

# The Journey Through Hallowed Ground eNewsletter



January 2009

## Welcome Letter from New Editor

Dear Journey Reader,

Like so many crisp mornings this winter, I'm watching an orange glow take shape outside my window. Barely peeking through a grove of Virginia hardwood at first, rising, and suddenly spilling like a Gatorade into the Jeffersonian Sea.

Let me introduce myself, and welcome you to the first edition of the 2009 JTHG Partnership monthly newsletter. I'm its new editor and director of communications. My name is John K. Jones. Appropriately, I'm writing from Orange County, Virginia, in a one-time slave's house perched on the eastern side of a slope in the Southwest Mountains between Monticello and Montpelier.



As you know, February is [Black History Month](#) and also celebrates the birthdays of three presidents. Combine that with the inaugural of our nation's first African-American president and there's ample reason to celebrate our heritage with a visit to where it all started. Exploring *Where America Happened*, perhaps again, is like adventuring to a reliable and favorite spot only to discover something new.

The Civil War Sesquicentennial is just around the corner and so is [training for frontline hospitality staff](#), which will help make visitors' experiences rich and full. Read about that and how four Journey partners were [honored by Preserve America](#). Get an update on events around the National Heritage Area, information on grant opportunities, and learn about a [class at Northern Virginia Community College](#) that we help with.

Finally, thank you for continuing to support the JTHG Partnership. Without you, the changing seasonal landscape of this wonderful national heritage area would seem a bit stagnant. Feel free to write me at [John@JTHG.org](mailto:John@JTHG.org)

All the best,  
John K. Jones

## Dawning of the Obama Era Completes the Circle for Many -- Celebrate Black History with Visits to African-American Heritage Sites



With the Inauguration of Barack Obama, the course of African-American history has come full circle, and for millions, seeing firsthand the hallowed past that black Americans have travelled over 200 years is just a short drive away.

For the cost of a tank of gas, Americans can visit the region known as *Where America Happened* and see what many consider to be sacred ground for African Americans who sacrificed everything and laid the ground work for a more recent historical event – the election of President

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## ALL ALONG THE JOURNEY

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### Key Moment Lectures

**Jan- March on Weekends at 1:30 p.m.**

The Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site are offering a series of lectures on Key Moments in the Gettysburg Campaign.

Events are free and located at the Park Museum and Visitor Center.

For more information, go to: [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

#### Grand Opening of the David Wills House

**February 12 at 2:00pm**

In honor of Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday, the David Wills House in downtown Gettysburg will celebrate its grand opening, offering a world-class museum about the aftermath of battle in

Barack Obama as leader of the free world.

Celebrate Black History Month and the election of the 44th President with a visit to the The Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area where you can discover dozens of African American and presidential heritage sites.

Our [Web site](#) allows users to pinpoint and create their own [African American journeys](#), while the [JTHG Guide Book](#) delivers ready-made itineraries and tours.

### **It's Agreed: Frontline Hospitality Training Means Superior Customer Service**



With the Civil War Sesquicentennial just around the corner, the JTHG Partnership is poised to help its partners enhance the experience of the millions of expected visitors to the region over the next six years with hospitality training to thousands of frontline staff professionals.

With an end goal of increased economic development within the Journey corridor, the Journey Partnership secured a Preserve

America Matching Grant, which was matched by the Virginia Tourism Corporation, County of Loudoun, Gettysburg Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Tourism Council of Frederick County to train 4,000 frontline hospitality professionals by the end of 2011. The JTHG Partnership intends to ensure that the training program will continue beyond the initial 2-year grant and through the end of the Sesquicentennial commemoration in 2015.

[READ ENTIRE STORY »](#)

### **On the Journey to an All-American Road**

Achieving *All-American Road* designation along Routes 15/20/231 ranks high among the JTHG Partnership goals, and towns and counties throughout the National Heritage Area have shown their support for a key JTHG initiative that delivers higher heritage designation, the potential for increased tourism dollars, and eligibility for road enhancement funding.



All along the Journey, jurisdictions have deliberated and passed resolutions in public hearings in support for a Corridor Management Plan to designate the 175-mile corridor from Gettysburg to Charlottesville to *All American Road* status by the Federal Highway Administration.

[READ ENTIRE STORY »](#)

### **Four More Journey Communities Honored by Preserve America**

On December 17, four JTHG partners—Harpers Ferry, WV; Purcellville, VA; Middleburg, VA; and Fauquier County, VA—were designated Preserve America Communities and honored by local and national officials.

Assistant Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Robert Young led the ceremonies, honoring the communities with certificates of designation signed by Preserve America Honorary Chair and former First Lady Laura Bush. They were recognized for their ongoing commitment to preserving America's heritage while ensuring a future filled with opportunities for learning and enjoyment for all. While we can be proud of the achievements of these communities, it's also important to recognize JTHG Partnership Vice President Beth Erickson. She played a critical role in making this happen, working with each and helping them develop their applications for the distinguished award.



the town of Gettysburg, and Lincoln's stay in the home before giving the Gettysburg Address.

Ribbon cutting ceremony at 2 p.m. The house will be open for free on Feb. 12, from 2 p.m. - 8 p.m. Grand Opening events continue through February 16.

Operated by the non-profit Main Street Gettysburg, in partnership with Gettysburg National Military Park. Located at 8 Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. For more information call 866-486-5735, or go to [www.davidwillshouse.org](http://www.davidwillshouse.org)



David C Will House in Gettysburg, PA

## **VIRGINIA**

### **Manassas Museum Workshops**

#### **January - February**

The Manassas Museum is sponsoring a series of winter workshops on preserving family histories. The two-hour sessions held on Sundays in January and February from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m will focus on issues ranging from tracing your family tree, telling your family's story to properly storing photographs and safeguarding keepsakes. Space is limited and advance reservations are recommended. Visit

[www.manassasmuseum.org](http://www.manassasmuseum.org) or call 703-368-1873 for reservations.

#### **Newbie Family and Harpers Ferry, 1859**

##### **February 26, 7:00pm**

Historian Dr. Philip Schwarz will lecture on the dramatic and interesting story of local residents Dangerfield and Harriet Newby. This touching story about Dangerfield's desperate attempts to free his wife, who lived in Brentsville, which led to his prominent role in John Brown's Harper's Ferry Raid in 1859.

Lectures held at the Old Manassas Courthouse 9248 Lee Ave., Manassas, VA (703) 792-4754

#### **Dodona Manor, Weekends Through September '09**

The house museum and former home to General and Mrs. George C. Marshall, opens a new exhibit, which features photos and memorabilia never before displayed at Dodona Manor, chronicles the life of Katherine Marshall from birth to death. [www.georgecmarshall.org](http://www.georgecmarshall.org)

## **MARYLAND**

### **Frederick Co. Fire & Ice,**

On hand for the regional ceremony in Harpers Ferry were: Mayor of Harpers Ferry James Addy; Planner for Purcellville Mary Beth Duggan; JTHG Partnership Vice President Beth Erickson, who accepted the awards on behalf of the Town of Middleburg and Fauquier County; and representatives from Senator Jay Rockefeller (WV) and Congresswoman Shelly Moore Capito (WV). **READ ENTIRE STORY »**

### **The Journey Goes Back to School**

In these belt-tightening economic times, many teachers might be forced to put their continued education on hold. But not seven Loudoun educators, who received a tuition scholarship from the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership to participate in a class that helps them incorporate the unparalleled historical resources from the JTHG National Heritage Area into an exciting academic curriculum.



For the third consecutive year, the JTHG Partnership has joined forces with Northern Virginia Community College to deliver this special course designed to help educators use the surrounding historic treasures within the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area in their daily lesson plans. This however is the first year that the Loudoun School Board budget had to be cut and resources to help teachers take the course were no longer available. In response, the JTHG Partnership sought and secured the support of the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation, and as a result has been able to offer scholarships to qualified teachers from Loudoun County to take this class. **READ ENTIRE STORY »**

### **Jones Joins Journey**



You may have read his comments in a few recent local news stories or perhaps even heard him on the radio talking about the JTHG Partnership. No doubt, when reading this newsletter, you will get a better sense for the newest member of the JTHG team. John Jones – yes, that's his real name -- joined the Journey just a few weeks ago as the Director of Communications and newsletter editor. He will serve as a Journey Partnership spokesperson and oversee communications.

"He's the consummate professional," said Cate Magennis Wyatt, president of the Journey Partnership. "... A seasoned professional with extensive experience developing multimedia communications and working with the media on the one hand. On the other he has a passion for historical buildings and first-hand experience rebuilding and caring for them. Quite simply, John is who we hoped to find -- a wonderful addition to the senior management team, who will play a critical role in elevating stature of the Journey to a new level." **READ ENTIRE STORY »**

## **GRANT OPPORTUNITIES and DEADLINES**

### **National Endowment for the Humanities**

#### ***We the People* Challenge Grant**

**Deadline: February 3, 2009**

Designed to help institutions and organizations secure long-term improvements in and support for humanities activities that examine American history through the lens of the nation's founding principles

For details, see: [www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/wtpchallenge.html](http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/wtpchallenge.html)

### **National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council**

#### **Grant for Urban and Community Forest Management**

**Deadline: February 17, 2009**

The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council serves to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on the status of the nation's urban and community forests and seeks to establish sustainable urban and community forests by encouraging communities of all sizes to manage and protect their natural resources. Well managed urban forests provide critical environmental services that can improve the public's health, and well being; economic viability and restore functioning environmental systems for people today and future generations. This year the

### **Feb 7, 5-7pm**

Sparkling ice sculptures, ice sculpture demonstrations and luminary lit streets await you on Main Street in Downtown Frederick. See

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

### **Frederick Co. Cabin Fever Festival, Feb 14-15**

Traditional Arts & Crafts show at Fairgrounds with 250 exhibitors.

See [www.CabinFeverFestival.com](http://www.CabinFeverFestival.com)

National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council revised its grant categories and process to the Forest Service's National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant Program. The funds will be divided into two categories: Innovation and Best Practices Innovation Grants

For details, see: <http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/opportunities/instructions/oppUSDA-FS-2009-cfda10.675-instructions.pdf>

#### **Federal Highway Administration**

##### **National Scenic Byway Program**

**Deadline: March 13, 2009**

The Federal Highway Administration is now accepting grant proposals for National Scenic Byways Program funding consideration for FY 2009. FHWA has decided to continue to be more strategic in its grant awards process by targeting its resources toward projects that provide the greatest benefits. FHWA invites the application of large-scale, high-cost projects that provide strategic benefits to the byway and the byway traveler.

For both seasoned and first time applicants, please remember that submitting an application is a two-step process, and includes registering your organization with Grants.gov. The details of this registration process can be found on the Grants.gov website (see [http://grants.gov/applicants/organization\\_registration.jsp](http://grants.gov/applicants/organization_registration.jsp)). For more information on submitting an application to the National Scenic Byways Program for funding consideration, please see <http://www.bywaysonline.org/grants>.

#### **The Tourism Council of Frederick County**

The TCFC is accepting applications for a cooperative promotional funding and product development grant program for Tourism Reinvestment in Promotion and Product.

All applicants must pre-register to apply, and new applicants must attend one of two workshops on February 5 or 9. All applicants are required to submit a Notice of Intent to Apply by Feb. 8 or R.S.V.P to one of the workshops by February 4.

Applications are due to TCFC by March 31.

For more information, contact (301) 600-4041 or (301) 600-4023, or [tourism@fredco-md.net](mailto:tourism@fredco-md.net)

## IN THE NEWS

### **Recent news stories about The Journey**

#### ***On the Road Again*** — The Loudoun Times

"For residents looking for a scenic and informative fall or winter trip, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership has an interactive Web site and a guide book about the 175-mile corridor that runs from Gettysburg in Pennsylvania to Monticello in Charlottesville." **READ ENTIRE STORY »**

**WTOP Radio** — Anchor Hank Silverberg talks with JTHG President Cate Magennis Wyatt about the inaugural: "The Inaugural parade usually goes from Capitol Hill to the White House. But this time, one group wants part of the procession to start all the way out in Gettysburg..." **LISTEN »**

**WEPM Radio** — News Anchor Robert Lyles in Martinsburg, West Virginia's gets comment from JTHG Communications Director, John K. Jones on Preserve America honorees. **LISTEN »**

#### **Opinion Editorial** — The Loudoun Times

Journey director applauds region's citizens, elected officials

Three years ago, the Loudoun County-based nonprofit The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership announced an ambitious initiative to literally and figuratively shift the lens through which we and others view the history and landscape in our backyards: from Gettysburg to Monticello. The simple intent was to recognize the unparalleled contributions made by generations of citizens who lived within our communities — many of whom are unknown to this day, some of whom are known by the world, and each of whom served to not only create our country, but in the process, the democracy we enjoy and most fully celebrated in this recent election. **READ ENTIRE STORY »**

#### **Rich with History: Localities Hope to Cash in America's Past** — The Daily Progress

President James Monroe lived fewer than three miles from his lifelong friend Thomas Jefferson, and his home has always been in the shadow of Monticello.

But a federal historic designation, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground, is helping to give Ash Lawn-Highland, Monroe's former residence, the public

relations boost it needs to flourish on its own as a presidential museum.

"[JTHG] has helped put us on the national stage," said Martha Barr, interpreter coordinator at Ash Lawn. "We're lesser known than Monticello and Montpelier, but we all offer different experiences because the three presidents were so different."

[READ ENTIRE STORY»](#)

## PROFESSIONAL POSITION AVAILABLE

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is now recruiting an Assistant Director for the Federal Property Management section (GS-14) position in its Office of Federal Agency Programs in Washington, DC. The Assistant Director has direct line authority over 10 professional staff positions responsible for consulting with federal agencies to improve their historic preservation programs and to ensure that diverse stakeholders fully participate in the review of federal undertakings under Section 106 of the NHPA. For a complete description go to [www.achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov)

## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Noting our donor contributions in this newsletter is a small way to say thank you. With your help, the JTHG Partnership is better able to educate students, teachers and anyone with an interest of this great country's heritage.

Below is a list of recent donor contributions:

### **\$250,000 and Up**

Anonymous

### **\$200,000 - \$249,000**

Anonymous

### **\$100,000-\$199,000**

Prince Charitable Trusts

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

### **\$10,000 and Up**

Claude Moore Charitable Foundation

Ann and Mark Kington

### **\$5,000-\$9,999**

Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan and Trish Rintels

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Mr. Marc Wheat

Mrs. Joan Williams

Ms Caroline Keller Winter

Mr. David Worthington

Mr. and Mrs. Alan and Irene Wurtzel

Ms Joan Zawacki

### **Strategic Partners:**

Dodona Manor and the George C. Marshall

International Center

Not only are your cash contributions a welcomed source of support, but there are other ways you can support the JTHG Partnership. For further information, please contact the JTHG offices at 540.882.4929.

### *Donor Privacy Policy*

We do not sell, lease or share our donor lists and do not disclose personal information, except as required by law. We comply with written requests for anonymity. We ensure proper stewardship of charitable contributions, and ensure that contributions are used in accordance with donors' written instructions. We provide prompt, appropriate acknowledgement and thank you's. All contributions

are deductible for the federal income tax purposes (subject to statutory limitations) and for federal estate and gift tax purposes.

## JOIN THE JOURNEY PARTNERSHIP

None of the work we do would be possible except for the belief you have in the importance of sustaining the heritage and environment within the Journey Through Hallowed Ground. Kindly consider offering a donation to continue this invaluable work. Enjoy the Journey! Get out and have some fun!

Our goal is to encourage others to *Take the Journey™* and experience *Where America Happened™* and continues to happen every day. The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership is a 501-c3 public-private partnership dedicated to raising national awareness of the unparalleled history in the region, which generally follows the Old Carolina Road (Rt. 15/231), from Gettysburg, PA to Monticello in Albemarle County, VA. This 175-mile historic corridor holds more American history than any other swath of land in the nation.



Land of Leadership

Land of Conflict & Reunification

Land of Beauty

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