

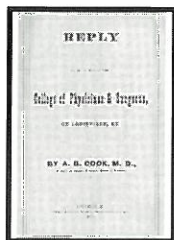
What's New in The Filson Library

Judith Partington, Cassie Bratcher,
and Jana Meyer

The Filson Historical Society

Friday, April 5 • Noon

Free for members, \$5 for non-members



The Filson's library has long been a source of great information, with more items coming in every day. Over the past few months, we have seen a great increase in the library's technological and physical holdings. Cassie will discuss The Filson's collection of Children's Literature. This

growing collection includes donations from this year, as well as items that were given years ago, including a very rare book, that was donated in 1944. Judith will share the new pamphlets that were purchased recently. These pamphlets cover 19th century politics, and specifically "locofocism," a faction of the Democratic Party. Jana will talk about our updated website and our extended database capabilities, from Fold3 to Genealogy Bank.

Judith Partington is the head librarian at The Filson. Cassie Bratcher is our technical services librarian. Jana Meyer is The Filson's reference specialist.

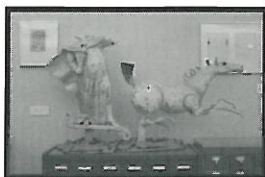
The Craziest Thing You Ever Saw Movie/Discussion

Al Shands and Ed Hamilton

The Filson Historical Society

Tuesday, April 9 • 6:00 p.m.

Free for members, \$5 for non-members



In the early 1970's Louisville was looking for a way to liven up the downtown area, and did so by creating a whimsical clock. Known as "the craziest thing you ever saw," the clock, designed by Barney Bright, was built to bring people back to downtown Louisville. Bright envisioned a large toy that featured famous Louisville icons in a playful fashion.

The Craziest Thing You Ever Saw is a film by Al Shands on the creation and unveiling of the clock on December 3, 1976. After the film, Shands will comment on his experience making the film and artist Ed Hamilton will show a Power Point presentation with photos and details about his time working with Barney Bright and how it has influenced his later work.

Rev. Alfred R. Shands III has had many titles: Priest, author, film producer, humanitarian,

philanthropist, and art collector. He is the producer of films featured in KET's *Kentucky Time Capsule* series. As an independent film producer, he has more than 30 documentary films for television to his credit, including *The Craziest Thing You Ever Saw*. Ed Hamilton is a nationally recognized sculptor and longtime resident of Louisville. In addition to his work on the Louisville Clock, he has a number of pieces on display around the country. He serves on the Executive board of the Thomas Clark Historical Center in Frankfort, Kentucky.

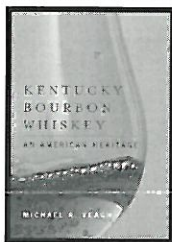
Kentucky Bourbon Whiskey: An American Heritage

Mike Veach

The Filson Historical Society

Tuesday, April 16 • Noon

Free for members, \$5 for non-members



On May 4, 1964, Congress designated bourbon as a distinctive product of the United States, and it remains the only spirit produced in this country to enjoy such protection. Its history stretches back almost to the founding of the nation and includes many colorful characters, both well

known and obscure, from the hatchet-wielding prohibitionist Carry Nation to George Garvin Brown, who in 1872 created Old Forester, the first bourbon to be sold only by the bottle. Although obscured by myth, the history of bourbon reflects the history of our nation.

Historian Michael R. Veach reveals the true story of bourbon in *Kentucky Bourbon Whiskey*. Starting with the Whiskey Rebellion of the 1790s, he traces the history of this unique beverage through the Industrial Revolution, the Civil War, Prohibition, the Great Depression, and up to the present.

Kentucky Bourbon Whiskey will be available for purchase after the event. While you are waiting to have your book signed, Joy Perrine, bar manager at Jack's Lounge, will offer a sample of her bourbon pineapple punch.

Michael R. Veach is associate curator of Special Collections at the Filson Historical Society. He is a bourbon historian and a member of the Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame.

A Closer Look at the Civil War: The Homefront

Mark Wetherington and Jim Holmberg

The Filson Historical Society

Friday, April 19 • Noon

Free for members, \$5 for non-members

"A Closer Look at the Civil War" is a three part series that gives attendees a detailed look at exhibit items and the history they represent in The Filson's exhibit "United We Stand – Divided We Fall: The Civil War in Kentucky and the Ohio Valley."

The second session in this series, "The Homefront," will examine the lives of those who were left behind in Louisville and the other Falls cities. Some of the topics will include what life was like for the people at home and how the war affected them. We will look at what the city and Southern Indiana were like during the war, how the residents felt about the war, and the kinds of things that boosted support and patriotism, including patriotic stationary and music. Other topics will include how residents dealt with the threat of guerilla activity, the African American perspective on the war, along with death and dying.

This lecture will last approximately 45 minutes, and afterward, patrons are invited to tour the exhibit.

Limited Capacity; Reservations are required.

OUR SHARED HISTORY

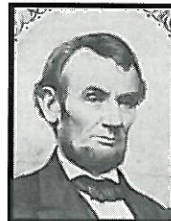
Emancipation and Its Impact in the Ohio River Valley, 1863-1865

Darrel Bigham

The Falls of the Ohio

Tuesday, April 23 • Noon

Free for members, \$5 for non-members



In this lecture, Dr. Darrel Bigham will examine the role of Abraham Lincoln, a son of Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois, as well other factors leading to the Emancipation Proclamation 150 years ago and see how it affected a border slave state, Kentucky, as well as its free state neighbors, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio. One of the most curious and least well known facts is the role of John M. Palmer, commander of the Kentucky Military District in 1865, in freeing Kentucky slaves. Kentucky, which never ratified the Thirteenth Amendment, indicted Palmer, a native of Kentucky, for violation of its slave laws.

After the lecture, participants will have the opportunity to view the exhibits and film at The Falls of the Ohio

Dr. Darrel Bigham is professor emeritus of history at the University of Southern Indiana, where he was professor and administrator for 38 years. He has written a number of books and scholarly articles as well of publications for the general public and educators. Dr. Bigham was the founder and director of Historic Southern Indiana. He earned a PhD from the University of Kansas.