

## The Shelby County Historical Society Annual Report 2017

Wow, what a great year! 2017 has been a busy year for the historical society. The Board of Directors and the Committee Chairs planning session was held in January. Their plan of action was to implement the goals of the new 3 year strategic plan

These goals included expanding the reach of the museum, fully utilizing paid staff, increasing volunteers for our ongoing projects and events. We also wanted to update our accessions/collections, reference materials. While continuing to focus on reaching a younger audience and membership, updating communications and partnering with other organizations.

### **Highlights of 2017: Events and Programs**

**Grant Award-** In February 2017 the society was awarded a \$500 grant from the Kentucky Local History Trust Fund. This award was presented by the Kentucky Historical Society. We were able to use this to help pay for the strategic plan and to participate in the STEP program which is the (Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations) offered by AASLH - American Association for State and Local History.

### **Events-**

Community Tapestry a Celebration of Local Black History- Sanda Jones  
Video-The History of Tobacco Farming in Shelby County- James Mulcahy  
History Camp- John Graham- 10th year of history camp with over 55 campers. The  
The society participated in the Kentucky and Museum Heritage Alliance conference in Frankfort, KY. John Graham gave a presentation on hosting history camp.

**Membership programs-** John Graham did a great job scheduling and coordinating the programs. The membership programs are open to the public and averaged about 25-30 people in attendance.

Ann De'Angelo "Dark Highways"

Bobbie Bryant "Farming the Black Patch"

John David Myles "Historic Architecture of Shelby County, Kentucky 1792-1915."

The Hardins- History of downtown buildings they have remodeled.

**History Moments video's-** This year we launched a new project this project's focus was to take history out into the community. We also wanted to get more members involved by using social media. Videographer James Mulcahy did a great job of setting up these video's. We were able to do 4 history video's with members Sarabeth Farabee, Paul Schmidt and Sherry Jelsma. These video's were posted on our website, Facebook and Youtube. The response was great. We will do more video's in 2018 and we encourage you to take part in the process.

**Membership Picnic-**The annual membership picnic was held in the Birch House on the grounds of Clear Creek Park. There were about 55 in attendance. Dale Cottongim shared the history of Dr. Birch and the Birch house, as well as the history of the Shelby County Parks system.

**History Week-** A huge Thank You to Sharon Hackworth and Cheryl Rose for helping setup all the displays throughout the community.

The celebration of Shelby County's 225th birthday was a good joint venture. Meeting our goal of working with other organizations. We partnered with Shelbyville City Hall, The County Judge Executive's Office, the Shelby County Public Library and Shelby KY Tourism to share the early history of our community. The Kentucky Historical Society joined us as they did a presentation on Kentucky's 225th birthday celebration. A week long exhibit was setup in City Hall to showcase early Shelbyville history. We also hosted a one day Jail house tour with over 50 people attending. Shelby Tourism invited us to participate in their Open House History Week celebration by putting a small exhibit in their showroom.

**Museum Exhibits & Displays-** Thanks to Sharon Hackworth, Charles Long and Cheryl Rose as they help keep the museum exhibits and displays current. We launched the Tobacco Exhibit earlier this year with a Special Thanks to Barry Campbell, and Sarabeth Farebee as she has put some of Don Farabee's tobacco collection in our exhibit. We also had on display Squire Boone and the early settlements which worked in conjunction with the unveiling of the Squire Boone statue in October.

Thank you for your volunteerism, donations, and support of the events and programs. Thanks to Citizen Union Bank for their continued support and their help in making the Annual Dinner possible.

Thank You to Historic Kentucky, Inc., Mae Peniston for the generous donation of Shelby County History books.

Thanks to Sherry Jelsma, Jack Brammer and James Mulcahy for their work on the new magazine which will be released December 2017.

Sanda D. Jones- President