DECEMBER 2013 PROGRAMS

Call The Filson at (502) 635-5083 or visit www.filsonhistorical.org - reservations are requested to assure seating for all programs. All programs are free for Filson Members and $5 for non-members unless otherwise noted.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4**

12:00 noon • The Library at Oxmoor Farm, 720 Oxmoor Avenue
Free for members, $5 for non-members

Historic Houses of Louisville
Steve Wiser

Due to overwhelming popularity and the inability to seat all who wanted to attend – Steve Wiser has agreed to present his power point program again. This will be the same program as presented on November 4th.

Mr. Wiser, AIA and a local architect and historian, will again present his lecture on Historic Houses of Louisville. Featured will be the individuals and events connected to Louisville’s historic houses. Houses to be featured will be Oxmoor House, Zachary Taylor House, Soldier’s Retreat, Cubertson Mansion, George Rogers Clark’s cabin, Farmington, and Locust Grove, among many others. Louisville always rates highly as a great place to live, and these houses form the foundation for quality of life. Mr. Wiser will focus on these houses as they represent the overall history of Louisville, and other fascinating little-known details.

Steve Wiser is the author of several local architecture / history books including Distinctive Houses of Louisville and Modern Houses of Louisville.

Seating is limited and reservations are required so please call The Filson at 635-5083 or visit www.filsonhistorical.org

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12**

12:00 noon • The Cubertson Mansion State Historic Site
914 E. Main Street, New Albany, IN

This program is sponsored by the Paul Ogle, Inc. Foundation and is free.

Our Shared History, Cubertson Mansion: It’s Families and Times, and a presentation of Victorian Christmas Cards from The Filson’s Collections

Join us for a program featuring one of southern Indiana’s great mansions. The Cubertson Mansion is a grand Victorian home built in 1867 by William S. Cubertson. Multimillionaire Cubertson built this French Second Empire style, 2,000 square foot, 25 room mansion for $120,000, and it is the crown jewel of New Albany’s Mansion Row. The State of Indiana purchased the mansion in 1976, and along with the Friends of the Cubertson Mansion, has been working for three decades to restore the house to its former glory.

Jennifer Stavros is the Program Developer for the Cubertson Mansion State Historic Site. She earned an undergraduate degree in history from the University of Louisville and a graduate degree in Business Communication from Spalding University.

Adding a touch of history and Christmas, Jana Meyer will present a power point of Victorian Christmas cards from The Filson’s collections. These cards were selected to reflect the style of the Cubertson Mansion and this facility’s historical era.

Jana Meyer is the Reference Librarian at The Filson. Her graduate degree in history is from University of Louisville, and her Masters of Library Science degree is from University of Kentucky.

This program is sponsored by the Paul Ogle, Inc. Foundation and is free. If you have time to tour the house the charge is $5 for adults, $4 for seniors over 60, and $2 for children.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5**

6:00 p.m. • The Filson Historical Society
$90 for members, $100 for non-members

Repeal Day Bourbon Tasting

Come celebrate the repletion of Prohibition at The Filson’s Repeal Day Bourbon Tasting. Get a taste of history with vintage bourbons! We will be serving rare bottles of prohibition-era Kentucky Tavern bourbon whiskey bottled in 1925 and Weller Original Barrel Proof bottled in 1951. These bottles were stored in a basement for decades and then recently donated to The Filson. Buffalo Trace is sponsoring this event and providing modern versions of Kentucky Tavern and Weller for comparison. Come enjoy, taste, and compare these bourbons and celebrate the end of prohibition! Reservations are required. For reservations, please contact Buffalo Trace.

Michael Veach, a member of the Bourbon Hall of Fame, is The Filson’s first Bourbon Historian. Mike’s book, Kentucky Bourbon Whiskey: An American Heritage, was published in spring 2013 and is in the third printing.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11**

6:00 p.m. • The Filson Historical Society

Making Freedom: The Underground Railroad and the Politics of Slavery

R. J. M. Blackert

The 1850 Fugitive Slave Law, which mandated action to aid in the recovery of runaway slaves and denied fugitives legal rights if they were apprehended, quickly became a focal point in the debate over the future of slavery and the nature of the Union. In Making Freedom, R. J. M. Blackert uses the experiences of escaped slaves and those who aided them to explore the inner workings of the Underground Railroad and the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law, while shedding light on the national political effects of slave escapes.

Blackert highlights the lives of those who escaped, the impact of the fugitive slave cases, and the extent to which escaping slaves, fellow slaves, and Northern outsiders who went south to entice them to escape. Using these stories of particular individuals, moments, and movements, Blackert provides a new view of how slave flight shaped national politics as the South witnessed slavery beginning to collapse and the North experienced a threat so vast in freedom.

R. J. M. Blackert is Andrew Jackson Professor of History at Vanderbilt University and author of Divided Hearts: Britain and the American Civil War, among other books.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 16**

Reception at 5:30 p.m., Reading at 6:00 p.m. • The Library at Oxmoor Farm, 720 Oxmoor Avenue

A Christmas Memory

Truman Capote
A Reading by William McNulty

So much of the holidays are about traditions and this Christmas Memory reading at Oxmoor Farm is a Filson tradition. We invite you to share this evening with us in the historic library at Oxmoor Farm.

Actors Theatre’s William McNulty, who portrays Scrooge’s character in A Christmas Carol, will read the holiday classic, A Christmas Memory, by Truman Capote. William McNulty has played more than 150 roles during 32 seasons of residencies at Actors Theatre, four of the roles in A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. McNulty has directed many other plays and appeared in several other venues. He was also the 2007 recipient of the Fox Foundation Resident Actor Fellowship, one of three grants awarded annually in the Distinguished Artist category.

For this member and their families only event (recommended for teens and seniors), the reception will be at 5:30 p.m., reading 6:00 p.m. Christmas spirit and holiday fare will be served. Come celebrate the holiday season with us. Seating is limited and reservations are required so please call The Filson at 635-5083 or visit www.filsonhistorical.org to make your reservation.

**Our Portraits Tell Stories**

The Filson is offering guided tours of the Fogerson mansion and sharing little known but often very significant stories of the artwork within our walls. Special thanks to Jo Folsom for organizing a group of tour leaders who were previously docents for The Speed Art Museum. These tours are offered every Wednesday at The Filson between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and last approximately 30 minutes, although they can be longer depending on the group touring. Reservations not needed.

**Continue the Education**

While your children are out of school for the holidays, consider bringing them to The Filson’s Civil War exhibit – United We Stand, Divided We Fall perfect for a family outing. The Filson has one of the finest Civil War manuscript collections in the state.

This exhibit is special because all items are from The Filson’s collections. “United We Stand, Divided We Fall” is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no admission charge, no reservations needed and parking is free.

**The Holiday Look at The Filson**

As you enter the Fogerson Mansion, you will see the creative and festive décor designed by Hollis and Franklin Stark, Susan Moloney Byrd and Sara Brittain Paradise. Our thanks to these talented people for lending their creativity in decorating our historic house for the holidays.