

BORA Bulletin

Battle of Richmond Association Newsletter

Vol. 8, No.1

March 2009

Seating limited to 125

Lincoln, Davis debate opens schedule

A debate between Civil War luminaries Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis opens the 2009 schedule of activities and events for the Battle of Richmond Association (BORA).

The debate, set for Saturday evening, April 25, at Gillum's Sports Lounge at Richmond Mall, will feature Louisville's Larry Elliott as President Lincoln and Frankfort's Cliff Howard as Confederate President Davis. Their wives will portray the presidents' spouses -- Mary Elliott as Mary Todd Lincoln and Joan Howard as Varina Davis.

The debate, scheduled for approximately 6:45 p.m., will follow a 6 p.m. steak dinner. The fund-raising event, limited to 125 persons, will be open to the public. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$60 per couple. For reservations, call BORA Managing Director Paul Rominger at 859/248-1974.

Other scheduled events at Richmond include a Living History program at Battlefield Park, May 21-22, dedication of a Texas monument at the park May 23, BORA's annual celebrity golf tournament Aug. 28 at Battlefield Golf Course and Re-enactment Weekend Aug. 29-30 at the park. Other activities are in the planning stage and will be announced at a later date.

Ashley elected president for 2009-11

Linda R. Ashley, registrar for the Appalachian Ministries Educational Resource Center in Berea, has been elected president of the Battle of Richmond Association (BORA) for 2009-11.

A long-time BORA member, the Madison County resident succeeds Richmond New York Life insurance executive George N. Ridings, who continues as an Association executive committee and board member.

Ashley heads the seven-member executive committee, which is responsible for day-to-day operations of BORA and its mission to preserve and interpret the history and heritage of the 1862 Civil War Battle of Richmond. In addition to Ashley and Ridings, who'll serve as immediate past president, other executive committee members are Paula White, president-elect; Sarah Flowers, treasurer; Carolyn Ashley, secretary; and Ed Ford and Pat Ballinger, past presidents. The Madison County residents also will serve as board members.

Paul Rominger, Berea, continues as BORA managing director.

Other new members of the 25-member board, which approves BORA projects and activities, are Greg Tipton, Don Morgan and Emily Burns, all of Madison County, and Wayne Peters, Lexington, and Robert Preston, Harrodsburg.

Ashley, a native Kentuckian, earned an undergraduate degree in American History from Transylvania University and a master's in Library Science/Special Collections from the University of Kentucky. She was a medical and corporate librarian in several states.

Before semi-retiring back to Kentucky five years ago, she was curator of the John and Priscilla Alden House Museum in Duxbury, Mass., and subsequently head librarian at the General Society of Mayflower Descendants in Plymouth. A professional genealogist and indexer, she and her husband are parents of two grown children and grandparents of three.

Monument dedication set for May 23

A monument dedication in honor of the 10th Texas Cavalry (Dismounted) Regiment that conducted the successful flanking action from Churchill's Draw at the Battle of Richmond is scheduled for May 23 at Battlefield Park.

The eight-foot tall monument, provided by the Texas Historical Commission, will be located on a paved walkway near the ravine known as Churchill's Draw. Constructed of sunset-red granite, the monument will list the Texas units involved in the Aug. 30, 1862 maneuver that resulted in a Richmond victory that was the most overwhelming Confederate triumph of the entire Civil War. Each unit's role in the conflict also will be provided.

The \$10,000 monument was made possible by private donations solicited by the historical commission. A similar Texas monument was dedicated Dec. 17 at Rowlett's Station near Munfordville.

Four receive Kentucky History Awards

Three Madison County organizations and a Richmond educator have received 2009 Kentucky History Awards for activities associated with the Battle of Richmond.

Madison Bank - headquartered in Richmond - received a corporate award, Madison County Fiscal Court was a government award winner and the Battle of Richmond was presented a certificate of commendation. Clark-Moores Middle School teacher Sharon Graves received an award of merit.

The honors, sponsored by the Kentucky Historical Society (KHS), were presented March 7 at ceremonies in Frankfort.

Madison Bank was honored for its seven consecutive years of Battle of Richmond Re-enactment sponsorship and the continuing support of its personnel toward the preservation of the history and heritage of the 1862 conflict. Fiscal Court was cited for its partnership with the Battle of Richmond Association (BORA) in establishing a historical park and history center and its continuing efforts toward improving the battlefield and the progress and promotion of the Civil War event. BORA was recognized for its activities and events that maintain public awareness of the battle.

Graves, who has coordinated a living history program for elementary students, was honored for five consecutive years of making “the Civil War come alive” at Battlefield Park. Sharon and her eighth-grade Clark-Moores students have built the educational program into a two-day event that has attracted some 500 students from schools in six counties.

BORA hosts Gallery event

Approximately 300 people witnessed and heard about the Battle of Richmond Association (BORA) at a Feb. 10 Gallery on Main event in Richmond.

BORA hosted the monthly gallery show that featured a book signing by author Bracelen Flood. The Richmond author and BORA supporter signed copies of his new book, “1864, Lincoln at the Gates of History.”

BORA promotional displays and a variety of products were available at the 5-7 p.m. event and will continue to be available to the public through March. A number of costumed re-enactors added color to the event and President Linda Ashley made brief remarks about BORA and its upcoming activities.