Summer Interns — Added Value For Locust Grove and For Students

One of the best aspects of summer at Locust Grove is the arrival of summer interns. Interns bring inquisitiveness, ideas, and enthusiasm. “And they help lift us to another level by tackling opportunities that Locust Grove’s staff just can’t explore in the running of a busy historic site,” says HLG Executive Director Carol Ely.

Three of Locust Grove’s current staff started as interns here — and proved their value so effectively that Locust Grove couldn’t wait to find a way to hire them: Mary Beth Williams, curator of collections and education, was an intern a few years ago from the University of Louisville. She envisioned Locust Grove’s current collections storage area. Brian Cushing, program director, designed and built a temporary exhibit, George Croghan: Fallen Hero, about the difficult second son of the Croghan family. Hannah Zimmerman, now Locust Grove’s part-time digital communications manager, researched and developed plans for Locust Grove’s Dairy, leading to its renovation.

Other valuable research and interpretative projects done by former Locust Grove interns include a museum theatre presentation on slave life by Tiffany Caesar — “who we wish still lived nearby,” says Carol. Recent intern Kaitlyn Market was so skilled at creating an archives for Locust Grove’s historical documents that her summer internship stretched into a consultancy that lasted more than a year.

Locust Grove’s interns are selected to work on specific projects. “This year, we are fortunate to have three interns working on a wide variety of projects,” says Mary Beth Williams, who oversees the work of the interns. “Our three interns are eminently qualified and highly skilled,” she adds. “We’re thrilled to have them with us this summer.”

Carl Creason — B.A. from Murray State and M.A. from University of Louisville; begins doctoral work in History at Northwestern University this fall. He also taught high school history for a couple of years in western Kentucky.

Carl is working with the Cultural Landscape Plan Task Force to research and map the history of Locust Grove’s original 700 acres. He is compiling fragments of information from physical remains on the land and from documents, photographs, and archaeological sources to create a picture of how Locust Grove has changed over the last two centuries.

“I hope that my research will provide a comprehensive report of what we currently know about the original 700 acres and how the Croghan family utilized the land for farming and other activities,” says Carl. “Personally, I’m learning about the settlement of Kentucky and Louisville from my own reading and from the incredibly knowledgeable staff and volunteers at Locust Grove.”

Hannah McAuley — B.A. from University of Mary Washington (Va.); is pursuing Masters in Museum Studies from the University of Oklahoma. She also works at The Speed Museum.

Hannah’s internship officially starts this fall, but she’s begun training as a docent while taking a Master’s-level course on house museums this summer. “It’s been really helpful to see in real life many of the topics I’m learning about in the course,” she says. Hannah will be working on a myriad of collections management projects, including recording artifacts and putting them into the collection, organizing the storage, and updating the cataloging database.

“I’m excited to experience how collections works within a house museum,” Hannah adds. “This knowledge will be invaluable to me as I pursue a career as a Registrar or Collections Manager in either a history or an art museum.”

Jasmine Wigginton — B.A. from University of Louisville this December. Will work in Americorps for a year before pursuing a Master’s degree.

Jasmine’s focus is the smokehouse, an original outbuilding at Locust Grove. She will examine the process and tools used for smoking and curing meat in early Kentucky as well as the diet of the Croghan family and their enslaved workers. Jasmine’s findings will allow us to improve the interpretation of the smokehouse and to better illustrate the process of preserving meat.

“I’m excited to learn about museum interpretation and how research can be used to create an interactive experience for visitors,” says Jasmine. “And also to be a part of the daily life in a house museum — being a docent, planning events, field trips, lectures, and interactions between volunteers and staff.”
**Director's Letter** Carol Ely, Ph.D.

$225,000!

We’re delighted to announce that the historic 18th century house of Locust Grove — began 225 years ago — will get needed structural reinforcement this year, thanks to an allocation in Metro Louisville’s 2016-17 budget.

We received this allocation thanks to the diligent planning and activism of the Historic Locust Grove Board and the invaluable support of our friends at Metro Parks. Our Metro Councilmembers, Kelly Downard and Angela Leet, were invaluable advocates for Locust Grove.

Several years ago, HLG commissioned detailed engineering studies of the building. This resulted in a plan to reinforce and protect the 250-year-old structure. The Metro Council gave us funds to create blueprints and consult with experts on options. This new $225,000 funding will allow us to tie the east and west gable end walls into the wooden frame structure — and link to the opposite sides of the building with tie rods, preventing future deformations of the walls. In one sense, it’s simple, it yet needs to be done with great delicacy in order to protect the historic materials of the house.

The next steps will include reporting and sealing cracks in the masonry, a new roof (the current one dates from the 1960s), and possibly other work to seal the foundation. None of these next steps is an emergency, but all of it is urgent to protect the existing structure and its contents from the challenges of time and weather.

The schedule of the work is in progress and may require the house to visitors. We’ll keep you informed. Many thanks to all who made this possible!

P.S. Many kind people have asked about my plan to see the musical *Hamilton*, which I wrote about in a previous Grove Gazette. I saw it in June with the original cast — and it was great! Did it give me ideas for Locust Grove? Of course! *AlumWusiers*. Wait for it.

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**Historic Locust Grove Board News**

We sincerely thank outgoing Board members Robert Vice and Vickie Yates Brown for their service. And we extend a warm welcome to new board member Shawn Clark.

Shawn is a partner at Accredited Wealth Management, which he helped to found in 2014 after working with Commonwealth Bank’s trust department. Shawn has already helped us with our Used Book Sales by obtaining a truck and people to move books and has volunteered for some of our weekend festival events.

Kate Boyer has finished her two-year term as Board President and now takes on a vice presidential role. Chris Green has now become Board President. Chris first came to us when his accounting firm was hired to do our annual audit. He became so attached to Locust Grove that when he moved on to found Emerald Advisors Group LLC, he joined our Board. He has served as the Treasurer since 2012, helping to create stronger financial reporting and budgeting for the organization.

The new Treasurer is James Statler, an accountant, who also serves as chair of the Advancement Committee.

**Preston Thomas** steps down as Board Secretary, replaced by Mark Gaston, an attorney and longtime member and volunteer of the Locust Grove Board.

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**Summertime at Locust Grove**

At the Kentucky Shakespeare summer camp in June, Locust Grove costumed interpreter and intern Amy Liebert tells campers all about the clothing that was worn some 200 years ago.

That same week, representatives with Kentucky Hempsters talked about the progress of a bill in Congress to remove all federal restrictions on the cultivation of industrial hemp and described the many benefits of industrial hemp.

It was an off-and-on rainy Independence Day, but that didn’t stop some 500 visitors coming to Locust Grove — with free admission, a chance to hear the Declaration of Independence read aloud, and to buy some “summer reading” used books.

Every Tuesday during the summer we’re once again offering Cultural Pass children and adults a chance to step back to 1816 and talk with the members of the Clark and Croghan families and play 19th century games.

**“George on the Go” — Locust Grove’s Man About Town**

“Hey look, it’s George Washington!” Actually, it’s another George — Rogers Clark. And he’s really getting around these days.

Last fall, Locust Grove launched a new outreach program dubbed “George on the Go.” This program takes a cardboard cutout of Louisville founder, Revolutionary War hero, and distinguished Locust Grove resident, General George Rogers Clark to historic sites, attractions, and events around Louisville.

“We’re re-creating George to Louisville and spreading the word about Locust Grove,” says General George Rogers Clark to historic sites, attractions, and events around Louisville.

“We’re re-creating George to Louisville and spreading the word about Locust Grove,” says General George Rogers Clark to historic sites, attractions, and events around Louisville.

“George on the Go” exists in his lifetime. Plus he’s an excellent co-pilot in my tiny car.

“George looked for a lady friend at the Austin Society last fall, and even surprised a couple taking wedding photos on the Big Four Bridge,” laughs Hannah.

“Everyone wants to take a picture with George. And I make sure they always hear his story,” laughs Hannah.

Want to join in George’s adventures? Email Hannah at hannah@locustgrove.org or follow the tag “George on the Go” on Facebook.
Croghan household at Locust Grove. Aging warrior brother-in-law George Rogers to the shelter of the large sister, solidified his position in society and eventually brought his American frontier. Croghan's marriage to Lucy Clark, George Rogers' deputy surveyor of Lafayette. After the war, Croghan became with George Washington and the Marquis spent the winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge. Wednesday, November 2, 1 pm
Major William Croghan: Irish Warrior brings Jemima Boone to life for us at this Wednesday, September 7, 1 pm
Jemima Boone — Life on the Frontier, 1762-1834
Jemima was 14 and living with her family in Kentucky; she and two other girls were kidnapped by a group of Native Americans when the girls’ canoe drifted across the Kentucky River. After three days in captivity, Daniel and his friends rescued the three girls unharmed. You’ll hear this and many other dramatic stories about Jemima Boone when Kentucky Humanities Council historian, Betsy Smith brings Jemima Boone to life for us at this lecture. This program is underwritten in part by the Kentucky Humanities Council.

Wednesday, October 5, 1 pm
Brian Goode, volcanologist, brings the summer of 1816 — “The year without a summer.” A volcanic eruption in Indonesia disrupted weather patterns worldwide for months, and the cold summer led to famine, food riots, and one of the worst typhus epidemics in history. And few in the 19th century realized that events on the far side of the world could cause such global climate change.

Major William Croghan: Irish Warrior
Locust Grove’s long-time champion, historian, and writer Gwynne Potts brings us a fascinating look at the life of Locust Grove’s builder/owner, Major William Croghan. An Irish immigrant, Croghan fought in the Revolutionary War at Trenton and spent the winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge with George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette. After the war, Croghan became George Rogers Clark’s deputy surveyor of military lands for the Virginia State Line — enabling Croghan to acquire some 54,000 acres on the edge of the American frontier. Croghan’s marriage to Lucy Clark, George Rogers’ sister, solidified his position in society and eventually brought his aging warrior brother-in-law George Rogers to the shelter of the large Croghan household at Locust Grove.

Locust Grove — a perfect melding of worlds. Light during the same years the Croghans were living at Frankenstein — Shelley wrote and published during the years the Croghans were living at Locust Grove. Admission: $8 adults; free for ages 12 and under. Proceeds support the continued operation and preservation of Locust Grove. Admission: $8 adults, free for ages 12 and under.

Locust Grove’s Emile Strong Smith Chamber Music Series offers concertgoers a unique opportunity. Performances delight in music that the Clarks and Croghans would have heard in the room where they most likely would have enjoyed it — the second floor Great Parlor of the historic house. Refreshments are at 5:00 p.m.; the concert begins at 5:30 p.m.

The theme of the 2016-2017 “A Season of Literary Propriety” season subscriptions may be purchased by calling Locust Grove at (502) 879-9845. Categories are Patron, $200; Supporter, $100; and Subscriber, $50. Individual concerts are $20 each. We hope you’ll join us.

Mr. Thoreau’s Flute
Locust Grove Chamber Musicians channel “On Walden Pond” as they play selections of author Henry David Thoreau’s favorite music.

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Enrollment & Renewal from April 1 through June 30, 2016
MAY THANKS TO ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT LOCUST GROVE THROUGH VARIOUS KINDS OF DONATIONS, WE DEPEND UPON AND DEEPLY APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROSITY AND INVESTMENT.

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Thanks to Our Recent Donors

Grove Family Society ($500–$599)
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Mr. & Mrs. Guthrie L. Zaring
Mr. & Mrs. Guthrie L. Zaring

Historic Locust Grove from April 1
through June 30, 2016

Spirit Award Winner: Pascalle Ballard
Two years ago while attending the June Austen Festival, Pascalle Ballard found herself admiring Locust Grove’s gardens. “I thought that whoever takes care of them could probably use a hand. I didn’t know anyone at Locust Grove, so that was pretty nervy of me.”

“Nervy, no, fabulous, yes!” exclaims Locust Grove’s Gardener Sarah Sutherland. “And now I know that Pascalle is willing to do or try almost anything. And she’s not fazed at all by the weeding necessary to keep the plants from drowning in a green tide!”

For those and many other reasons, Pascalle has been named this quarter’s “Spirit Award Winner.”

“I live in an older neighborhood surrounded by industry, so my time in Locust Grove’s gardens is my battery-recharge, greenery time,” says Pascalle. “One of my best memories is spending a perfect fall day with them. I was afraid Pascalle wouldn’t be back,” says Sarah. But she was — and with her huge smile and great attitude. She’s the one who gave me the idea to purchase the benches. And she’s not afraid to tackle something different — “Show me which ones!”

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Pascalle (and Sarah!) would love to have more garden volunteers. “There are enough weeds to go around,” Pascalle jokes, “so slap on some SPF and get out in the fresh air!” But it’s more than weeds. Pascalle says she loves working with plants like the Croghans would have had here then. “No matter what the same type of plant, try the same kind of apple, smell the black walnuts that would have been here then. It’s pretty exciting.”

It also can be “exciting” — like the time she mowed over a nest of yellow jackets. “I was afraid Pascalle wouldn’t be back,” says Sarah. But she was — and with her huge smile and great attitude. Muck out the springhouse — “Will I need boots or hip waders?”

Help out with Locust Grove’s booth at the Gardener’s Fair — “Love it!” Hang greenery for Christmastide — “What fun!” Prune some trees? — “Show me which ones!”

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Sarah adds that she hopes human cloning becomes legal in the near future. “And then I and my army of Pascalles will really set down roots!”

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want to volunteer? Call (502) 897-9845 and ask for Sarah. She’ll love hearing from you.

Backstage at Locust Grove’s Used Book Sales

Most people arriving at our Used Book Sales are amazed at the organization and ease of shopping. And we agree — Locust Grove’s Used Book Sales are the best organized book sales you’ll ever visit.

So, how does a book get from donation to the sale table? It’s actually a year-long process:

Books arrive all year at the Visitors’ Center. In some circumstances, we can pick them up from donors. Donors get a tax receipt.

Our book expert, Harvey Venier, gives a first review of every book we receive — sorting by category for “marking up,” or for pulping books in poor condition.

Unsorted books stay in our back hallway awaiting a “big sort” by our trained book sale volunteers. Some volunteers and workers unpack and arrange books, others make and post signs. Some 20,000 books will find happy new homes.

Over the course of three days, Before the sale starts, eager book buyers line up for an hour or more. Then the bargains begin! Over the course of three days, the books will find happy new homes.

And then we start again. If you would like to volunteer for any of the used book sales, contact Locust Grove’s Executive Director Carol Ely at cel@locustgrove.org, and we’ll be in touch.

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Summer Used Book Sale

MEMBERS’ PREVIEW SALE:
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 5 PM – 7:30 PM

PUBLIC SALE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 10 AM – 7 PM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY, AUGUST 20 & 21, 10 AM – 4:30 PM

18th Century Market Fair — OCTOBER 24 AND 25 10 AM – 4:30 PM BOTH DAYS

The past comes alive during Locust Grove’s 18th Century Market Fair. It’s a fabulous fall festival with something for the entire family. Chat with soldiers and families, watch mock battles, buy foods and goods, see a pony cart, sheep, and horses, applaud entertainers. And relish the season. Admission for adults is $8 and children $4. Spend the day — it’ll be hard to leave!