

PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF FIVE KENTUCKY GENERATIONS

DINSMORE DISPATCH

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 2016



There is a tiny little tea set sitting on the secretary in the parlor that is just adorable! Perusing the Dinsmore family's documents, I may have found the owner of that tea set. In 1841, Martha Dinsmore was with the three girls in Lexington, staying at the boarding house that was run by Colonel Dunham and previously served as the Lafayette Female Academy (where Mary Todd Lincoln attended school). Martha kept careful notes of all her purchases and, lo and behold, the tea set appears as an Easter gift for Susan Dinsmore, the youngest daughter. Items purchased in March of that year include: shoes for all the girls (\$3.25 for Isabella, \$2.00 for Julia, and \$1.37 for Susan), a bonnet for Isabella (\$1.25), stockings for Julia (\$.37), "candy for colors" (\$.18), "Eggs for Easter" (\$.25), "ribbon doll &c." (\$.62), "Tea set for Susan" (\$1.50). The china tea set is quite tiny and suitable for six. Each



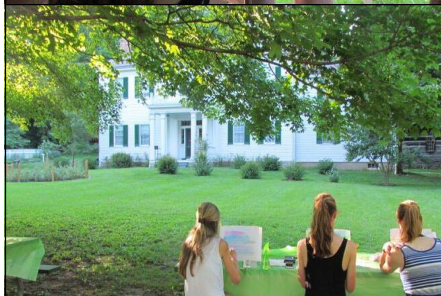
cup has a different painting on it of a woman or a man in eighteenth-century attire. Susan, at five years old, must have been very pleased with her present. Almost as interesting as the tea set, is the practice of using candy to dye eggs almost two hundred red years ago.



Dinsmore Homestead's first Watercolor & Wine event was held on July 16 to help raise funds for the restoration of a painting in the home. The event could not have been on a more perfect comfortable summer evening. An array of hors d'oeuvres, food and wine was enjoyed by guests as they informally mingled among the group before sitting down for the main event.

Northern Kentucky artist, Tom Gaither, demonstrated his painting techniques while participants watched, learned about the principles of element and design, and listened to his helpful tips. He mentioned that he is 100% self-taught and that painting is a skill that anyone can learn. He offers 2-hr classes at his studio in

Watercolor and Wine



Ludlow, KY. Tom Gaither said he will finish the painting at his studio and will be viewed on Dinsmore Homestead's website – perhaps sold to the highest bidder.

Before the guests sat down to begin painting, they toured the first floor of the home where docents were inside to answer questions and to talk about three specific paintings. Guests voted their favorite among the three paintings to receive the restoration. The winner is an oil painting by Patty Flandrau of Yellowstone Falls.

*As the sun set and the evening grew cool, many of the "artists in training" spoke
(Cont. on last page)*

SUMMER FESTIVAL

At the end of August we had our Summer Festival that featured over 30 crafters and artisans. In spite of the weather challenges, our festival was a hit! There was plenty for visitors to see and do. People strolled around the grounds admiring the collection of antique cars from the Horseless Carriage of America, Country Cruisers Car Club, along with taking a tour of the main house. Again this year, we enjoyed **Sally Bridley's** hearth cooking and demonstration while **Jane and Less McGraw** demonstrated chair caning in the Cook Cabin. Music filled the air from **Terry Hoppenjans**, **Elijah Creek** and DJ **TC and Rockin' Renee** while folks enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs and holy donuts from **Knights of Columbus**.



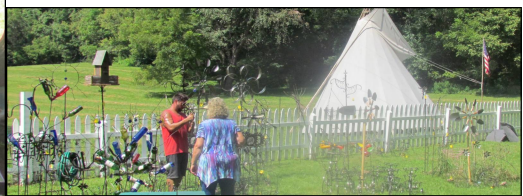
Bill Shuffett riding his penny-farthing



Local artist, **Magno Reajo**, painting a beautiful picture of the main house



Local animal shelter found a home for a dog. A match made in heaven!!



SUMMER FESTIVAL CONT'D

A lot went on behind the scenes before and during the event to make the festival such a success. Thank you board members, volunteers and everyone involved for all your hard work and dedication.

Special shout-outs to . . .

Judy DeMarco and **Rick Bingham**, the event coordinators. **Dale Bardes** for helping with set-up, **Barbara Bardes** and **Mary Swiggum** for putting together the attic sale with help from **Marea West**, **Patty Raverty** and **Bob Hill**.

To **Cathy Collopy** and all the special house volunteers along with our junior volunteers overseeing the kids area. The ladies working the gift shop keeping busy at the cash register selling!

Elizabeth Tankersley and **Sherry Regenbogen** at admissions welcoming our guests and keeping our guests well informed. **Susan Shuffett** and her special helpers keeping our fields mowed and looking nice for all our events, being in charge of the hayrides and getting our petting zoo arranged. (A big hit with the kids!!)

Thank you to those wonderful volunteers who directed traffic and kept people safe as they crossed the street, and to **Don Nowak** for capturing all festival moments in photos! And to all our hard-working volunteers who donated their time working wherever needed during the festival! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



HATS OFF TO ...



Dinsmore Homestead has many volunteers that are committed to the homestead and the time dedicated to preserving the homestead greatly appreciated. One of those volunteers is Christine Godsey. She has been with Dinsmore Homestead since the inception of the Foundation. She served on the Board many years ago and once was part of the Education Committee. She continues to play an integral role. Now she volunteers on Friday's as a docent greeting visitors at the main house. Recently she sewed prairie hats for the girls to wear in this year's summer camp. Hats can be purchased in our gift shop and the set includes a hat suitable for a doll.



We would like to introduce two new docents, **Tom and Barbara Manning** from Florence who love history. They will be giving tours of the main house on Saturday's. Welcome!!

Congrats **Kathleen Adams** on her first year anniversary volunteering in the gift shop and helping with office support. She volunteers almost every weekend. We sure appreciate all she does.

Special recognition to **Marea & Martin West** for attaining a grant to restore Julia's rose garden along with **Annette & Bob Dube**, our weekly volunteer gardeners. Thanks for keeping our grounds maintained and looking so beautiful!!!

Upcoming Events

October 15—Making a Rag Rug, RSVP to office.
 October 29—All Hallows Eve, 5-8pm
 Why: Because there will be so many fun things to do: Bonfire, Crafts, Fortune Telling, Trick-or-Treating, and more!
 Dinsmore is offering special tours of the home, focusing on tales of death & tragedy. Costumes encouraged.
 Admission: Humans over 4 yrs. old, \$3 Humans over 17yrs., \$5. Questions? Call 859-586-6117
 or email: ccollopy@dinsmorefarm.org



Dinsmore Homestead

PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF
FIVE KENTUCKY GENERATIONS

5656 Burlington Pike
Burlington, KY 41005
P.O. Box 453
859-586-6117

www.dinsmorefarm.org
Www.facebook/Dinsmorehomestead
Email: Info@dinsmorefarm.org

Dinsmore Homestead Foundation Board of Directors

Dr. Barbara Bardes, Chair
Jim Crawford, Vice Chair
Susan Shuffett, Treasurer
Lee McNeely, Secretary
Judy DeMarco
Patricia Raverty
Howard Tankersley
Megan Wainscott
Robert Hill

DINSMORE HAS NEW FALL HOURS

GIFT SHOP & OFFICE OPEN THURSDAY-FRIDAY 10-5PM
SATURDAY 11-5PM
SUNDAY 12-5PM

HOUSE TOURS FRIDAY-SUNDAY 1-5PM OR BY APPT. ONLY

From the Gift Shop

*Signed and Numbered Art
Prints by James Werline*

*Dinsmore Homestead
(without Remarque) 20.00*

*Dinsmore Homestead
(with Remarque) \$35.00*

My Old Kentucky Home (without Remarque) \$20.00



The Wise Turtle, *An Anthology of Seventh Grade Poetry*,
Created by the St. Pius X Seventh Grade Students is now on
sale in the gift shop for \$9.99.

(Watercolor & Wine cont.)

*favorably of the evening, how smooth it
ran, the good wine, and how
they hope to do it again. They were all
relaxed, some discovered they have a
knack for painting and sketching, while
others rekindled the inner artist from
long ago. Overall, everyone had a fun
time whether they created their
"masterpiece" or not.*

*(Article written by Kathleen Adams., gift
shop and office support volunteer)*

We want to hear from you! This newsletter for you, the members and fans of the Dinsmore Homestead Foundation, and we welcome your reactions and your input on what kind of content you'd like to see here in the future. Is there something you've always wondered about the house or family, which you'd like to see answered as a column? Do you want to know more about certain events, or aspects of the museum's day-to-day business? Let us know by writing to P.O. Box 453, Burlington, KY 41005; or by emailing dinsmorehomestead@gmail.com.