre-colonial times to the residents of the last quarter of the twentieth century.

## Museum Wish List

### *Our Wish List*

The purpose of the McCreary County Museum is to serve as a repository for artifacts that have been associated with the households in all parts of the geographic area that is now McCreary County and to display them in an interesting and instructive way for local school children, adults and tourists.

- *Volunteers*
- *Past Perfect Museum Software*
- *Broken Window Pane Repair*
- *Elevator to 2nd & 3rd Floors*
- *Simulated Mine in basement*
- *Scanner (with capabilities to scan pictures sized 10X20)*
- *Genealogy Reference Books and Materials*



### McCreary County Museum Membership Form

Make me a member as checked!	Contribution Amount	
<input type="checkbox"/> Single Donation	\$00.00	\$24.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25.00	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$51.00	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Friend	\$101.00	\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$251.00	Above

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment

- Check
- Cash
- Money Order

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the McCreary County Museum.

MCCREARY COUNTY HERITAGE FOUNDATION

McCreary County Museum  
 Post Office Box 452  
 Stearns, KY 42647

Phone: 606-376-5730  
 Email: museum@bsfsry.com

### Membership Benefits

*Basic Benefits*

Subscription to the Museum Newsletter  
 Invitations to Members Only Events  
 Ten percent discount on souvenir items at the Museum  
 One Season Pass

*Individual*

Basic benefits.

*Family*

Basic benefits,  
 plus Season Passes to the Museum for immediate family.

*Friend*

Basic benefits,  
 plus Season Passes to the Museum for immediate family.  
 Recognition in the Museum Newsletter

*Patron*

Basic benefits,  
 plus Season Passes to the Museum and Scenic Railway for immediate family (Railway Pass only valid for regular runs excluding Saturdays in Oct and Special Holiday runs).  
 Recognition in the Museum Newsletter

## McCreary County Museum Supporters

### Friends

Join today!

### Patrons

Join today!

The McCreary Heritage Foundation (MCHF) operates as a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation, which makes all donations tax deductible.

### MCHF Board Members

Larry Lockhart  
Chair

Buddy Wilson  
Vice Chair

Becki Egnew  
Secretary/Treasurer

J.C. Egnew

Bill Johnson

Tony Jones

Gorden Kidd

Dewayne King

Dr. Winchester

### Foundation Staff

William "Doc" Coffey  
Executive Director

Amy Combs  
Museum Director



### Genealogy

*"Call to inquire about the Stearns Coal & Lumber Company Employee Records"*



*"Allow the McCreary County Museum to assist you in finding your family tree."*

## Remembering Your Past



**The old Jail stood at the corner of the court house square. The Jailor and his family lived on the first floor while the prisoners were held on the top floor.**



**The 1st Courthouse located in Whitley City was built in 1914 and was destroyed by fire in 1927.**

We believe the old jail was demolished sometime between 1972-1977. If anyone can offer a more accurate date please call the Museum.

The Museum houses numerous photos and genealogy reference materials to help researchers identify with their past. If you need assistance researching your family or the County history feel free to contact the Museum for help.

### 2005 At-A-Glance

- *Barthell Homecoming*  
June 24-26  
*Barthell Coal Mining Camp*
- *Independence Day Cookout*  
July 1  
*Courthouse Lawn*
- *Heritage Days July 1-3*  
*Downtown Historic Stearns*
- *Fireworks July 2*  
*Historic Stearns*

### Thank You

The Museum would like to thank the following Historical Society Members and the Career Choice Community Service volunteers for their work April 15-16.

Edith Hammonds

Dorene Murphey

Gloria & Orville Perkins

Brittany Perry

Gerald Perry

Keshia Strunk

Peggy Wilson

Lorella Wood

I would also like to thank Teresa and Dudley Bottom for their donation to repair the Museums broken display glass.

### Volunteers Needed

With so many new things going on in the Museum we are seeking morning and afternoon volunteers to staff the Museum. People of all ages are needed to greet and orient visitors, give tours, help with office work, clean exhibits, make Museum repairs, and help provide answers to genealogy requests. Interested individuals should like interacting with the public, enjoy history, and have good communication skills. If you have time to volunteer or just want to provide ideas to help your Museum grow and flourish, please call us at 606-376-5730 or email us at museum@bsfsry.com.

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MCCREARY COUNTY  
HERITAGE FOUNDATION

*Museum News*

McCreary County Museum  
Post Office Box 452  
Stearns, KY 42647

Phone: 606-376-5730  
Email: [museum@bsfsry.com](mailto:museum@bsfsry.com)

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COMING SOON!!  
[WWW.MCCREARYMUSEUM.COM](http://WWW.MCCREARYMUSEUM.COM)

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Friend  
of the  
McCreary County Museum

We need your feedback. Please contact the Museum to suggest this newsletter be printed yearly, biyearly or quarterly!