

Annual Report to the Tourism Committee

Green River Museum

January 28, 2016

Community Engagement

Opening Day at the Green River Museum – June 13, 2015

This annual event includes regional crafts and food, a silent auction of regional art, and performances by a local band. A fund-raising event, the museum generated \$2,013.00 in profit.

Fall Open House – October 17, 2015

Green River Museum Impact Award this year given in memory of Victor Hugo Lytle (1904-1980), lockmaster at Woodbury from 1952 until 1959. Award is given annually to someone who has impacted the history or the preservation of the history of Butler County. Past recipients include W. S. Overstreet, Captain James Burch, William Lawrence, and Judge Clay Johnson.

Green River Museum's Facebook page continues to generate interest and interaction, especially in relationship to the historic photographs and short local histories posted. Over 1,300 people are actively engaged through this medium. A recent posting of a turn-of-the-century photograph of the Green River during a snowfall reached 2,896 people without a "boost."

On-site visitors increased in 2015, but with still a greater percentage of people from outside of Butler County. Class of 1972 held their reunion on the porch of the 1913 Superintendent's House in June.

The Green River Museum is a member of the Kentucky Museum and Heritage Alliance

Restoration and Maintenance

Exterior wooden elements painted on 1913 Superintendent's House, in original colors, at a cost of \$3,900.00.

Exterior wooden elements painted on smoke house and out house, in original colors, at a cost of \$300.00.

Plaster repairs to the interior of the 1912 Superintendent's Office, at a cost of \$1,000.00

Asphalt shingle roof replaced on 1913 Superintendent's House, at a cost of \$7,200.00

Exhibits

Exhibit on the 1872 Butler County courthouse was expanded in 2015 to include a section on the history of the Civil War statue, including newly enlarged George Dabbs photographs of the opening ceremony in 1907.

The Hampton family collection of historic Butler County textiles was exhibited in the museum and in the period rooms of the 1913 Superintendent's House.

Notable Acquisitions

The Hampton Family Textile Collection, donated by Kay Gildersleeve Hampton and Hampton family, includes historic 19th and early 20th century Butler County handwork and woven textiles in cotton, wool, and linen

Offering Table, ca. 1890, from the African American Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Morgantown, purchased with contributions from donors from the family of Artie Belle Carson

Cook Stove, cast iron and enamel, wood-burning, for the kitchen of the 1913 Superintendent's House

A collection of furniture and related artifacts from the cabinet-making shop of Henry Gibbs (b. 1817) in Woodbury, was purchased in 2013 by the GRM. The debt was paid in full in 2015.

Volunteerism

Museum buildings open Saturdays, noon until 4:00 p.m., June through September, staffed by volunteers

Museum buildings cleaned and maintained by GRB Board members and volunteers, notably Gail Smrtic, who donated many hours throughout the season

Original 1913 Corps of Engineers flagpole restored, thanks to volunteer coordinator Roger Givens

Coming in 2016

New objects related to Butler County history will be on exhibit this season and the initial stages of restoration on the kitchen of the 1913 Superintendent's House

Attempts will be made to gain a greater presence both locally and statewide, hoping to draw both Butler Countians and out-of-region tourists as well.