

# BORA BULLETIN

*Battle of Richmond Association Newsletter*

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## **Richmond, Kentucky will be hosting thousands of Civil War visitors soon**

Madison County's Civil War history and heritage should attract a lot of visitors to Battlefield Park and the Battle of Richmond beginning in 2010.

First up is the Civil War Preservation Trust's (CWPT) annual conference, scheduled June 3-6 at the Hilton Hotel and Conference Center in downtown Lexington. Some 500 members of CWPT are expected for the four-day event, which will include tours of battlefield sites at Mill Springs, Perryville and Richmond and visits to historic Civil War homes in the Bluegrass area.

Richmond's Battlefield Park will host conference visitors June 5-6 with some 60-75 expected each day.

The CWPT is a national organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., and dedicated to saving and preserving America's Civil War battlefields.

Also, on several weekends throughout the summer months BORA will host living history events. A schedule of the activities will be available soon.

Lexington will be host to the World Equestrian Games Sept. 25-Oct. 10, which is expected to attract more than 600,000 international visitors to the Commonwealth. A number of side trips to Civil War sites and other historical locales is anticipated by visitors during the 15-day event.

During the last week in September (Sept. 25-30), BORA will conduct a variety of living history events at the park for visitors.

And, then, the Civil War Sesquicentennial kicks off 2011 and extends through 2015 with thousands of Civil War enthusiasts expected to visit Kentucky's more than 60 period battlefields and sites.

***More than 2,000 attend re-enactment weekend***

More than 2,000 spectators and visitors were on hand for the Aug. 29-30 Battle of Richmond Re-enactment Weekend, termed one of the more successful events conducted by BORA.

Surveys of the parking lot and visitors on both days revealed that 2,160 individuals attended weekend festivities, despite a downpour on Saturday morning that held down attendance.

Student volunteers from Sharon Graves' Clark-Moores Middle School classes turned in the following license plate totals from parking lot counts:

**Saturday, Aug. 29:** Madison County 146; Fayette County 12; other Kentucky counties 290; Ohio 18, Wyoming one.

**Sunday, Aug. 30:** Madison County 108; Fayette County 30; other Kentucky counties 37; at least one car each from 13 other states, including California.

Re-enactor participation totaled 228 along with 10 living history performers. Approximately 100 volunteers provided assistance. Some 30 Scouts and Scouters attended and Sutlers and vendors numbered 14 and five, respectively. The Battlefield Park Visitors Center attracted another 225 individuals.

## **Slave quarters renovation begins**

Renovation of the Battlefield Park Slave Quarters began in October as a frame addition to the original brick structure was removed.

Madison County Historic Properties Director Phillip Seyfrit said the single-room building would be restored to the way it appeared in 1862. A porch will be added to the west side of the dwelling and an existing attic and fireplace used for cooking and heating will be maintained.

The \$91,000 renovation is expected to be completed by late February or early March.

## ***Signage anticipated by year's end***

Directional traffic signs from Interstate 75 to Battlefield Park's Visitors Center are expected to be in place before the end of the calendar year.

According to Phillip Seyfrit, Madison County Historic Properties director, completion of an informational brown sign to be placed at I-75 Exit 83 has delayed installation of signage that will be located along Duncannon Road. Directional signs will lead from the exit to U.S. 25. The Visitors Center is adjacent to the Duncannon/25 intersection at the division of U.S. 25/421.

Nearly 100 visitors stopped at the park from July through September. The total is expected to significantly increase with signage installation.

## **BORA seeks to re-print 'Ripe Pears'**

The book that started it all may be re-printed soon.

Grants are being sought to print the second edition of “When the Ripe Pears Fell, the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky,” the 1996 publication that reintroduced the public to the 1862 Civil War Battle of Richmond.

Written by Dr. D. Warren Lambert, the late professor of history at Berea College, the book has been out of print for more than 10 years. The Battle of Richmond Association (BORA) in cooperation with the Madison County Historical Society is seeking to have the 260-page volume available for sale in 2010.

Lambert, an authority on the Civil War and Russian history, re-introduced the public to the Madison County conflict through his book. The bloody Richmond struggle was the second largest Civil War battle in Kentucky and the most overwhelming Confederate victory of the entire war. It essentially was overlooked as it occurred on the same dates as the second Battle of Manassas (Bull Run).

“Ripe Pears” stirred such interest that the Battle of Richmond Association was formed in 2001 to preserve the history and heritage of the conflict.

Dr. Paul Rominger, managing director of BORA, said the Association plans to print the second edition of the book in the same size and hardback version of the original.

### ***McIntyre, Tipton named to BORA board***

A Richmond broadcasting account executive and a Madison County cosmetologist have been appointed as board members of the Battle of Richmond Association (BORA).

Rhonda McIntyre, of Berea, a sales representative for Wallingford Broadcasting, and Charlena Tipton, a Waco resident and staff member of Snooty Fox Salon in Richmond, were added to the board in September.

The 25-member board approves BORA projects and activities.