

The JOHN KLINE HOMESTEAD

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John Kline Homestead Video

Larry Glick and David Sollenberger have prepared a video on the John Kline Homestead. John Kline (portrayed by Larry Glick) welcomes you to his home and tells his story, showing several scenes from inside the 1822 house. The video is available for a donation and can be used as a fund-raiser with Sunday School classes or fellowship groups. For a copy, contact Paul Roth, pastor, Linville Creek Church of the Brethren, 409 Brethren Road, Broadway, VA 22815; 540-896-5001; proth@bridgewater.edu. ❖

The John Kline Homestead Preservation Fund

The John Kline Homestead Preservation Fund, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, has been formed to receive contributions and to manage the affairs of the John Kline Homestead. Members of the Board of Directors are Christopher Eads, John W. Flora, Ellen K. Layman, Stephen L. Longenecker, Paul W. Roth, Phillip C. Stone, Sr., Dale V. Ulrich, and Paul W. White.

At this time, the John Kline home and four acres are owned by the Park View Federal Credit Union. Developers want the property. If the John Kline Homestead is to be preserved, it must be purchased as soon as possible.

A sum of \$600,000 is needed in Phase I of the program in order to purchase the house and one acre. The Credit Union plans to use one acre to build a branch office.

To date \$110,400 have been contributed and an additional \$12,000 pledged. Of this amount, 21 Brethren congregations

(Continued)

Youth Work Camp

The Church of the Brethren Youth and Young Adult Office offered a Senior High Work Camp on the John Kline Homestead in Broadway, Va., June 16-22, 2008. Twenty-one senior high youth and six adult advisors from four states stayed in the 1822 house for the week.

Seven local Brethren served as work supervisors on the daily projects: cleaning the house and inside windows; painting the porch and window frames; clearing debris from the horse barn, chicken shed and spring house; clearing the spring run of growth and debris; cutting up fallen trees and stacking the wood; cleaning and storing antiques; pruning and weeding shrubbery around the garden and roadside, as well as removing and transplanting shrubs from the house and outbuildings.

Elder John Kline (portrayed by Larry Glick) greeted the campers at his house on the first evening, sharing his story. Bethel, Cedar Run, Greenmount, Harrisonburg, Linville Creek, Mt. Olivet, and Timberville Brethren congregations provided meals at the house for the campers. Work campers toured historic Brethren sites nearby and were led in evening devotions by Brethren pastors Joel Ballew, David Miller, Robbie Miller, and Richie Yowell.

The hard work of the senior highs and advisors prepared the grounds for visitors in the 300th anniversary year of the Brethren. ❖



Casey Wakeman, from Wakeman's Grove Church of the Brethren, Va., paints the lattice on the front of the John Kline house.

John McKee from the Spring Run Church of the Brethren, Ind., works on shrubbery in front of the John Kline house.



Katie Mumper, Kenzie Dunmire, Rachel Wilson, and Darcie Dunmire from the Spring Run Church of the Brethren, McVeytown, Pa., and Kaleb Kragt from the Rock Run Church of the Brethren, Ind., cleaned the spring run.

(Preservation Fund, continued)

have contributed \$67,300.

Please send your tax-deductible contribution to:

John Kline Homestead Preservation
Trust
P.O. Box 274
Broadway, VA 22815

John Kline Homestead Listed Among Local Historic Sites

Elder John Kline's home is part of the Wilderness Trail tours in the Shenandoah Valley.

The Rockingham County-Harrisonburg Tourism Council has made a brief video on the John Kline Homestead to promote bus tours to historic sites in the Shenandoah Valley.

Promotional materials will be available in the spring of 2009. ✧

Candlelight Dinners

Ladies of the Linville Creek Church of the Brethren prepared and served an 1850s menu in the John Kline house on Nov. 15 and Dec 6. Forty-one dinner guests sat in the candlelight surrounded by period artifacts as table hosts told stories of life in the home and on the farm.

Before and after the meal, a Mennonite quartet sang hymns mentioned in John Kline's diary. Elder John Kline (portrayed by Larry Glick) welcomed the guests after dinner and shared his life's experiences while he lived there.

Paul Roth reported on funds raised to purchase the property and made an appeal for the guests to join the urgent fund-raising efforts. Dinner reservations and contributions totaled over \$3,700 with additional pledges promised. ✧



Homestead Web Site

A John Kline Homestead web site at www.johnklinehomestead.com is maintained by Alice Bair of the Linville Creek Church of the Brethren. Articles and updates include the April 2008 *Messenger* article, "John Kline: A Beloved Man of God." ✧

JMU Study of John Kline Buildings

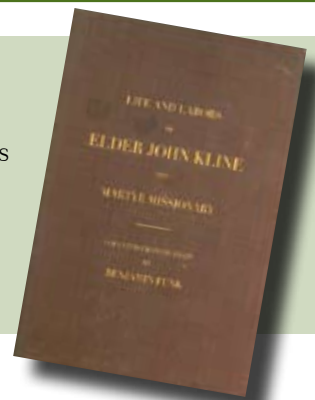
James Madison University (Harrisonburg, Va.) professor Darryl Nash used the John Kline homestead as the focus for his spring 2008 historic preservation class study.

Twenty-four students made measurements, created architectural sketches and took photographs of the 1822 house, spring house, and smokehouse. Their research included study of the property, Elder Kline and life in the Shenandoah Valley during the 18th and 19th centuries. ✧



John Kline's Diary

Brethren Press has recently reprinted *Life and Labors of Elder John Kline* in paperback with the original cover design. Copies are available for \$34.95. Phone 1-800-441-3712 to order. ✧



2009 Junior High Work Camp

Jeanne Davies, work camp coordinator for the Church of the Brethren Youth and Young Adults, is planning a Junior High Work Camp on June 15-19 at the John Kline Homestead.

Work campers will clean the house, clear weeds on the grounds, paint outbuildings, and work on the grounds of CrossRoads (Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center, Harrisonburg).

They will also tour the 1790 Yount House (Tunker House), Linville Creek Church Historical rooms and cemetery, and the John Kline historical marker.

Openings are still available for the work camp. Contact Jeanne Davies at 800-323-8039, ext. 286. ✧