



## Kentucky Branch

# Happenings



Volume 10 Issue 3

Fall 2007

Board of Directors

President

**Keith Eiken\***

Treasurer

**Keri Jones**

Recording Secretary

**Grant Bruton**

Corresponding Secretary

**Virginia Dulworth**

Emeritus

**Helena Mink**

Past President

**Art Dietz**

**Louise Cecil**

**Philip Collier**

**Don Glaser**

**Patricia Klinck**

**Elizabeth Neurath**

**Andy Perry**

**Paul Thistleton**

**Paul Whitty**

**Elaine Wise**

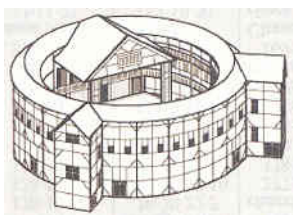
**Branch Office:**

**Frazier Museum**

**829 W. Main St**

**Louisville 40202**

**502-459-2001**



## NEWS & NOTES

If you have news to share please contact Keith Eiken or any Board Member.

\*459-2326

keitheiken@msn.com

**If you have recently renewed your membership, we appreciate the support shown to the branch. If you are uncertain about your membership status, please contact Paul Whitty at 459-2001.**

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Autumn's slow departure evokes memories of a Branch trip to East Anglia where we found ourselves in the midst of a Guy Fawkes celebration. The crepe paper laden floats and costumed citizens led us to an enormous bonfire encircled by revelers shouting epitaphs toward the burning Guy. We did our part in 'toasting' the conspirator by playing Handel's "Water Music" over the coach's intercom and cheering the celebrants.

While our educational mission is a serious one, let's enjoy this season's stimulating programs and members' friendship.

Keith Eiken

## Scholar Highlights

### London Surprise

**Brandon Meeks, UofL**

The impact of my arrival in London was the most important aspect of the trip for me. This trip was my first time traveling alone, and also my first time out of the country. Since I was by myself in one of the largest cities in the world, the only thing that I could do to keep from being overwhelmed was to constantly move forward, even if it was the wrong direction. That first day, I went from Gatwick Airport to London, found my way onto the Underground, and somehow located my accommodations at King's College. As soon as I could put my luggage down, I walked back to the Tube and decided that the Westminster station sounded like a good place to start my exploring. To my surprise, I emerged to find myself overlooking the Thames with Big Ben towering over me. It was one of the happiest accidents of my life.

### Rose Surprise

**Colleen Murphy**

**Mercy Academy, Louisville**

On a breezy afternoon, my cohorts and I packed a picnic and set out to explore Bankside. As we crossed the river, Bethany spotted Tower Bridge and let out a squeal. "We're really in London!"

Kate and I planned to visit the Globe, but our lazy lunch caused us to miss the tour. Instead, we opted for the archeological site of the Rose. As we waited in the lobby, a woman staging costume demonstrations called out, "Would you like to be Ophelia?"

Me? For a drama teacher, the opportunity to wear a period costume which had been used in an actual production of Hamlet was thrilling. Kate snapped photos as I strutted around in garters, doublet, and all.

Later, at the Rose, as we stood just feet from the ground where Shakespeare first performed, a chill ran down my spine. I reflected on the magnitude of my experience. This was truly the trip of a lifetime.

### Sailing Through Cambridge

**Bethany Johnson, UofL**

"Hwyl" was a word one of my professors introduced early on during my time at Cambridge. This Welsh term, related in the word for sails, designates a person who speaks with passionate eloquence—whose "sails" are filled with the "wind" of his or her knowledge and zeal. For much of my time at Cambridge, I felt awash in a sea of hwyl. I was surrounded by people—both brilliant lecturers and professors,

and enthusiastic students—who were happy and at home in a rich environment of learning. To step from the classroom and come face to face with the incredible museums, cultural legacies, and majestic landscapes I had always heard about, added depth to an already wonderful experience. I am so thankful to the ESU for the opportunity to travel and study in Britain. I treasure the experiences I had there and the learning which began and continues to fill the sails of my mind.

### Churchill Surprise

**Kate Filcik, Spalding University**

The best part of my trip was visiting the Churchill Archive Center at Churchill College. The professor for my Winston Churchill class is a Fellow there and he took us for a tour. I saw old family pictures, speeches WC had proofread with his own handwriting and correspondence between him and FDR. I also sat in his chair and looked at some of his paintings. It was amazing to see his initials, WSC, at the bottom of the painting. It was an unexpected surprise that I will never forget.

### Wings and Wellies

**Nanita Morgan,**

**Bell County High School**

When I was given the opportunity by the ESU Kentucky Branch to study at the Globe, I had distinct personal and professional expectations about what I would experience and how those experiences would influence me when I returned. I knew I would meet fascinating people and see wonderful places that would impact me as an individual and educator. I was right about those expectations, though not in the way I could have imagined.

While studying at the Globe I had the opportunity to visit Gosden House School in Surrey, a special needs school that works closely with the Globe each year to stage a Shakespearean production featuring students at the school. I was able to watch rehearsals and a performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. I had never seen Shakespeare like this: children, ages six to fourteen, dancing around the school orchard in their wings and wellies.

Watching the joy and the pride on the faces of those children as they performed was revealing. Although I learned a great deal about English culture and educational system while at the school, it was what those students taught me about perseverance and pushing beyond limitations that will remain with me.



English-Speaking Union  
 Kentucky Branch  
 829 W. Main St.  
 Louisville, KY 40202

www.esuky.org

Return Service Requested

Non Profit  
 US Postage  
 PAID  
 Permit No. 1211  
 Louisville, KY

*Creating global understanding through English*

**Coming Events**

**December 2, 2007 Sunday Brunch\* "Rosie the Riveter"** - was World War II's best-known female icon, the home front equivalent of GI Joe. Rosie is interpreted by Angela Bradley. We join Rosie on her lunch break at the factory.

**January 6, 2008 Sunday Brunch\* "The Language of Appalachia"**  
 Award winning author **George Ella Lyon**

**February 3, 2008 Sunday Brunch\* Dr. John Stempel** – UK Patterson School of Diplomacy  
**"Following in the British Footsteps-Iraq and Iran 1950 to the Present"**

**March 2, 2008 Shakespeare Competition Finals** – Frazier International History Museum  
 10:00-12:00 Noon Junior Competition 1:00-4:30 PM Senior Competition and Reception

\*All Sunday Brunches – are held at Audubon Country Club

**Evelyn Wrench Dinner**

**October 4**

Oliver Everett, Librarian Emeritus of the Royal Library, Windsor Castle, enthralled more than sixty members and guests at the U of L University Club, with a history of the library and descriptions of its spectacular treasures. He told of the roles British monarchs had played in expanding the collection. Although he was before an American audience, he expressed a particular fondness for George III because of that king's contributions of space, funds, books and artifacts to the library. Mr. Everett led his audience through slides of the library's treasure trove that had been under his care for seventeen years: Illuminated medieval manuscripts, books that were printed at the same time as the Gutenberg Bible, samples from the finest collection of Old Master drawings in the

world, including renditions by Michelangelo, Raphael and Leonardo da Vinci, as well as jewelry, fans, miniature paintings, maps, clocks and watches.

Mr. Everett spoke easily, without notes; imparting much fascinating information with good humor. He was accompanied by his wife Diana Jervis-Read who is a British actress and has had an extensive career in theatre. They made an excellent team; she provided timely illustrations so he could enlighten and, yes, entertain his rapt audience.



**Gifting to the Kentucky Branch**

We have received appreciated Stock which was donated to support this year's Scholarship Program. The Kentucky Branch has an account with A. G. Edwards and Sons for receiving tax deductible gifts through the use of securities. If you own securities and wish to make a donation to our Branch you can direct support to a Branch Project such as Shakespeare Competition, English in Action, or the Scholarship Program. A significant contribution can be directed into our Foundation account managed by the Louisville Community Foundation. Monies in the Foundation are invested in perpetuity for the sole benefit of our Branch. If you would like more information regarding the benefits of gifting, please contact Margaret Turley 502-423-3556 or 1-800-477-1510. **Thank you for your support.**

**A Summer in Oxford – Adam Brown  
 National Shakespeare Contest Winner**

I went to England expecting to learn a few things and have a good time, at the very least. I didn't know that I would grow substantially, not only as an actor, but also as a human being and have the time of my life. Attending British Academy of Dramatic Arts (BADA) was the most amazing, insightful, brilliant, breath-taking and educational experience I have ever had and has been one of the highlights of my life. A close friend asked me recently if I had the chance would I go back to Oxford again and attend BADA. I said, "In a heartbeat." My experience would not have been made possible but for the work of the English-Speaking Union Kentucky Branch.