

# News & Views

*on the preservation issues that affect our historic city.*

The third annual Antiques Appraisal Day was by all measurements our most successful so far. It was also our third new and different location-this time the former Rockbridge County jail (most recently Kappa Alpha Order National Headquarters) on Courthouse Square. The weather was perfect and we had a good turnout.

On Saturday, September 15th eighty-three people brought items to the old jail to have them reviewed and appraised. The broad range of items included: paintings, toys, ceramics, musical instruments, glassware, furniture, textiles, sculpture, silver, clocks, jewelry and more. We increased the number of appraisers this year to eight, including the well-known TV personality (from Antiques Roadshow), Ken Farmer. Others were: Gordon Lohr, Robert K. Miller, Michaux Tayloe-Chopski, Jack Martin, Lee and Art Beltrone and Patti Loughbridge driving here from Richmond. The additional appraisers this year helped us cut down on waiting time and gave us greater depth in several categories.

*(more on other side)*



HLF is grateful to all who helped defray operating costs: Embarq who set up the wireless and DSL line, Southern Inn who provided good food at a modest cost, and Rockbridge County for giving us the use of the building free of charge.



Earlier in the year (May 18th) we were pleased to have Susan G. Pearl come to Lexington for a lecture entitled "Saving Our Historic Schools." Her talk, in the Piovano Room of the Rockbridge Regional Library, was inspirational in light of the mission of HLF and its current efforts to save and restore Waddell School. Ms. Pearl lives in Prince George's County, Maryland. She is a graduate of Brown University and is active on the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. One successful effort (in 1982) involved combining with an African American History program to bring amplified attention to the cause. Another she mentioned involved the Rosenwald School Fund Program. The threats to historic and architecturally valuable schools are real. In Maryland, for example, of the 5,000+ public schools built in the first decades of the twentieth century, only nine

historically black or Rosenwald-funded schools continue in use today. Historic schools are a rare and irreplaceable part of a community's cultural heritage. Ms. Pearl's message to identify, preserve, and celebrate that heritage was strongly delivered and well received.

