Lt. Governor Addresses Preservation Honor Awards Recipients

Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder served as the keynote speaker at the 2008 Missouri Preservation Honor Awards Ceremony held in the Missouri State Capitol Rotunda in Jefferson City on February 27, 2008. The Lieutenant Governor spoke about the benefits of the rehabilitation tax credits to the Missouri economy. Kinder said that he had been personally touched by historic preservation noting that he had once worked in a building that was honored during the 2007 Awards Ceremony, the Southeast Missourian Building, in his hometown of Cape Girardeau. Lieutenant Governor Kinder presented the 2008 Rozier Award to Day and Whitney Kerr of Kansas City and Arrow Rock. Kinder noted that the Kerr’s had dedicated over five decades to historic preservation, including historic homes as well as a number of other historic preservation projects both in Kansas City and Arrow Rock and for the state of Missouri.

The Honor Awards Ceremony was sponsored by Commerce Bank. Additional sponsors included Marsh & Company, PA, Wolf and McCahan, LLC, and Murry’s. A complete list of the 2008 Honor Award Recipients is included on page 3. Additional photos and descriptions can be found on the Missouri Preservation website at www.preservemo.org.

Partners in the Field Grant Award Announced At Ceremony

Missouri Preservation President, Jeff Brambila relayed good news to the 2008 Honor Awards Ceremony attendees! The National Trust for Historic Preservation was to announce later that day that Missouri Preservation will receive a $125,000.00 Partners in the Field matching grant to provide direct field services and technical support throughout the state of Missouri. Missouri Preservation is one of twenty four organizations nationally that were selected as recipients of the inaugural, multi-year Partner in the Field grant. Funds will be used to expand the scope of on-the-ground field services and assistance to property owners, developers, local officials, and others needing information and tools to protect and enhance their communities.

Missouri Preservation, based in Columbia, was eligible to apply for the new matching grants because it is one of more than 100 Statewide and Local Partners of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The Partners program, created in 1993, helps emerging and established state and local nonprofit preservation organizations by providing organizational development assistance, grant support, specialized workshops and training, information resources, and networking opportunities.

“Our statewide and local partners, including Missouri Preservation, are at the creative forefront of preservation in the 21st century,” said Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. “Preservation fosters innovative solutions to complex problems. Our Partners in the Field matching grants will help our network of preservation organizations across the country use proven tools to save places and revitalize communities.”

Missouri Preservation President, Jeff Brambila noted that the

Continued on page 6
2008 Officers & Directors Elected

The following officers were elected to fill vacancies due to term expiration: Karen Bode Baxter—vice president, Frank Salter—secretary, Michael Griffin—at large member of executive committee. Nigh Johnson will temporarily fill an at large member position on the executive committee while Cole Woodcox is on sabbatical from the board for a few months. Officers remaining in their positions another year are board president, Jeff Brambila and treasurer, Carol Grove.

New directors elected include Trudy Faulkner of Kansas City, Derek Smith of Springfield, and Jennifer Baxter Higgs of St. Joseph. These board members will serve three year terms.

In 2007, Randy Maness of Doniphan was elected to the Advisory Board. Lucinda Rice-Petrie was named as an ex-officio board member representing Historic Kansas City Foundation.

Helen White and Pat Wilson left the board of directors at the end of 2007. We thank these board members for their dedication and service to Missouri Preservation.

Who are your legislators?

Do you know how to contact your legislator? Many times when a legislative issues arises, we have difficulty knowing exactly how to contact our legislators. Many of us have no idea what the district number is of the area in which we reside. Below are directions for identifying your legislators and finding out how to reach them. Collect this important contact information and place it near your phone or on your refrigerator, to provide you with easy access so that when issues come up and you need to make a call, you will be ready.

Missouri General Assembly provides a website that will give answers to frequently asked questions, such as “Who is my representative or senator?” The website is www.moga.mo.gov/question.htm. Once you have entered this in your search engine, it will take you to the legislative lookup. You must know your last 4 digit code for your zip code to perform legislative lookup. The option to search the post office website is also provided on this page. Once you have obtained this, complete the zip code information requested, and click the lookup legislators button. You will be provided a list of districts and legislators. In addition, several other government officials are also provided. You may then click on each name and obtain contact information through links to their websites. You may bookmark this information on your computer or place it on a paper where it can be located quickly when there is an urgent need to contact them. Hopefully, this will assist you in communicating with your representatives.

Advocacy requires good communication when there are no issues pending, so that your name is recognized when concerns are at hand and you make that call, send an email or letter. Please note there are additional suggestions on the question page that may help you in this effort to communicate with your legislators and other officials.

www.preservemo.org
Day and Whitney Kerr were recognized by Missouri Preservation for their lifetime achievements in historic preservation with the 2008 Rozier Award. The Kerrs have restored five historic homes since their marriage in 1958. These have included homes in the Kansas City area, and two homes near Arrow Rock. “Prairie Park”, the 1849 Greek Revival Mansion built by William B. Sappington, was shared with Missouri Preservation members as part of the 2003 Fall Ramble.

Both Day and Whitney have been involved in a number of organizations promoting historic preservation. Day Kerr has served as a trustee for the Jackson County Historical Society, and was the founder, president, and trustee for Historic Kansas City Foundation. She has a longtime association with the John Wornall House Museum in Kansas City, currently serving as its president. Day also served for many years as the president of Friends of Arrow Rock and was instrumental in renovation and restoration of many of Arrow Rock’s historic properties. Her efforts helped lead the Arrow Rock’s successes, including being named as one of the 2006 Dozen Distinctive Destinations nationwide by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Whitney Kerr, whose career was in the real estate business, has served in a number of capacities in the area of land use and urban design. He served on the Urban Development/Mixed Use Council of the Urban Land Institute. Whitney served as a member of the Kansas City Landmarks Commission and on the first Union Station Commission. He is a past trustee and vice-president of Jackson County Historical Society and past trustee and president of the Kansas City Museum. He has also served as a trustee for the Friends of Arrow Rock and is now chairman of their historic maker committee. He is currently the vice-president of Missouri Mansion Preservation, Inc. and president of the Missouri State Parks Foundation.

In 2007, Day and Whitney were instrumental in founding an advocacy group, Citizens to Protect State Parks and Historic Sites.

(From information submitted by Kathy Borgman, Friends of Arrow Rock.)

2008 Preservation Honor Award Recipients

**Rozier Award:**
Day & Whitney Kerr, Saline County

**McReynolds Award:**
Peter George, St. Louis County & City of St. Louis
Shiloh Tabernacle Restoration and Preservation, Benton County

**Osmund Overby Award:**
*Meeting Louis at the Fair* by Carol S. Porter, St. Louis County

**Preserve Missouri Award:**
Brockman Building, Howard County
Oaks Apartments, Clay County
Aladdin Hotel, Jackson County
TWA Corporate Headquarters Building, Jackson County
Central Dairy Building, Boone County
Michael Gleason Home, Buchanan County
Roberts Place Apartments, City of St. Louis
Wilhoit Building, Greene County

Clockwise from top left: McReynolds Award Winner Peter George; McReynolds Award Winner Shiloh Tabernacle Restoration and Preservation; Osmund Overby Award Winner *Meeting Louis at the Fair* by Carol S. Porter. All photos courtesy of David Estlick of Springfield, Mo Preservation volunteer.

David Estlick of Springfield, Mo Preservation volunteer.
A Capitol Keynote By Missouri Author and Radio Personality, Bob Priddy

Addressing a Missouri Preservation crowd, Bob Priddy, News Director of The Missourinet and Missouri author, discussed one of our most significant historic resources, the Missouri State Capitol Building. Priddy, who has spent much of his career covering the legislative news, relayed to the crowd the story of our third state capitol building, built on this site in 1917. Priddy, an artist with words, and armed with expressive gestures, painted a picture of the day the previous capitol building was destroyed by fire. Mr. Priddy urged the crowd to be attentive about the current threats to our capitol building including the damage that comes through maintenance issues, lack of funding, and what might be considered “office sprawl” in a building which is constantly rearranged to accommodate legislative offices. He urged those who valued our state’s historic resources to remind our legislators to protect this asset in our state.

Priddy, an author of several books about Missouri History, is working on additional books about the state capitol, including its construction and the art and sculptor of the state capitol. Priddy’s fourth book, Only the Rivers Are Peaceful: The Missouri Mural of Thomas Hart Benton, is a biography of the Missouri Artist and his painting in the state capitol. Priddy is well known in Missouri for his daily popular radio show, ACROSS OUR WIDE MISSOURI, in which he continues to remind Missourians of their rich heritage through true stories in Missouri history.

Reception at Missouri Governor’s Mansion

On Friday afternoon during the Statewide Preservation Conference, a reception was held at the Missouri Governor’s Mansion. Hosted by Missouri Mansion Preservation, Inc., expenses from the reception were paid through donations, and each participant contributed to the Governor’s Mansion Restoration Fund, which totaled $405. An additional $950 was donated by Missouri Preservation members for the ongoing preservation of the 1871 Governor’s Mansion.


Save The Date! 2008 Conference in St. Charles

The 2008 Statewide Preservation Conference is scheduled for September 10-13, 2008 in St. Charles, Missouri. The group sessions and educational sessions will be held at the St. Charles Convention Center, with receptions and tours held at area historic venues.
Caplinger Awards Highlight Historic Preservation in Jefferson City

Dick and Mary Ann Caplinger were honored for their many efforts on behalf of historic preservation in Jefferson City. In an effort to highlight local preservation projects in the conference host community, Missouri Preservation has incorporated an awards breakfast into the statewide conference agenda since 2007. The local award is named after a local preservationist, who has contributed to preserving historic architecture in the area.

The Caplingers were honored when five awards carrying their name, were awarded to local preservationists and preservation projects. Recipients of the Dick and Mary Ann Caplinger Award, a one-time award given at the 2007 Statewide Preservation Conference, were:

- Laura Ward
- 111-113 E. High St, Jay Jordan
- Whaley's East End Pharmacy, Daryl and Connie Hubble
- Tergin Apartments, Carrie Carroll and George Tergin, Jr., Jim Tergin
- 124-126 East High Street, Scott Penman and David Winton

Thank You to our Generous Sponsors of the 2007 Missouri Statewide Preservation Conference

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phone — 573-443-5946
Partner in the Field Grant Award Announced At Ceremony

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Partner in the Field matching grant partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation will “provide the citizens of Missouri with better resources for information, advice and expertise on preservation issues, allowing us to raise awareness for historic preservation to a level we have never before achieved.”

Partners in the Field challenge grants are funded by a $5 million gift to the National Trust for Historic Preservation from the Robert Wilson Charitable Trust and matched by significant contributions from local donors and foundations. In implementing expanded field services funded by the grant, Missouri Preservation will work closely with the National Trust’s Midwest Office in Chicago.

To obtain the funding from this grant, Missouri Preservation will be required to raise $125,000.00 in matching funds for this grant. The donor for the National Trust, Robert Wilson, has established this grant as a challenge to the organization’s supporters. In order to help build capacity of the statewide organization, Mr. Wilson has established specific criteria and levels of giving required for the matching donations. Donations can be pledged over the three year grant period and must be in cash or easily convertible to cash. The project is scheduled to begin August 1, 2008, so matching funds must be committed by that date along with the first year’s gift received by that date. If you have an interest in learning more about the Partners in the Field program requirements, contact Barbara Fitzgerald at 573-443-5946 or a Missouri Preservation board member. (Source for story, Press Release National Trust For Historic Trust.)

Historic Ste. Genevieve Named A Distinctive Destination

Ste. Genevieve has been named by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of its 2008 Dozen Distinctive Destinations. Communities are selected across the United States that offer cultural and recreational experiences different from the typical vacation destination. The selected destinations boast a richness of character and exude an authentic sense of place.

One hour south of St. Louis, is the thriving community of Ste. Genevieve, whose charm and ambiance is rooted in its singular collection of 18th century French colonial structures—a concentration greater than anywhere else in the United States.

The town boasts more than 150 pre-1825 structures, many of which are open to the public, including gems such as the Bolduc House (1785), The Amoureaux House (1792), the Felix Vallé State Historic Site, built in 1818, and the 1806 Guibourd-Vallé House with its Norman style trusses. Visitors can also tour the historic Memorial Cemetery where many of Ste. Genevieve’s distinguished early inhabitants are buried.

“Here in Ste. Genevieve we understand the value of our historic and cultural resources, both because they reflect our community’s unique identity, and because of the importance of heritage tourism to the local economy,” said Mayor Richard Greminger. “This designation from the National Trust for Historic preservation complements the Trust’s active support of flood protection for Ste. Genevieve.”


(Source for story, Press Release National Trust For Historic Trust.)

Remember Missouri Preservation

Please consider remembering Missouri Preservation as one of your charitable gifts in your estate and planned giving by including the organization in your will or as a beneficiary on your retirement plan. Leaving a legacy for historic preservation is one of the best ways to make your mark on Missouri’s history.

(From press releases provided by National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2008)
Change

Change! That’s a word we hear frequently when we listen to politicians running for office. Change! That’s a word I hear frequently when discussing my technological shortcomings. (In addition to constantly buying new computer hardware and software, I’m told that if I don’t change something about my television, I’m not going to be able to watch any more next year.) Change! That’s a word we hear when walking in certain urban neighborhoods, although that “change” is usually preceded by the word “spare” and followed by a question mark. The word “change” is all around us. We even had to change our clocks recently in order to enjoy more hours of daylight.

But, with all the talk of change, some things remain the same. Two years ago, in a previous message of mine, I mentioned a problem that all of us who access the historic tax credit program were facing. While extolling the phenomenal success of the Missouri Historic Tax Credit Program, coupled with the federal program, I spoke of threats to this economic boom. First, I spoke of threats to the tax credit program from various pieces of proposed legislation. Indeed, that threat remains, albeit in another form. There is current talk within the halls of our great state capitol of eliminating all tax credits. While the merits of some tax credits may rightly be the object of some degree of scrutiny, the benefit of the historic tax credits should be without question. Eliminating the historic tax credit in a blanket move to remove all tax credits would be tantamount to “throwing out the baby with the bath water.”

The biggest non-change since my missive of two years ago, however, has to do with another threat that I brought up - the State Historic Preservation Office’s growing inability to handle the volume of work required to process and approve the tax credit applications. Two years ago, I spoke of staff cuts that placed an unfair burden of work on a remaining few workers. There has not been any change in the number of dedicated professionals at the State Historic Preservation Office since then. The only change has been in the workload. Along with an ever-increasing number of projects, the preservation office has been charged with the administration of a new program that seeks to provide grants for the rehabilitation of Missouri’s courthouses, currently numbering 114, according to the index in the fine publication *Missouri Courthouses: Building Memories on the Square. This program has further taxed the resources of the preservation office. It is becoming increasingly difficult for any tax credit application to be processed in an expeditious manner. Frustration, on the part of those who are doing such fine preservation work, is mounting. The program is threatened by its own success due to staffing shortages. Something has to change!

We need to demand a change from our legislators. We need to ask all of our legislators, even those who are inclined to cut tax credits, to just be fair. In 2005, a new 2-1/2% fee on the value of the tax credits was initiated. I argued then that a fair portion of that fee should be allocated to help the office that administers the program that generates the fees in the first place. This hasn’t happened. Such a change hasn’t come. The proceeds from that fee are currently divided by any number of interests that have nothing to due with earning that fee. And, although I did not include the section of the Department of Economic Development that deals with the tax credit program two years ago, this department has also experienced the burden of an overwhelming workload. Let your state legislator know that real change is needed in 2008. If we don’t see this change, the consequences for the historic tax credit may be dire. Save the tax credit program. Push for change.

Jeff Brambila
President


phone — 573-443-5946
Is Your Membership Current?

Has your membership expired? Please check your mailing label for the date that your membership expires. If the membership is no longer current, this may be the last time you receive the newsletter. A membership form is included in the newsletter. Renewals may be mailed in with this completed form. We look forward to your continued membership in Missouri Preservation.

Yes! I want to support Missouri Preservation at the following level:

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Membership information is also available on our Web site: www.preservemo.org