

# The Filson Historical Society

May 2012 Programs

1310 South Third Street

Louisville, Kentucky

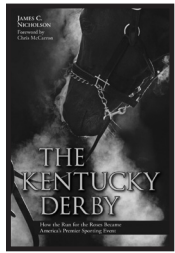
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## The Kentucky Derby: How the Run for the Roses Became America's Premier Sporting Event

James C. Nicholson

The Filson Historical Society

Tuesday, May 1 • Noon



Every year on the first Saturday in May, the world turns its attention to the twin spires of Churchill Downs for the high-stakes anticipation of “the most exciting two minutes in sports.” From the iconic garland of roses awaiting the champion to the potent mint juleps that infuse the day with “spirit,” the Kentucky Derby

is an American sporting event with unmatched history, tradition, and pageantry. Over its 138 year history, the Kentucky Derby has earned international acclaim as the greatest horse race in the world while maintaining a strong sense of regional identity.

James C. Nicholson offers a look at the evolution of the Derby as well as its international, national, and regional importance. He details the Derby's existence as an intersection of past traditions and contemporary culture, for both Kentuckians and Americans, and examines the historical, political, and cultural significance of horse racing's most famous event.

James C. Nicholson recently received a PhD in history from the University of Kentucky.

Reservations are required

MEMBERS ONLY

## The Henry D. Ormsby, III Seminar Series

\$100 per person • Free for Boone and above  
The Architectural Legacy of Henry Whitestone

Penny Jones

The Library at Oxmoor Farm

Monday, May 7 • 5:30 p.m.

Irish-born architect Henry Whitestone (1819-1893) was one of the premier 19th century Louisville architects. He immigrated to the United States in 1852 during the Great Famine, but in Ireland his magnificent limestone County Clare Courthouse still stands in Ennis. His work in Kentucky included commercial, public, religious, and residential structures, many of which are no longer in existence. One of the significant treasures at The Filson Historical Society is a group of Whitestone's original architectural plans that were found abandoned in the tower of the old Louisville Trust Building at Fifth and Market Streets. In addition to the plans, other materials will be shown and discussed.

Limited capacity; Reservations are required.

Samuel Plato: Pioneer Louisville Architect

Pen Bogert

## The Library at Oxmoor Farm Monday, May 21 • 5:30 p.m.

Samuel Plato was an early African-American architect and builder who achieved success during a long struggle against racism. His career is marked not only by his skills as an architect, but also by his strong commitment to family, education, civil rights, and community. Plato's designs have stood the test of time and many of his buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This presentation will include images of Samuel Plato, his family, community, and surviving buildings around the country.

Limited capacity; Reservations are required.

## The Blue Box: Five Lives in Letters Sallie Bingham

The Filson Historical Society

Tuesday, May 15 • 6:00 p.m.

*The Blue Box: Five Lives in Letters* introduces Margaret Haskins, the four times great grandmother of Sallie Bingham. This story begins with Haskin's capture by the Shawnee Indians in 1778 and recounts her years of captivity in their camp, ending with a fictional reconstruction of her life after she returned to Virginia. Bingham describes how she found the box and the effect that her childhood in Kentucky had on her writing.

Sallie Bingham is the author of several books, collections of short stories, and plays. She is the founder of the Kentucky Foundation of Women and the Sallie Bingham Archive for Women's History and Culture at Duke University.

Reservations are required.

## The 'Hard Dilemma' of Quaker Pacifists in the Ohio and Potomac Valleys in Civil War America

A. Glenn Crothers

Jeffersonville Carnegie Library

Wednesday, May 16 • Noon

During the Civil War, pacifist and antislavery Quakers (the Society of Friends) in southern Indiana and throughout the nation faced what President Abraham Lincoln described as “a hard dilemma.” Their most deeply held spiritual principles—their belief in the “inward light” within all people—led them to oppose “both war and oppression.” After 1861, however, they could “only practically oppose oppression by war.” This lecture explores the ways in which Quakers living in the Ohio and Potomac Valleys—the great borderlands between slavery and freedom—responded to the “great trial” of the Civil War.

Reservations are suggested

Book Launch

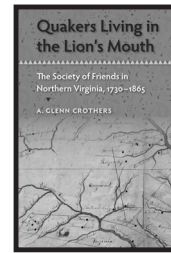
## Quakers Living in the Lion's Mouth: The Society of Friends in Northern Virginia, 1730 - 1863

A. Glenn Crothers

The Filson Historical Society

Tuesday, May 22 • 6:00 p.m.

By tracing the evolution of white Virginians' attitudes toward the Quaker community from its



settlement in 1730 through the end of the Civil War, A. Glenn Crothers exposes the increasing hostility Quakers faced as the sectional crisis deepened.

Although this is an examination of a small community over time, *Quakers Living in the Lion's Mouth* deals with larger historical issues, such as the evolving nature of

southern identity, how religious values formed and evolved among a group, and how these beliefs shape behavior even in the face of increasing hostility and isolation.

Please join us for a wine and cheese reception preceding the lecture celebrating this new publication.

A. Glenn Crothers, associate professor of history at the University of Louisville, is director of research at The Filson Historical Society and coeditor of *Ohio Valley History*.

Reservations are required.

## Young Filsonians Reception and Viewing of the Garden at Oxmoor

Young Filsonians for Young Professionals  
Oxmoor Farm

Thursday, May 24 • 6:00 p.m.

The Young Filsonians for Young Professionals will be hosting a reception and viewing of the garden at Oxmoor. Please join us for a light reception followed by a discussion on the history of Oxmoor with Shirley Harmon, who worked on the collection. Following the discussion, we will tour the grounds and view the outbuildings, including the springhouse, kitchen, and slave quarters.

The Young Filsonians are a group of young professionals who are interested in our community and the history of Kentucky and the Ohio valley. Membership is open to all young professionals.

Reservations are required.

## Exhibit Tour 20th Century African American Collections at The Filson

The Filson Historical Society

Thursday, May 31 • Noon



Please join us for a guided exhibit tour of *20th Century African American Collections at The Filson*. This exhibit focuses on African American history in Kentucky and the Ohio Valley as well as the

Civil Rights movement in the region. Photos, artwork, manuscripts, ephemera, and artifacts will be among the items featured in this exhibit.

Staff members will guide you through the exhibit, offering background information on these important items and the history behind these movements.

Limited capacity; Reservations are required

Call The Filson at (502) 635-5083 - reservations are requested to assure seating for all programs.

All programs are free unless otherwise noted.

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Exhibit Tour - *20th Century African American Collections at The Filson*

**Save the Date!**

# National Issues, Local Struggles: The Civil Rights Movement in the Ohio Valley and Beyond

**May 17, 18, 19 • The Filson Historical Society**

**Thursday, May 17**

5:30 p.m. - Reception and Viewing of the 20th Century African American Collections at The Filson exhibit

6:30 p.m. - Keynote Lecture

*The Civil Rights Movement and the Possibilities of Democracy*  
John Dittmer, Professor Emeritus, DePaw University

**Friday, May 18**

9:30 a.m. - *St. Louis, the Border South, and the Place of the Border in Black Freedom Studies*

Clarence Lang, Associate Professor, The University of Kansas

10:45 a.m. - *Women's Important Role in the Civil Rights Movement*

Rhonda Y. Williams, Associate Professor and Director of CWRU Social Justice Institute/Alliance, Case Western Reserve University

12:00 p.m. - Lunch

1:00 p.m. - *Upon This Rock: African American Migration, Urban Renewal and the Struggle for Open Housing in Louisville, Kentucky*

Luther Adams, Associate Professor, University of Washington, Tacoma

2:15 p.m. - Panel Discussion with J. Blaine Hudson, Mervin Aubespin, and Rouel Cunningham

Moderated by Tracey E. K'Meyer, Chair and Professor of History, University of Louisville

**Saturday, May 19**

Field Trip - Civil Rights Driving Tour

Catherine Fosl, Associate Professor and Director of the Anne

Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, University of Louisville

Also led by Mervin Aubespin and Bob Cunningham

**Our Mission:**  
To collect, preserve and tell the significant stories of Kentucky and the Ohio Valley history and culture

Reservations are important to ensure seating. Now enjoy the convenience of our new online registration system - [www.filsonhistorical.org](http://www.filsonhistorical.org)

# Programs

502-635-5083

[www.filsonhistorical.org](http://www.filsonhistorical.org)

1310 S. Third St. • Louisville, KY 40208

# The Filson Historical Society

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Louisville, KY  
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