



# News

The oldest statewide historic preservation organization in Tennessee

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF TENNESSEE ANTIQUITIES

WINTER 2009-2010



## President's Message

by Bob Notestine, President

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a happy and prosperous holiday season and New Year. While the economy has certainly had an impact on our sites and programs, it has been a busy year and I am glad to report that the

APTA has played a very active role in the historic preservation movement in this state. I urge all of you to review our website and let the office know of upcoming chapter events so that we can place them on the APTA website. The website gets a considerable number of "hits" and is an excellent way to publicize your events

I would like to also take this opportunity to request your assistance in increasing our Endowment Trust. As you may already know, the Endowment Trust is the "lifeblood" of the APTA in that is significant source of funding for grants to our chapters, administrative support to run the APTA office, educational programming, and funds to acquire and preserve historic properties. The downturn in the economy has had a negative impact on the Trust investments. Although there has been some positive results in recent weeks, it is one of my goals as President to increase the value of the Endowment Trust to ensure that the APTA has the money available in the future to fund its programs and to preserve historic properties. In this spirit I would like to offer a few suggestions about how you can help in this effort.

### Year End Donations

Your donations to the APTA Endowment Trust can be delivered or mailed (and postmarked) to the APTA office on or by December 31, 2009 in order to claim a charitable contribution for 2009. In compliance with the IRS, checks that are mailed or delivered in 2010 will not qualify for a charitable contribution in 2009, even if the check is predated to 2009 or was actually written in 2009. Please keep this in mind as you make your year-end gifts. Checks should be made to the APTA Endowment Trust.

### IRA Charitable Rollover

The reenacted IRA Charitable Roll-over provision permits individuals age 70 1/2 and above to make charitable donations of up to \$100,000 from IRA's and Roth IRAs without having to count the distributions as taxable income. Only contributions made before December 31, 2009 are eligible for this benefit. distributions must be made directly from the IRA trustee payable to the APTA Endowment Trust.

### Stock Donation Procedure

Following are instructions for persons who would like to donate stock to the APTA for the tax year 2009. Please do not bring stock certificates to the APTA office

1. Advise your stock broker that you are transferring stock to the APTA as a donation. *Please note:* Contact the APTA office to get the APTA Endowment Trust brokerage account information for this donation.

2. Contact the APTA office with the name of the stock and number of shares you are transferring as well as your instructions for the distribution of the proceeds. This will insure you get proper credit for tax purposes.

I personally appreciate any contributions or donations you make to the APTA Endowment Trust. The APTA has pursued new programs in the last few years such as the historic marking program and effort to promote the use of historic preservation easements and covenants and a strong Endowment Trust will be an important building block for future programs. Please also let the office know if we can be of assistance to you and how you would like to be involved in APTA activities. Finally, encourage your friends neighbors and relatives to join chapters or as APTA associate members. This will help the APTA to build the strong statewide presence we strive to have in the upcoming years.

Visit us at [www.theapta.org](http://www.theapta.org)

# APTA Markers Placed In 2009

August 15, 2009  
**THE CULLUM MANSION**  
Carthage, TN



August 22, 2009  
**THE ISAAC MCBEE HOUSE**  
Strawberry Plains, TN



October 18, 2009  
**THE ALEXANDER CATES READY FARM**  
Porterfield Community, Cannon County



Applications are being accepted for the 2010 marker program now through March 2010. Send your application (see pages 5-6) to APTA headquarters, 110 Leake Avenue, Nashville, TN 37205. For further information, email Bob Notestine at [bob@bellemeadetitle.com](mailto:bob@bellemeadetitle.com) or call 615-352-8247.

# APTA Markers Placed In 2009

September 12, 2009  
**THE PARKER HOUSE**  
Kingston, TN



October 4, 2009  
**THE PILLARS**  
Bolivar, TN

December 20, 2009  
**THE BUCHANAN-WILLS HOUSE**  
Nashville, TN



## NASHVILLE CHAPTER

### BELLE MEADE PLANTATION

The Winery at Belle Meade Plantation is open, and after three weeks has sold over 1,700 bottles of wine. As the nation's only non-profit winery, every bottle purchased helps the education and preservation mission of Belle Meade Plantation. Stop by the winery for a free tasting and shop for wine related items.

Visit Belle Meade Plantation this holiday season and experience a "Powder Ball" commemorating the end of the 19th Century. Learn how excited and optimistic Americans were in 1899 to see the dawn of a new modern age. This holiday celebration will continue through December 31, 2009 and is included in daily tours of the Plantation.

The Museum Shop at Belle Meade Plantation is open, so come in and shop for your Christmas gifts. Complimentary gift wrap with purchase.

Belle Meade Plantation Farmer's Market is open every Thursday 1:00-6:00 p.m. Starting December 10, Farmer's Market will be offering custom cut, aged prime Black Angus.

Join the Belle Meade Plantation Book Club at the December 19, 2009 Party at 3:00 p.m.

The Jane Austen Book Club Kick-off Party including Victorian tea etiquette class and "Celebration of a Century 1899" holiday tour of the Mansion will be held December 19 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person (space is limited).

Contact Belle Meade Plantation for events at 615-356-0501.

## MEMPHIS CHAPTER

Memphis Chapter APTA held a Yuletide Gala on Saturday, December 5. Guests were treated to a wonderful evening of food, wine, musical entertainment and a tour of the Woodruff-Fontaine House Museum all decorated in its holiday finery. A silent auction was held featuring hand crafted ornaments, some of which were made by former students of the Memphis College of Art, once held in the James Lee House on the same campus. The event raised over \$4,000, the proceeds of which have been earmarked to begin the process of preserving the extensive clothing collection housed in the museum (our oldest dress is from 1850).

This year, Pickle Ironworks of Memphis created a custom-made frame to display 35 live potted poinsettias to create a Christmas-shaped tree for Woodruff-Fontaine. Many thanks to them for this generous contribution.

On January 23, Linda Brittingham of the Memphis Speakers Bureau will present the history of the Peabody Hotel at our Membership Luncheon. The event begins at 11:00 a.m. followed by a catered lunch. Cost is \$10. Reservations can be made by calling 901 526-1469.

Upcoming events include an Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Bonnet Contest the weekend before Easter. In September 2010, Woodruff-Fontaine will participate in the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Memphis Juvenile Court, all housed in the Victorian Village of Memphis.



# DONELSON/HERMITAGE CHAPTER

## BUCHANAN LOG HOUSE

### Military Artifacts Donated by BLH to Tennessee State Museum

Mr. Westphal of the Tennessee State Museum is accepting several World War II military uniform items from Gloria McAbee, Historian, BLH. The military items were donated to the Buchanan Log House. However, with the approval of the donor, the items were further donated to the Tennessee State Museum because the time period of the items do not fit the time period of the Log House.



### Buchanan Log House Board Hosts Autumn Rhapsody 2009

The Buchanan Log House, appropriately decorated, was filled with guests in semi-formal attire, sitting at beautifully appointed dinner tables, being served a seven-course gourmet dinner. The kitchen staff consisted of three generations of restaurant professionals who are: The Matriarch, Marilyn Millay; Executive Chef, Nicholette Alexander; Sous Chefs, David and Rachel Oster, and Mark Oster.



President Kathy Blums (left) welcoming Mr. David Reagen of Traveller's Rest and guest, Denise Bamberg



Roses for the Chef: Sally Prather,  
Chair of the Gourmet Dinner;  
Nikki Alexander, Chef

Wine, compliments of Beacon Financial Group, was served with the seven-course meal of Amuse Bouche, Pumpkin Bisque served in baby pumpkins; Crab Calypso Salade; Cheese Plate; Sorbet; Entrée of Pork Tenderloin Medallions with roasted fresh autumn root vegetables; and Panna Cotta. Table hostesses were Joan Williams, Lu Whitworth, Kathy Blums, Nancy Snapp, Bill and Mindy Edwards, Cliff and Suzanne Rockstead, and Bill and Sally Prather.

A grand time was enjoyed by the 50 guests. Over \$900 was raised from this event to help with the maintenance and upkeep of the historic Buchanan Log House Complex.

Sally Prather served as event Chair, and Jeannie Gleaves provided beautiful background piano music during dinner.

## BLH COMPLEX TOUR PROGRAM

By Joan Williams, Hostess

Summer is over – fall is fading. Hopefully, the leaves are all raked and I took a few minutes to think about summer and some of the good things that happened at the Buchanan Log House. We opened the house to visitors on Tuesday and Sunday, March through September. Even though we did not have people standing in line to get in, I feel that it was a worthwhile effort. Tuesday seemed to be the more productive day (I guess people don't take "Sunday drives" like they used to do). Most days, two to three cars would stop and all seemed to enjoy seeing the house and grounds and learning about the Buchanan family. Many people said they had driven by for years and had no idea what it was. Several visitors were from out of state and not just border states. Visitors came from Missouri, Colorado and even one from Canada. When asked how they knew about the site, they had found it using their GPS. Some had been in Nashville on business and were flying home and had a two-hour wait at the airport. Rather than sit there doing nothing, they checked their GPS for something to "kill" an hour. They found the historic Buchanan Log House located nearby and came by. (A round of applause for modern technology).

We are still conducting tours by appointment and have had three since October. We are looking forward to being open again this coming summer and hope each year will get better than the one before.

Y'all come – the welcome mat will be out!

## APTA HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION, DECEMBER 20

All are invited. Please mark your calendar and attend the recognition of the historic Buchanan-Wills House built in the very early 1800s, located at the corner of Stewart's Ferry Pike and Lebanon Pike (across the street from the old Toll Gate No. 20). It will be recognized with an Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA) marker which will be dedicated on Sunday, December 20, at 2:00 p.m. with a brief ceremony followed by a reception in the home.

Only houses or buildings constructed prior to 1940 are considered for designation and marking by the APTA unless special historical events or occurrences were associated with the property of special circumstances about the property merit consideration. The Buchanan-Wills House was built by a sister (Lillie Buchanan) of James and Lucinda East Buchanan (builder of the Buchanan Log House) and her husband, James Wills.

Mr. Ron G. Hardy currently owns this historic home.



Directions to Buchanan-Wills House: I-40 East to Exit 215B, Briley Pkwy., Exit 8 onto Lebanon Pk. toward Donelson; turn right on Stewarts Ferry and 104 is on the right.

**ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION  
OF TENNESSEE ANTIQUITIES  
NOMINATION FOR APTA HISTORIC DESIGNATION AND MARKING**

Property Information:

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Property:  Home  Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Current Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate date of erection or construction: \_\_\_\_\_

Builder and/or family or body responsible for construction: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Description of original family owner: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Listing of and elaboration on successive owner families or in case of site other than a house, recite its history (names are important):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Record stories, anecdotes, and interesting facts that will assist in personalizing the successive families that occupied the house or site. Please record any dates that might provide a tie-in with the history of the county in which the property is located. In the case of a place, rather than a house, please record in a similar fashion. Use additional pages if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Note: Only houses or buildings constructed prior to 1940 will be considered for designation and marking unless special historical events or occurrences were associated with the property or special circumstances about the property merit consideration by the nomination committee.

Please note that the submission of the nomination will not automatically result in approval for historic designation and marking by the APTA. Nomination for each Grand Division of the State of Tennessee will be accepted every year and two nominations in each Grand Division will be selected by the APTA for designation and marking in each calendar year with the first selections to be made in 2008. Upon the acceptance by the APTA for designation, the site will be recorded on the records of the APTA as a designated historic site and will be featured on the APTA website as a designated historic site. The owner(s) of each designated property shall receive a free one (1) year membership to the APTA and the APTA will conduct a "marking" ceremony at the designated property to install an APTA descriptive marker. The marker will cite the traditional name of the home or place, the year of construction and that the site has been designated as a historic site by the APTA. The marker will be installed at no cost to the owner(s) in a location in front of the property structure or selected property. The owner(s), by signing below, hereby agrees to these conditions and procedures, and agrees to use his or her best efforts to cooperate with the APTA in this process. Properties not selected for designation and marking in a given calendar year will automatically be reconsidered for the next calendar year unless the nomination is withdrawn by the owner.

Nomination applications should be mailed to the APTA Headquarters:  
110 Leake Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Researcher

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Owner

Attach photographs and supporting documents as exhibit(s) to this nomination as applicable.

**For Office Use Only**

Received by the APTA.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted to the Nominations Committee.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approval status: \_\_\_\_\_

**APTA Marker Selection Criteria (2009)**

1. Comprehensive historical documentation
2. Evidence of ownership through the years
3. Pre-1930's construction
4. Evidence of significant role in the community or prominent visibility
5. Any special historical significance
6. Visibility of property to public roads
7. Degree of historically accurate preservation/use of original type materials in restoration
8. Interior state to the extent ascertainable
9. If not totally restored, the degree of restoration
10. Consideration of why it has not been recognized by other preservation agencies

## MAURY COUNTY CHAPTER

### MAYES-FRIERSON-FUSTON HOME

In 1833, Irish immigrant Patrick McGuire contracted with master craftsman Nathan Vaught to build a home to be a wedding gift befitting his daughter, Ellen, and her betrothed, Roger Bradley Mayes. Married in 1834, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Mayes settled into their new home, and within a year their first child was born. The house would remain in the hands of Patrick McGuire's descendants for the next century and a half.

Designed by Adolphus Heiman, the home has a tie with the Athenaeum Rectory. Heiman designed the Mayes home in 1833, and in 1835 duplicated the floor plan at the Athenaeum. Both houses were built by Nathan Vaught, Maury County's master builder. In 1845, four bedrooms were added to the upstairs, and the west wing became a double parlor. Some of the most notable personages of that era were lavishly entertained in the home. The Victorian cottage was added in 1889 for Ellen McGuire Mayes. She lived there only a short time, however, as she died within a year. In later years, the home was owned by the Walter Lowes and the Henry Hartmans.

The house underwent an extensive renovation this year by current owners Steve and Kathie Fuston, including many structural repairs. Seven layers of wallpaper were removed from the foyer and dining room. Through paint analysis, the original colors were found. A fragment of the original glass that surrounded the front and rear doors was found during the renovation that confirmed the paint analysis results. The glass fragment can be seen in the foyer.

Of particular note in this home are the beautiful mantels original except for the one in the dining room. These extraordinary mantels are heavy cast iron decorated with delicate gold veining. The ceiling paper in the Gentlemen's Parlor is circa 1870 and is complimented by a black crystal chandelier and a heavily German breakfront from the Schnell mansion that is said to be the most haunted house in Nashville. The original wide plank poplar flooring can be seen in many areas of the house, while oak flooring was installed directly over the poplar in the foyer and the east wing. Many of the antiques throughout the home were originally in the Hancock/Fuston House in Cannon County. Kathie designed many of the lighting fixtures throughout the home.

The original portraits of Ellen McGuire Mayes and Roger Bradley Mayes are in the foyer, generously placed in the home by Dr. and Mrs. Wallace Brown Frierson. Dr. Frierson is a great-great-grandson of the Mayes. There is a massive chiffirobe from the Fuston homeplace. Also in the foyer is a large clock made in Kentucky in the 1840s as the clockmaker's engage-

ment present to his fiancée. The black marble table is from the Gone With the Wind Museum in Georgia in addition to a portrait of Clark Gable as Rhett Butler located on the stairway landing.



The Ladies' Parlor includes several antique banjo clocks that are a part of over 300 antique clocks that were collected by Steve's father, Roy Fuston. There are portraits of the Fuston's twin sons, Bert and Brent, painted in Civil War era attire. A collection of carnival glass of Modena Fuston, Steve's mother, is in the dining room.

Many more interesting pieces are located throughout the home that are from the Fuston's own collection and those of family members.

### HOME TOUR

The Maury County Athenaeum Rectory site sponsored the Christmas Historic Home Tour in Columbia on December 4-5. Tour Chairman was Kathie Fuston. It was definitely a success when more tickets had to be printed on Friday because of the tremendous pre-tour sales.

The tour was held on West 6th Street and Mayes Place just off the main street where those who toured the homes could park their cars and walk from home to home. David's Old Fords, Elm Springs, and the Polk Home were also included in the tour. A Festival of Trees to support the Mediation Center, historic display of pictures, and a book signing of local authors were also a part. Seasonal music presentation was held at the Presbyterian Church, and the Sweet Adelines, Maestros in Training Concert, and Historic Lessons and Carols Service were held at St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

## ARLINGTON CHAPTER

### CHRISTMAS NEWS

For the first time in several years the chapter had a float in the Christmas Parade on December 5. The float theme was a Victorian Printing Press. All are invited to a Christmas Caroling in the Historic district, as well as other neighborhoods, on Tuesday, December 22. For further information, call Leanne Hinkle, 901-483-3261.

# APTA Board of Directors Meetings In 2010

- Saturday, February 6** 10:00 a.m., Education Room, Belle Meade Mansion
- Monday, May 17** 1:30 p.m., Education Room, Belle Meade Mansion
- Tuesday, May 18** Annual Membership Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Carriage House, Belle Meade Plantation
- Saturday, July 31** 10:00 a.m., Education Room, Belle Meade Mansion
- Saturday, October 30** 10:00 a.m., Education Room, Belle Meade Mansion

## Please Note

The Hannum-Rhea House in Somerville, Tennessee has been sold and is no longer an APTA site. However, the Hannum-Rhea House is subject to APTA Historic Preservation Easements and Restrictions.

## Board of Directors 2008-2010

- Bob Notestine**, Nashville  
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*Board Members at Large*

All APTA Chapter Presidents serve on the Board of Directors.

**Martha Sloan**, *Executive Director*

**Mission Statement**  
The Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA) promotes and encourages active participation in the preservation of Tennessee's rich historic, cultural, architectural and archaeological heritage through restoration, education, advocacy and statewide cooperation.

**ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF TENNESSEE ANTIQUITIES**  
APTA Headquarters, Belle Meade Mansion  
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Nashville, Tennessee 37205  
(615) 352-8247  
www.thcapta.org

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