

# HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE GROVE GAZETTE



## New Event! 1816 in Home; Storytelling, Dancing, Crafts in Visitors' Center

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 5:30 PM — 9 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 4 PM — 9 PM

It's "Christmastide 1816" at Locust Grove. The Croghan and Clark families invite you into their home for a visit and to partake of holiday cheer.

You may have visited the beautifully decorated Locust Grove in other Decembers, but your visit this year will be quite different. It's now 1816. James Madison is the President. Indiana has just become a state. Unseasonably cool weather has made it "the year without a summer."

Just three years earlier in 1813, Lucy and William's son, Colonel George Croghan, successfully defended Ohio's Fort Stephenson from the British — a deed that continues to be celebrated when Croghan family and friends get together.

Still being talked about are the steamboats that have been plying the Ohio River for the last five years. And people of the area remain astonished at the repercussions of the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-12.

"In this newly re-imagined Christmastide at Locust Grove, we'll have costumed guides leading you from the Visitors' Center along the candlelit path to the softly glowing house," says **Mary Beth Williams**, Locust Grove's program director. "Carrying lanterns, these escorts will help visitors leave behind the modern world and enter 1816."

When you arrive, you'll be greeted by your host, Lucy Clark Croghan. Her house is decorated in a manner appropriate for the "country seat" of her husband, Major William Croghan, an important gentleman celebrated for his military activities during the Revolutionary War and honored for his services to his extended family, his community, his business associates.

You'll meet Lucy's famous older brother, General George Rogers Clark — Louisville's

founder and a hero of the Revolutionary War. He's now in residence at Locust Grove, following an accident that resulted in the amputation of his lower right leg.

And this year, for the first time, you'll meet Kitt — the enslaved African-American who was General Clark's constant attendant. "We are so pleased to be able to represent the enslaved population at Locust Grove," says Mary Beth. "The Croghans' slaves were an integral part of the functioning of the house and the farm."

As well, throughout the house, you'll have a chance to chat with other family members, children, neighbors and guests.

In the second-floor Great Parlor, live music awaits you, with occasional concerts by a talented neighbor. Some of the party may show off their dancing skills. And you're likely to be engaged in lively conversations with family members, neighbors, and guests.

Be sure to visit the hearth kitchen to see what the cook is making for dinner. You might even get to sample some of the delicious treats she is creating.

When you return to the Visitors' Center, it's back to 2013 —

where new activities and delights await you. "If any of the dances you saw in the house pique your interest, be sure to check out our corps of period dancers in the Visitors Center," advises Mary Beth. "They'll demonstrate some dances from the early 1800s, and you may learn a few of the dances yourself, if you wish."

This year, delightful storytellers will be on hand to capture your imagination. Children over three years old will have the opportunity to create their own holiday crafts from 6-8 p.m. both evenings. You might even try your hand at the very popular card game of the period called Whist. And, of course, there will be refreshments for all.

"With our new Christmastide, we hope to recreate the warmth and magic of the season in an early 19th century American home," adds Mary Beth. "Using first person interpretation, the costumed interpreters will entertain and educate our guests by bringing history to life before their eyes. This is the kind of tangible experience we cannot get from a book or on a screen."



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561 Blankenbaker Lane (502) 897-9845  
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www.locustgrove.org

The mission of Historic Locust Grove is to preserve and interpret the remaining 55-acres of William Croghan's estate, Locust Grove, with its circa 1792 house, outbuildings, collection and grounds as examples of early 19th-century frontier America, and to share the stories of the many people who contributed to the history of the site, emphasizing the experiences of George Rogers Clark, Revolutionary War hero and founder of Louisville.

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**Director's Letter** Carol Ely, Ph.D., *Executive Director – Historic Locust Grove*

Five years ago, we were deep in the research for the re-restoration and re-interpretation of the interior of William Croghan's 1790s mansion house. We combined research in letters, memoirs, and ledgers with the physical evidence from the house itself — paint colors, wallpaper scraps, nail holes and more. The updated version of the historic house was as close as we could get to the house that William and Lucy would have known.



Now, we've embarked on a similar process for the 55 acres remaining of Croghan's Locust Grove. It's a harder challenge.

At the start of our Master Plan process, a surveyor first correlated old and new maps and showed us where roads and structures were once located. Some of those paths and buildings probably related to later use of the site by others — but which ones? What could aerial photos tell us about where farm fields were located? Ornamental gardens? Fences? Old cisterns and strange depressions in the ground?

The archaeologists started their study with existing information. What had been surveyed, excavated, recorded since the 1960s? What did we know from oral histories, memories of neighbors, and interviews with the Thomas brothers? Did this answer any questions about the route of the roads, the source of the bricks, who dug the well? The archaeologists followed up by digging sample pits, looking for artifacts, walls, and foundations — any clues to layers of the past.

The staff searched for information from documents and from comparable historic landscapes and homes in our area. What do the Croghan letters tell us about what they grew, what they valued, what they ate, what they imported, how they gardened? What did the enslaved people do, and where did they live? What trees grew here, and which were useful around the farm and in constructing the house?

We still aren't sure where the slave dwellings were located, but we recently found a tantalizing clue in the subtle shifts in elevation and the lines of the trees near the main house. Did Locust Grove have its equivalent to Thomas Jefferson's Mulberry Row at Monticello?

We aren't sure where the main approach road from the river reached the house — but the very impressive stone wall on the west and south of the house is telling us something about how Croghan wanted his fine house to be seen. Locust Grove was a working farm, with all the smells and messiness this entails. But more than that, it was a gentleman's country seat, a place of classical symmetry and aspirations to beauty and order. How do we reconcile these? How did Croghan?

Our Master Plan, ready this winter, will give us some new directions for reading and interpreting this important landscape.

**Locust Grove's Master Plan Committee**

**Chair:** Kate Dalton Boyer.  
**Members:** Martha Berner, Ric Cusick, Carol Ely, John Hamilton, Gwynne Potts, Susan Reigler.  
**Consultants:** Corn Island Archaeology; Environs, Inc.; Gresham Smith; John Milner Associates; Solid Light

**First Wednesday Lecture Series**

*Our lecture series offers a variety of interesting speakers and unusual topics that relate to the lives of the Croghans, Clarks, and the region. Lectures are held on the first Wednesday of each month, except for January and May. Desserts and beverages are served at 1:00 p.m., with the lecture immediately following. Admission is \$5 — or \$3 for Friends of Locust Grove.*

**Bluegrass Renaissance: The Athens of the West**



**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1 PM**  
**Dr. James Klotter,** Kentucky state historian and professor of history at Georgetown College, will take us back to the era between Kentucky Statehood in 1792 and the death of Henry Clay in 1852. During those years, Lexington and its environs were often regarded as a place of culture and refinement that had grown out of its frontier roots. Yet the bright promise failed. Dr. Klotter has answers to how and why this happened



**Louisville Dulcimer Society: Music of the Season**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1 PM**  
The Audubon Room fills with the sounds of the season when the **Louisville Dulcimer Society** presents its annual holiday concert. Featured is Kentucky's official musical instrument — the Appalachian lap dulcimer — along with a banjo, hammered dulcimer, washtub bass, and more. It's a great way to kick off the holiday season. Be sure to arrive early to get your seat and enjoy the seasonal treats from the Lecture Ladies and Bakers.

**Special Tours: Death at Locust Grove**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 7 PM**  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 7 PM**  
Cholera, malaria, manic depression, asthma, and other dread diseases were all part of the Croghan family's medical history. Tour Locust Grove with historian and docent **Lynn Renau** as she talks about what "the good old days" really were like. Admission: \$10; \$7 for members and volunteers. *Space is limited; reservations are required.* Please call (502) 897-9845 to reserve.



**18th Century Market Fair**

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 & 27**  
*See story on back cover for details.*



**"Undressing the Historical Lady" Returns By Popular Demand!**

**OCTOBER 26 AND 27, 1 PM (BOTH DAYS) PORCH ON THE HOUSE**  
It was standing room only when costume interpreter and historical costuming expert **Maggie Waterman** presented her Regency Lady for September's First Wednesday Afternoon Lecture. As promised to the guests who had to be turned away, Maggie is returning for an new presentation

This time, she'll be "undressing" a lady from the late 18th century during Locust Grove's 18th Century Market Fair, Saturday and Sunday, October 26 and 27. She'll be revealing the layers and purposes of what a typical woman would have worn during the American Revolutionary War era. Please check Locust Grove's website in mid-October for the specific times of her lectures — which probably will be during the early afternoon on both days.

**Chamber Music Concerts**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 5:30 PM**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 5:30 PM**  
*See page 5 for details.*

**Locust Grove Holiday Sampler**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29**  
**CRAFT DEMONSTRATORS: NOON — 4 PM**

Spend the day after Thanksgiving exploring our region's heritage. We're open during our regular hours — 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Costumed demonstrators will be in the kitchen and woodshop from noon until 4:00 p.m. And you even can do holiday shopping in the museum store, with all items 20 percent off regular price. Even better, it's all included in the regular admissions price — \$8 for general admission, \$4 for children 6-12, free for children under 6 and for members.



**Museum Store Holiday Sale**

**FRIDAY, NOV. 29 — SUNDAY, DEC. 8**  
**DURING REGULAR VISITORS' CENTER HOURS**

For special Christmas gifts without traffic hassles, visit our museum store. **For 10 days after Thanksgiving, you'll receive a 20-percent discount on all purchases.** The museum store carries a wide array of books, toys, stationary and Kentucky-made products. The museum store is open Monday thru Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Sundays, 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Christmastide** *NEW EVENT!*

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 5:30 PM — 9 PM**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 4 PM — 9 PM**  
*See front page story for details.*

## Great Parlor Ready for Artist to Paint Lucy's Portrait

Step into Locust Grove's Great Parlor and travel back to November 1820. That's when William and Lucy Croghan had their portraits painted by noted artist John Wesley Jarvis—most likely in Locust Grove's second-floor parlor.

John Wesley Jarvis (1780-1840) from Philadelphia was a well-known portrait painter and engraver. After receiving the commission to paint the Croghans, Jarvis and his apprentice, Henry Inman, traveled to Louisville with William and Lucy's second son, George Croghan. They took the newly completed road to Wheeling, W. Va., and completed their journey to Louisville via the Ohio River. Jarvis and Inman most likely stayed with the Croghans while they were in the process of painting the portraits.

Locust Grove Summer Intern **Kaitlyn Markert** curated this exhibit. Kaitlyn had a photo of William's portrait printed on canvas for this exhibit. It's on the settee as if it had just been completed.

Around the room are other items that would have been used by the artist and his apprentice:

- ✦ Lacy collar and cap, ready for Lucy to don for her painting session.
- ✦ The easel, which closely resembles those used in the 18th and 19th centuries. The canvas on the easel is blank, as if Jarvis is preparing the canvas for Lucy's portrait.
- ✦ Jars of various sizes. Since Jarvis and Inman would have created their own paints, the larger jars would contain binder and thinner; the smaller jars, the various elements used to create the paint colors. Pigments often came from plants, herbs, rocks/minerals, and even chemicals.



- ✦ Mortar and pestle for grinding pigment elements to mix with binder and thinner to make the oil paint pastes. Pigments would have included charcoal (for black); chalk, zinc oxide, gypsum or lead (for white); iron oxide (red); dried cow urine, cadmium, or lead chromate (yellow); madder root, various grasses, or the very poisonous copper aceto-arsenite (green); and cobalt oxide combined with phosphorus (for many shades of blue).
- ✦ A palette, brushes, and trowels for applying the oil paints.
- ✦ A wooden case to hold the artist's supplies.

## It Was A Busy Summer, Indeed



**Biggest Used Book Sale to date!**

The hunt is on! And there were hundreds of successful hunters at the Used Book Sale the last weekend in August. We had more than 21,000 books for sale—sorted and priced to sell. It was the best Used Book Sale to date, earning some \$14,000 for Locust Grove's educational and interpretation programs.

### Picnic with Children's Museum

Locust Grove teamed up with Louisville Children's Museum for a Sunday picnic at the Grove. Visitors could create their own T-shirts, the Louisville Leopard Percussion Band entertained, the house was open for tours, and families could picnic on the lawn—either with food brought from home or purchased from food trucks and vendors.



**'George Croghan: Fallen Hero'**

For six weeks this summer, a special exhibit on Col. George Croghan, Lucy and William's second son, gave visitors insights into this hero of the War of 1812. Through artifacts and memorabilia, we learned how the young Croghan's brilliant military career was followed by years of failure—and how his family was always available for support.

### George Croghan Day

**Brian Cushing**, reenactor and curator of the "George Croghan: Fallen Hero" exhibit, portrayed Col. George Croghan returning to Locust Grove in 1813 to celebrate his victorious defense of Fort Stephenson against attack by British forces. On August 3, Brian as George Croghan regaled visitors with stories of his exploits of war on the frontier.



## 2013–2014 EMILIE STRONG SMITH CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

Concerts featuring Locust Grove's 1806 Broadwood Fortepiano, a visit from a noted harpist, and a concert by the Kentucky Center Chamber Players are some of the highlights of this season's Emilie Strong Smith Chamber Music Series at Locust Grove. The concert series celebrates its 30th anniversary this season.



Chamber Music Concert organizer Bill Bauer (right) is joined by Lori Getty and Jim Oxyer for a concert in 2013.

The chamber music series allows you to experience music much as the Croghans and Clarks would have. The first three concerts of the season will be held in the historic house. Refreshments are served downstairs at 5:00 p.m.; the concerts begin at 5:30 p.m. in the second-floor Great Parlor. The last concert of the season in April will be held in the Visitors' Center's Audubon Room.

Season's subscriptions are available. Seating is limited, so order now! Patron, \$200; Supporter, \$100; Season Subscriber, \$65. Individual tickets for each concert are \$20 each. Call (502) 897-9845 for information or to purchase season tickets.

### Musical for an Autumn Afternoon

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3**  
REFRESHMENTS, 5 PM; CONCERT, 5:30 PM  
VISITORS' CENTER

The Locust Grove Chamber Musicians will play a cheerful mix of Celtic and pioneer-era Kentucky favorites on strings and fortepiano. It will feature music by Niel Gow, Andrew Oswald, Turlough O'Carolan, and Stephen Foster.

### Christmas During the War of 1812

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**  
REFRESHMENTS, 5 PM; CONCERT, 5:30 PM

The War of 1812 lasted until 1814 and included two Christmas seasons. The Locust Grove Chamber Musicians present a program from that era, with reflections on what the Christmas season was like on the banks of the Ohio in frontier Kentucky

### Tartine de Beurre

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23**  
REFRESHMENTS, 5 PM; CONCERT, 5:30 PM

This is an evening with **Paula Fagerburg**, one of the foremost exponents of the historic harp. Lively and irrepressible, she will treat us to a concert in honor of Serena Livingston Croghan, who is pictured with her harp in the lovely portrait at Locust Grove. Includes music of Rossi, Galilei, Caroso, Mozart, and others

### Kentucky Center Chamber Players

**SUNDAY, APRIL 13**  
REFRESHMENTS, 5 PM; CONCERT, 5:30 PM

The Kentucky Center Chamber Players perform music from Saint-Saens, Thompson, and Faure. *NOTE: This concert will be held in the Audubon Room of the Visitors' Center.*

## Locust Grove Camps Make Learning Fun



Kids at Locust Grove's two camps this summer may have come for the fun, but left with insights into early American life and a new-found appreciation for what goes into making paper and books.

### The week-long "Nature Camp,"

created with the Jefferson County Memorial Forest, helped campers discover what life was like on the frontier. They heard from a "settler," whose expertise with a gun was crucial to his survival ... tracked "wild animals" in Locust Grove's woods ... experienced Native American hunting and survival techniques ... cooked over a hearth fire ... and made other discoveries that took the campers back to the early 1800s.

### The two-day "Craft Camp" focused

on techniques required to make a book—from making paper to decorating it to creating the cover, printing, and binding. At the end of the two days, they took home a book that they had created.





## Spirit Award Winner: Bill Bauer

**THE YEAR:** 1983

**THE SITE:** The Louisville home of **Emilie Strong Smith**, accompanied by **Susan Riegler**.

**THE PURPOSE:** Start a chamber music concert series to be held in Locust Grove's Great Parlor.

**THE CLINCHER:** A basket of **Emmy Smith's** warm, homemade blackberry muffins.

And for 30 years, the Emilie Strong Smith Chamber Music Concert Series at Locust Grove has grown and thrived — thanks to the enterprise and talents of this quarter's Spirit Award winner, **Bill Bauer**.

For three decades, Bill has been coordinating our concerts — determining the dates, working with Locust Grove to choose the themes, and finding the musicians for the four concerts in each season. Bill tries to be a part of at least one concert each season — and often more.

"The music is designed to be what the Croghans *could* have heard while living in the house," explains Bill. "We focus on music from 1600 to 1840, concentrating on the period from the French and Indian War to 1830, with a few exceptions."

One of the musical treasures at Locust Grove is the 1806 Broadwood fortepiano, which is often played during the concerts. For some 20 years, Bill has been the one to tune the fortepiano and make sure it is in perfect working order.

Bill began his professional musical career at age 14, when hired to play in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*. He was with the Louisville Orchestra for 20 years, and now travels internationally, leading and participating in concerts and recordings on period instruments.

He's a professor of music at Webster University in St. Louis, where he now lives. And he's currently performing with two groups in Chicago and will appear in Washington and Boston in the coming months.

Locust Grove's Program Director **Mary Beth Williams** says the series would not be the same without Bill.

"Bill's knowledge and passion for early music allows us to bring in excellent musicians to perform for us in a true chamber setting," she says.

Bill is grateful that he accepted the challenge of creating the series. "Emmy Smith always said she thought the house truly came alive when there was chamber music in the ballroom.

"I am not wealthy," he adds, "nor do I have a lot of leisure time. So the fact that I can serve this living historic site, this national treasure, gratifies me like none of my other endeavors."

It gratifies all of the concert-goers, too. Thank you, Bill.



## WINTER 2014 ACTIVITIES

### Historical Ball

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 7 PM — 10 PM VISITORS' CENTER AUDUBON ROOM**

Celebrate winter with a dance for all ages! Dress in period clothes from the era of your choice -- ancient Rome, Elizabethan, Revolutionary or Civil Wars, Regency, and even "Downton Abbey." To help you with the dances, there will be a free dance practice offered on the day of the ball at Locust Grove. The Historical Ball will feature live music, with dances called by Tom & Toni Tumbush from Cincinnati, Ohio. His Lordship's Beef of Madison, Ind., will provide light refreshments, wine and ale for purchase.

### First Wednesday Lecture

#### Undressing the Croghan Men

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2014, 1 PM**

In September, we learned about ladies' attire during the Regency era. Now, join Locust Grove docent and historical reenactor

**Brian Cushing** to get a detailed look at male fashions during the early 1800s — clothing

similar to what the first two generations of Croghans would have worn. Brian will examine the fashions themselves, how they evolved, and how and why the garments looked and functioned the way they did. (Suitable for all audiences.)



### Miniatures on Display



**FEBRUARY 8 — FEBRUARY 15 VISITORS' CENTER AUDUBON ROOM**

The Louisville Miniature Club, which oversaw the restoration of the Locust Grove dollhouse, will display dollhouses and other miniature worlds created by their members. Stop by the Visitors' Center during regular operating hours to marvel at the intricacy and skill evident in these charming miniature scenes.

## Friends of Locust Grove

### Enrollment/Renewal from July 1 through September 15, 2013

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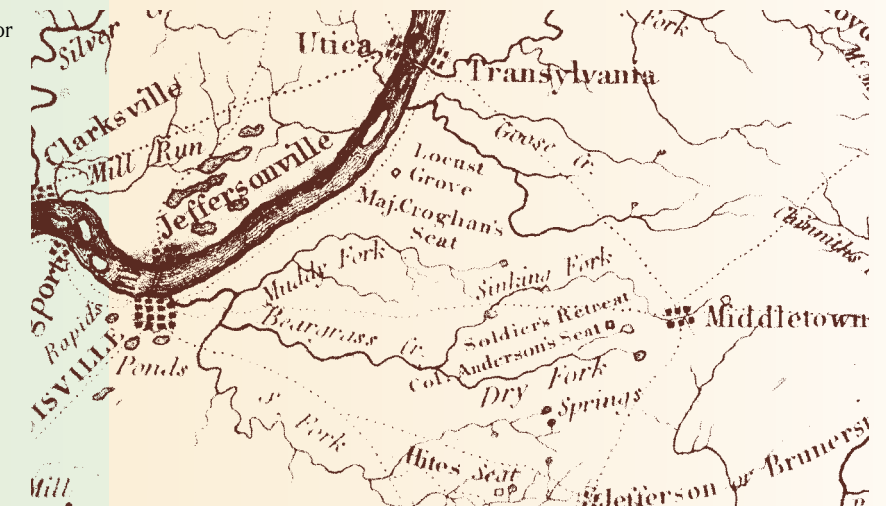
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### Annual Fund Societies

**Illinois Regiment Society (\$250-\$999)**  
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Berry  
Alba B. Jennings  
Anne Pope  
Betsy Wall  
Jill Whitten





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## Tenth Annual 18th Century Market Fair

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 AND 27  
10:00 AM — 4:30 PM, BOTH DAYS**

It's the 10th year for Locust Grove's 18th Century Market Fair, and the thrills continue! The **Amazing Budabi Brothers** will be tossing their flaming torches to each other. **Commonstock**, with their hobby horse costumes and puppets, will make you laugh. **Lisette LeFoux** will ply her Tarot cards to predict your future. **Silas Moore** will be delighted to show you the rat he caught, and **Maggie Delaney** will be slaving away at her huge, cast-iron washtub.

**Rod Smothers** will be breaking flax to prepare it for spinning the fibers into linen thread.

And **Hen House Forge** will demonstrate the skill and strength it takes to be a blacksmith.

Of course, British, American, Hessian, and Scottish soldiers and their families will be camping on the grounds, ready to show you what soldiering is all about — including mock battles filled with noise, guns, cannons, and lots of smoke. Merchants and food vendors will tempt with goods and treats that are hard to resist. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6–12, and free for children 5 and under. Admission includes a tour of the historic house museum and is good for both days of the fair.



HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE

**GROVE GAZETTE**