

Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home & Museum Capital Campaign



A new chapter begins
A NEW HOME for PA'S FIDDLE



Personal Message from Laura Bush

HONORARY CAMPAIGN CHAIR



I am pleased to serve as Honorary Chairperson for the Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home and Museum capital campaign. From my earliest days as a young reader,

I loved the Little House books. Laura, my favorite character, shared my name and my brown hair. So it was the fulfillment of a lifelong dream to visit the Laura Ingalls Wilder Home to view the desk where Mrs. Wilder penned her books. I wholeheartedly support the efforts of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home and Museum.

Sincerely,
Laura Bush
MRS. LAURA BUSH
Honorary Campaign Chair



MY FAVORITE QUOTE:

“As you read my stories of long ago I hope you will remember that the things that are truly worthwhile and that will give you happiness are the same now as they were then. Courage and kindness, loyalty, truth, and helpfulness are always the same and always needed.”

— LAURA INGALLS WILDER



Personal Message from Jean Coday

CAMPAIGN CHAIR



The Laura Ingalls Wilder Home Association of Mansfield, Missouri is dedicated to the legacy of Laura Ingalls Wilder, and the restoration, preservation and education of Rocky Ridge Farm, where Laura wrote the "Little House" series.

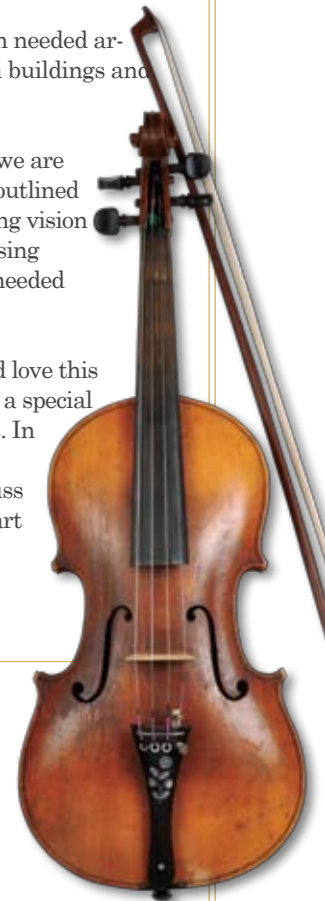
There has been substantial research and planning by the Laura Ingalls Wilder Home Association of Mansfield, Missouri on how to best protect and preserve Laura's legacy. This work positions us well for present and future endeavors as we seek to be good stewards of Laura and Almanzo's beloved place and home, Rocky Ridge Farm.

With our thorough planning complete, and having acquired most of the original acreage of Rocky Ridge Farm, we are ready to proceed

with the funding and building of the much needed archival library, and restoration of key farm buildings and landscape.

This \$2 Million Dollar Capital Campaign we are asking you to support will fund the plans outlined in this document. Please review our exciting vision to continue restoring the farm and addressing issues we are having with archival space needed to protect and preserve her legacy.

Now is the time for all of us that know and love this unique piece of Americana to support it in a special way and preserve it for future generations. In the back of this document, you will find a "Letter of Intent." I encourage you to discuss with your family how you can become a part of history by helping protect and preserve



With kindest regards,

Jean Coday
MRS. JEAN CODAY

Campaign Chair
Director, Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home & Museum
The Laura Ingalls Wilder Home Association of Mansfield, Missouri

MY FAVORITE QUOTE:

“The real things haven't changed. It is still best to be honest and truthful; to make the most of what we have; to be happy with simple pleasures; and have courage when things go wrong.”

— LAURA INGALLS WILDER





A National Treasure Needs Your Help



Rocky Ridge Farm. This is where Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote the internationally acclaimed "Little House" books. Annually, more than 30,000 visitors from all fifty U.S. states and about 20 countries make their own special pilgrimage to the Missouri Ozarks Region to experience a uniquely displayed piece of Americana and visit the Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home.

The Laura Ingalls Wilder Home Association of Mansfield, Missouri has undertaken extraordinary challenges attending to the restoration, preservation and education of Laura's legacy. The association's passionate attention to detail and diligent efforts are ensuring that these priceless treasures will be available for future generations.



The Missouri Ozarks Region is a thriving vacation destination for those seeking Midwestern Americana experiences. The Springfield-Branson National Airport attracts approximately 800,000 passengers each year, and Branson Missouri attracts 7 million visitors every year (2 million more than the Grand Canyon).

The association is asking you to help address critical challenges. The Laura Ingalls Wilder Home Association seeks to raise \$2 million for the following improvements:

- Restoration:** The association continues to meticulously document, restore and preserve Laura's heirlooms and artifacts. Adequate space is not available today to display the many priceless jewels.
- Preservation:** Overcrowding challenges the association's ability to provide climate controlled archival space for protecting and sharing these important pieces of American history.
- Education:** With the acquisition of almost all of the acreage of the original Rocky Ridge Farm, the opportunity to continue restoring the farm to its historical glory for education purposes is within reach.



"The Ozarks has a wonderful treasure in the historic Laura Ingalls Wilder Home and Museum. The Little House books penned there have shaped the lives of countless youngsters over the years and it's gratifying to know this legacy is being so carefully maintained."

JOHN E. MOORE, JR.
Retired President, Drury University



ANNUALLY, MORE THAN
30,000 visitors
from all 50 U.S. states
and 20 countries

MAKE THEIR OWN SPECIAL PILGRIMAGE
TO THE MISSOURI OZARKS REGION



Pictured above:

A.) Historic Farmhouse, B.) Young girls dressed as Laura, C.) Laura's writing desk, D.) Story time on the lawn, E.) Wilder Day visitors, F.) Rock House



A Walk Through History

Please join us in re-invigorating Rocky Ridge Farm by supporting this important Capital Campaign. This critical funding will provide:

- A. New Archival Library** will expand document preservation initiatives, academic and scholarly research to promote educational opportunities, and provide much needed space for displaying additional heirlooms and artifacts.
- B. Replica of Laura and Almanzo's Rocky Ridge Log Cabin**, which was their first home at Rocky Ridge, will provide children of all ages an interactive opportunity to immerse themselves in another of Laura's life experiences.
- C. Replica of Laura's Hen House** based on her original design that was published in the Missouri Ruralist Magazine, will add to the historical and sensory accuracy of the farm and visitor experience.
- D. An Apple Orchard** will be planted, continuing the restoration of the farm to its prominence and to provide an educational focal point of critical sustainability practices.
- E. Restoration of Almanzo's Walking Trail** will offer visitors a walk through history, experiencing the trail Laura, Almanzo and Rose used to walk from the Farm House to the Rock House.



"Home is the nicest word there is."

— LAURA INGALLS WILDER



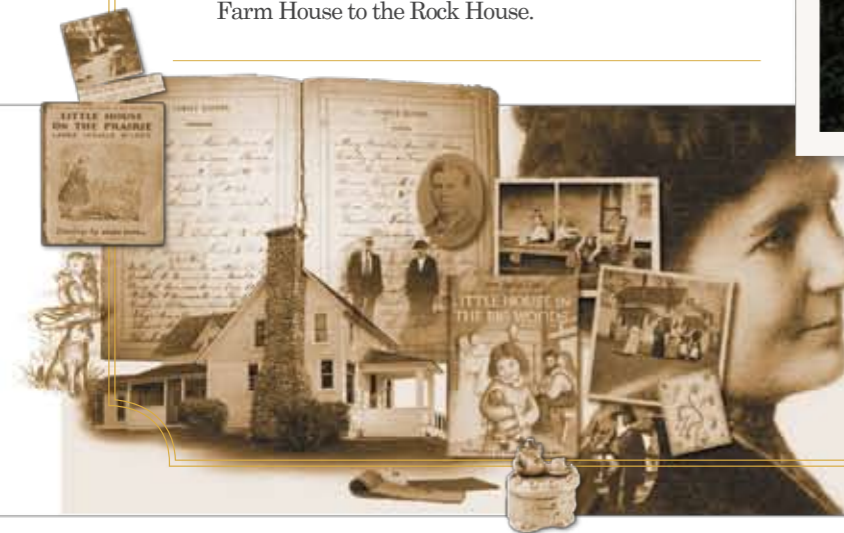
The images presented in this document are intended to reflect the concept location and scale only.

"As a youngster during the Great Depression, I used to ride my rusty old Ranger bike out 60 Highway to the Wilders' home to deliver Colliers and Country Gentlemen magazines. Outside of kinfolks, they and Rose were about my only regular paying customers. To this 8-year-old, they were always just mighty nice folks."

DALE FREEMAN
Retired Editor, Springfield Newspapers

The new structures will be based on the Wilders' approach to construction, using materials and forms native to the region in inventive ways. Utilizing modern materials, emphasis will be placed on insuring an atmosphere consistent with the historic structures throughout the acreage.

With the construction of the Archival Library apart from the farmhouse, our visitors will experience the re-creation of the original Farmyard surroundings including the barn and henhouse, accurately reflecting the look and feel crafted by the Wilders.





With your Help, Laura's Audiences will Experience Even More Heirlooms and Artifacts



With limited museum space, hundreds of fascinating heirlooms and artifacts remain archived. The new archival library promises a new home for Pa's Fiddle and access to hundreds of Wilder Family heirlooms and artifacts for Laura Ingalls Wilder fans.

The new archival Library will provide the necessary space to display:

- Laura's original manuscripts
- Generations of reader letters to Laura
- Laura's needle work
- Quilting work stitched by Laura
- Laura's everyday dishes (Depression Era)
- Unique sewing artifacts
- Personal family photos
- Missouri Ruralist Magazine articles written by Laura
- Business papers belonging to Laura
- Almanzo's tools
- Travel memorabilia of Laura and Rose
- Rose Wilder Lane artifacts
- Current museum collection in enhanced exhibits

Pictured this page:
(Top inset photo) Laura at the ravine, early 1900's,
Laura's lawn dress and Pa's fiddle

"Books expand our world, illuminate our past and help define who we are. The best books become old friends that create memories for a lifetime."

ANNIE BUSCH
Retired Executive Director,
The Springfield-Greene County
Library District



Pictured above:
A.) Little House on the Prairie, 1st edition, 1935, Helen Sewell illustrations, B.) Laura's 22 caliber revolver and Pair of black dress gloves, C.) Little House in the Big Woods, 2nd edition, 1953, Garth Williams illustrations, D.) Rose Wilder Lane's Underwood typewriter, E.) Laura's jewel box, F.) Laura's Blue Willow China G.) Handwritten thank you note from Laura, circa 1954, H.) Pieces of Rose's pottery, I.) Ingalls Family bible open to the family history



A new chapter begins
A NEW HOME for PA'S FIDDLE

Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home & Museum Campaign Leadership Group



Pictured above:
(From left) Joe Coday, John Moore, Susan Essman, Tim Rosenbury, Jean Coday, Susan Kirby, Vicki Box
Not pictured:
Kay Goss, Annie Busch, William Anderson, Dale Freeman, Tim Hancock, James Miller, David Norman

The Campaign Leadership Group and the trustees of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Home Association of Mansfield, Missouri have dedicated themselves to the continuous restoration and preservation of Rocky Ridge Farm in order to provide a unique personal and educational experience.

They have invested years of research, planning and preparation in order to enhance the Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home and Museum experience.

This historic project will create additional economic value for the Missouri Ozarks Region. With a vetted Master Plan in hand and the support of regional (and national) leaders, the board invites you to join us now in supporting the next chapter of Laura's story.

Please be our guest at any time to revisit the Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home and Museum and peruse the Master Plan. We look forward to having you with us on this exciting new journey.

THANK YOU TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LAURA INGALLS WILDER
HOME ASSOCIATION OF MANSFIELD, MISSOURI

JEAN CODAY <i>President</i>	JANE CODAY <i>Treasurer</i>	DALE FREEMAN
WILLIAM ANDERSON <i>Vice President</i>	KAY GOSS <i>Secretary</i>	TIM HANCOCK
		VICKIE BOX

"If enough people think of a thing and work hard enough at it, I guess it's pretty nearly bound to happen, wind and weather permitting."

— LAURA INGALLS WILDER



A NEW CHAPTER, A NEW HOME
AND A NEW LOOK.

The Laura Ingalls Wilder Home Association of Mansfield, Missouri is supporting this exciting new chapter with an enhanced brand identity that will align with the more modern yet authentic stylings of the new facilities within this plan.



*With love to you all and best wishes for your
happiness, I am Sincerely Your Friend,*

Laura Ingalls Wilder



LAURA INGALLS WILDER HISTORIC HOME & MUSEUM | 3068 HIGHWAY A | MANSFIELD, MISSOURI 65704
TOLL FREE: (877) 924.7126 | www.lauraingallswilderhome.com |  Visit us on Facebook