



The Homeplace Board of Directors wishes you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a joyful New Year

December, 2018

Homeplace on Green River

Super 2018 at Homeplace—2019 also promising

This past year saw some major improvements at homeplace both physical and in programming. The most significant physical change was the fulfillment of the long-time dream of the complete renovation of the bank barn and its rebirth as a very nice, rustic and functional venue for stage productions.

The barn was also the setting for a very significant program addition with Homeplace's "Shakespeare in the Barn" theater productions led by the Lindsey Wilson College theater program under the direction of Professor Robert Brock. Both the upper and lower decks of the barn are now able to be used for a variety of activities including during the festivals for locating vendors, entertainment and the always popular Mayfield Ice Cream stand.

The theater program opened April 21 with a well-attended introductory variety show including excerpts from Shakespeare's Macbeth by the Lindsey Wilson Theater program, a comedy performance by Campbellsville University's Harlequins and songs from The Sound of Music by students from Adair County High School. (Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1 Super 2018)

The initial stage show, *Smoke on the Mountain*, was so well attended in June it was repeated in September. Shakespeare's *Two Gentlemen of Verona* took the stage in July. Unfortunately, the children's play, *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*, was canceled because of the extreme heat, and the Lindsey Wilson Choir's annual performance of the Christmas portion of Handel's *Messiah* was moved to the Columbia Baptist Church because of cold weather. Those issues were addressed by purchasing heating units and adding two additional windows to improve air circulation. Thanks to Board Member David Goguen, we now also have a portable sound system in the barn.

An record estimated crowd of 2,500 attended the spring plow day and festival. Activities included 15 horse and mule plow teams and 30 antique tractors as well as more than 30 food, arts and crafts vendors and exhibitors.

The September heritage festival also drew a large crowd of about 1800 despite the day-long threat of rain. Headlining the new activities at the September festival was Kay Gschwind and Ben Burgess with their Suffolk Punch draft horses demonstrating how logging was accomplished before tractors and log skidders. The construction of a new food "court" included eight food vendors and was much more functional than the scattering of food vendors at previous festivals.

Two new music groups, students from the Burkesville Academy of Fine Arts, and the Unity of Praise Youth Choir from Taylor County's Pleasant Union Baptist Church, were part of the all-day live music show in the barn. They joined The Exie Boys, frequent performers of Bluegrass and Country Western at Homeplace Festivals, and Renetta and Friends, who performed a variety of music at both the spring and fall festivals last year.

Work on the house continued in 2018. There's been much progress, but money to complete the work has been lacking. The board meets there and it's open for special occasions including the festivals.

Program plans for the new year include an endurance run in February, increased activities with school children in cooperation with the three county public school systems, more theater and music performances in the show barn, enhancement of the woods trails and completion of an agrarian trail thanks to grant money awarded to Taylor County for the project.

A new exit road is also planned to allow departing traffic to avoid the festival crowds.

Final work will be completed in January which will free-up a grant to enable hiring a full-time site manager/program director and begin several other capital improvements/additions over the next two years.



KGS study's karst topography at Homeplace



Homeplace has agreed to cooperate with a study underway by the Kentucky Geological Survey (KGS) water resources section to determine the hydrologic characteristics of the karst topography in the vicinity of the farm.

When water infiltrates the underground limestone, it dissolves the limestone to form karst topography - an area of caves, underground channels, and a rough and bumpy ground surface. Karst areas are common in Kentucky and hence the

many caves in our area.

The underground water of karst topography carves out impressive channels and caves that are susceptible to collapse from the surface. When enough limestone is eroded from underground, a sinkhole may develop.

Sinkholes are depressions that form when underground limestone is eroded.

The study is part of a larger effort funded by the a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Innovation Grant. Its purpose is to help develop monitoring techniques to assess water quality and soil health at sinkhole-dominated crop fields and farms in karst areas.

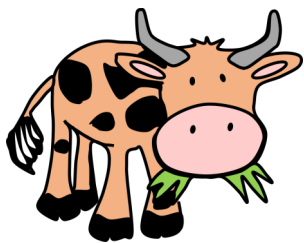
If you are interested in receiving a more detailed description of this study, respond to this email and request a copy of the "Spring discharge monitoring project."

Homer's short (but important) list

Thank You!

Homeplace is a non-profit 501c3 organization. That means several things, one of which the board spends all income on Homeplace. They are unpaid volunteers. It also means both cash and non-cash gifts are eligible for tax deductions.

Homeplace's income is limited to leasing crop lands each year, small income from the festivals, the programs in the barn, and other activities, grants from government and private foundations and gifts of cash and items from our friends like you.



Please join Homeplace in preserving our rural heritage, providing wholesome entertainment and instilling in our young students an understanding of the role agriculture in their lives and an appreciation for our farms, fields, woodlands and waterways—all of which are in full display at Homeplace on Green River. You can give either your time or money to support specific programs or improvements at Homeplace or to our general fund which pays the light bills, postage, building and equipment maintenance and other on-going month to month expenses.



There are a number of ways you can make cash donations to Homeplace. You can contact any one of our board members or through PayPal. There is a list of our board members and a link to PayPal on our Web page at www.homeplacefarmky.org You do not have to have a PayPal account to give through PayPal. You can use a credit card. Or you can mail your check to Homeplace on Green River, P.O Box 4212, Campbells-ville, KY 42719. Your support will help us preserve our rural heritage, serve our children and provide wholesome family entertainment.