

HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE GROVE GAZETTE



Locust Grove's Used Book Sales Celebrate 10 Years!

Who could have predicted in 2005 that Locust Grove's first "Used Book Sale" would become so important to us?

With a simple "Hey kids, let's put on a book sale!," The word got out and the books rolled in. That first year in March 2005, we were amazed to sell \$3,000 worth of books with the help of enthusiastic volunteers. The funding gave a boost to our school programs.

But then we had a problem. A good problem, but still a problem. A long-time supporter of Locust Grove gave us some very valuable books. We called for help.

Book dealer **Richard Young** evaluated the books and found buyers for some of them that were just too valuable to put on the \$2 tables. One volume of exquisitely illustrated and bound poems by Oscar Wilde brought in \$1,100 all by itself. Thus our "special" section for donated antiquarian, rare, and fine books was born.

Two other good problems arose. Books are **heavy**. Books are **bulky**. We had to find off-site storage. Thanks to a generous nearby neighbor who offered her garage, we now have it.

Once people learned they could donate books and get a tax deduction, we were inundated. In 2006, a huge last-minute donation left us with a mountain of unboxed, unstacked, terrific books on the floor of the auditorium just before the sale. We barely finished sorting them into categories by the time the doors opened.

Enter expert book appraiser **Charles Bartman**, the region's top authority, who stepped in to help in so many ways. He has given countless hours of time and expertise; and, with his direction, the book sale took off.

Soon, our Used Book Sale became two per year — the first weekend in March and the end of August. These sprouted subsidiaries at other events such as our semi-annual Antiques Markets.

Now we sort our books by category into boxes soon after they arrive. We couldn't do so without expert sorting and analysis assistance from **Bonnie Bartman** and **Harvey Venier**, along with Richard Young. And two excellent volunteers — **Nina Ayres**

and **Jane Smith** — sort books every Monday, the year 'round.

Now, when the sale set-up begins, we're moving sorted boxes not individual books. Thanks to all of our loyal and enthusiastic volunteers, led by **Lynn Boone**, we have the person-power to stage the best-organized used book sale in the region.

The financial benefit of our sales is tremendous for our education and outreach programs, including bus subsidies to allow all



First book sale, March 2005

schools to take advantage of a visit to the site. Proceeds have increased over the decade and now support all of our programs.

But wait, there's more. Our hidden agenda now can be revealed — to get folks to come to Locust Grove. When they see that we're a great resource for the community, they become loyal Locust Grove fans.

And, oh, the joy of all the excited book buyers who line up before the doors open to rush the room seeking treasures. We now have stronger relationships with donors and lovers of books, who often love history as well.

What's more, we've spied and diverted numerous books that are significant to our site for our research library and archive. And a few donated books from the 18th and 19th centuries are now on display in the historic house.

As we prepare for our 10th year of Used Book Sales, we are grateful to all our book donors, our volunteers, and the book buyers. So many books, so little time, so much fun.

Grove Gazette is published quarterly by Historic Locust Grove, Inc. for members, volunteers and supporters of Historic Locust Grove. © 2014
 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*

William Croghan could not have chosen this site for Locust Grove without one essential resource — water.

This plateau above the Ohio River is richly watered with streams running through ravines to the wide river itself. Croghan dug a 40-foot well just to the east of the house itself, handy to the kitchen.



But the property's spring, northeast and downhill from the main house, was also essential for watering the livestock and providing a year-round flow through Croghan's stone springhouse.

The spring still flows, more than 200 years later, though somewhat diminished due to changes in the local topography. The valley that runs due north and south from Blankenbaker Lane to the Locust Grove springhouse becomes a visible stream in very wet weather, but it has been compromised by considerable landfill. The watershed that was once meadow or planted field, south of the house and Blankenbaker Lane, is now the suburban houses and yards of Riverwood.

On an early Kentucky farm, the springhouse was eternally cool, designed so the spring water flowed through the foundation and chilled dairy and produce until they could be processed in more enduring forms.

Locust Grove's current springhouse is a reproduction, built on a foundation excavated in the late 1960s by archaeologists. The remnants of the stepped dipping pool on the south side of the building remained and can be viewed today. The current stone structure design was based on local examples of the period.

In recent years, sediment had blocked the stream's flow, invasive plants and damaged trees surrounded and hid the structure, and rot and squirrels damaged the wooden roof cornice.

We're pleased to say that with the help of generous donors, a skilled craftsman, and a lot of pure sweat, the springhouse has a new lease on life and is again ready to be part of the experience and the story of Locust Grove. Our **Grounds Committee** deserves the credit for pushing this project forward and raising funds to accomplish the task.

The invasive bush honeysuckle was cut and killed with the aid of contractors, and Locust Grove grounds staff and volunteers have faithfully pulled out new shoots of the honeysuckle while nurturing seeds of grasses and native plants. **Metro Parks' Forestry Division** removed some of the larger trees that had been damaged by storms years ago but remained as obstacles to the stream.

Carpenter **William Rollins** reconstructed the squirrel-chewed cornice with new wood. Over the next few years, we'll observe the flow and health of the stream bed and see if additional measures are needed to fully restore the area.

Locust Grove's 55 acres include 13 buildings, all of which require care, maintenance, and attention to their role in our understanding of the site. It's a pleasure to enjoy the renewed springhouse, a lovely spot now accessible again.

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.

Historic Houses of Louisville

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1 PM



Join us as local architect and historian **Steve Wiser**, AIA, talks about the individuals and events connected to many of Louisville's historic homes featured in his new book,

Historic Houses of Louisville. He'll talk about homes such as Locust Grove, Oxmoor, the Zachary Taylor House, Soldier's Retreat, Culbertson Mansion, George Rogers Clark's cabin, and Farmington — and how they represent the overall history of Louisville.

Steve Wiser is the author of several other local architecture/history books including: *Distinctive Houses of Louisville* and *Modern Houses of Louisville*.

Chairs to Sugar Chests: Furniture in Early Kentucky Households

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1 PM



One of Locust Grove's treasured antiques is the sugar chest found in the dining room of our historic house. Join us as historian and early Kentucky furniture expert **Marianne**

Ramsey introduces us to sugar chests and other early Kentucky furniture. A professor emeritus from Eastern Kentucky University, she will illustrate the variety of items used in early households, from seating furniture to storage. She'll talk about the influences affecting furniture design and give an overview of the craftsmen working in Kentucky — their origins, their early training, and how they developed and spread the furniture styles associated with early Kentucky.



Spring Used Book Sale

→ **New! Extended Friday Hours!** ←

Members' Only Preview:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 5 PM— 7:30 PM

Open to the Public:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 10 AM — 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 10 AM — 4:30 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 10 AM — 4:30 PM

It's the 10th year for this popular and highly anticipated event. We have thousands of books, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks, even some vinyl records waiting for you to discover them. Now we'll stay open until 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening so you can stop by after school or work. See you there!



(See stories on front and back covers.)

18th Century Thunder — A Revolutionary War Encampment

SATURDAY, APRIL 12 AND SUNDAY, APRIL 13
 10 AM — 4:30 PM BOTH DAYS

This year, admission to the encampment grounds is free. House tours will be given at the usual tour prices and times.

Volunteers representing General George Rogers Clark's troops from the Northwest Campaign of the Revolutionary War will re-enact life in a military camp during this two-day event.

The soldiers, along with their families and "camp followers," will be living on the grounds at Locust Grove much the way they would have during the American Revolution — sleeping in tents, cooking over open fires, performing drills, looking for recruits, and fighting battles.

Visitors are invited to spend time with the troops, chat with the soldiers and their families, and see what life was like for a soldier in the American Revolution.

Locust Grove will not have a concession stand this year, so feel free to bring a picnic to enjoy on the grounds. And there always are snacks and cold drinks for sale in the Museum Store.

Emilie Strong Smith Chamber Music Series

The Emilie Strong Smith Chamber Music Series allows you to experience music much as the Croghans and Clarks would have. The concerts begin at 5:30 p.m. with light refreshments starting at 5:00 p.m. Individual concert tickets are \$20 each. Call (502) 897-9845 for information or to purchase tickets.

Tartine de Beurre

SUNDAY, MARCH 23
 REFRESHMENTS, 5 PM; CONCERT, 5:30 PM
 GREAT PARLOR, SECOND FLOOR OF HOUSE

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 in Locust Grove's first-floor parlor. Includes music of Rossi, Galilei, Caroso, Mozart, and others.

The Plucked Corde

SUNDAY, APRIL 13
 REFRESHMENTS, 5 PM; CONCERT, 5:30 PM
 AUDUBON ROOM IN THE VISITORS CENTER

The Kentucky Center Chamber Players are known for their repertoire ranging from standard chamber music literature to less familiar works by composers from the Classical Period to the 21st century. This afternoon, they will perform music from Saint-Saens, Thompson, and Faure.

Big Changes In Store for Locust Grove's Annual Gardeners' Fair in May



Heads up! There are some changes slated for Locust Grove's popular Gardeners' Fair this May.

The Gardeners' Fair committee has been hard at work since last year's event — studying attendance numbers for the three days of the fair, reviewing procedures, figuring out the feasibility of events, and analyzing costs as compared to income.

This exhaustive study has brought about the committee's first change — saying goodbye to the Mother's Day brunch. "The brunch was a much-loved event, but it just is not financially feasible any more," says **Carol Ely**, HLG executive director. "The cost of setting up a restaurant for only one day has become so high, we would have to price the brunch beyond what people could be asked to pay.

"We're letting our loyal fans know of this change now so they can make other brunch plans," Carol adds. "We hope all will continue the Mother's Day tradition of coming to the Gardeners' Fair, which still includes the very popular Silent Auction."

Which leads to another change. Without the brunch, the Audubon Room in the Visitors Center becomes available for the weekend. So the Silent Auction moves from under a canopy on the patio into the auditorium — free from weather worries. Also in the Audubon Room will be a special Gardeners' Book Fair — featuring different, practical, and beautiful gardening books for your library.

And there's more exciting news! The Gardeners' Fair committee is creating a Silent Auction Preview Party the Thursday evening before the fair's Friday opening. At this special party, with hors d'oeuvres and drinks, attendees can be the first to purchase auction items at the "Buy It Now" price, as well as post bids. There will be enticing surprises throughout the evening to add to the excitement.

Details about the Silent Auction Preview Party and the intriguing surprises are still being settled. Information on the new Gardeners' Fair, Preview Party, and Silent Auction will be out in plenty of time for you to join the fun.

This year, the Gardeners' Fair will be from Friday, May 9 through Sunday, May 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. Admission will include a tour of the historic house. And delicious foods will be available at the Locust Grove concession and a few other food vendors.



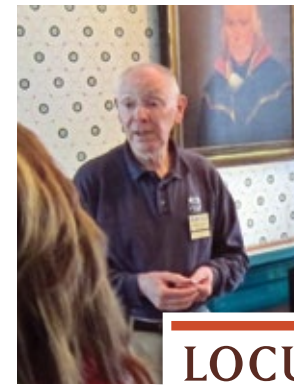
Seeking Silent Auction Items

The Silent Auction committee would love your help in securing items for the Silent Auction. We're looking for gift certificates of all kinds — such as for special services (i.e., spas, salons, photography); business or factory tours (bourbon distilleries, potteries); tours of homes or gardens; classes in cooking, bourbon, wine, beer.

Other popular auction items include jewelry, antiques, quilts and other handmade special items, themed gift baskets, autographed items (basketballs, bats), condo rentals, and vacation experiences.

If you would like to donate an item or service, you'll receive a receipt for a tax deduction and our grateful thanks. If you have leads for the Silent Auction committee members, we'd love to know.

For more information or to donate, please call the Visitors Center at (502) 897-9845. Thank you!



LOCUST GROVE WANTS YOU!



Love history and like working with people? If so, Locust Grove would be delighted welcome you to our family! Volunteers have lots of fun, become friends with great people, and know that they're helping make Locust Grove better than ever.

There are a wide variety of volunteer options available. Some are easy to learn, such as **working special events** — at the concession stand, taking admissions, helping with the set-up, baking goodies. The **summer camp aides** have short-term duties and great fun with the kids, helping them with projects and assisting the leaders.

You could **help in the gardens**. Activities are what you would expect — planting, weeding, pruning, along with other special projects to keep Locust Grove's grounds beautiful.

You might like to **work in the Visitors Center**. There's some training involved in operating the cash registers, making displays, and introducing guests to the site before showing the video. But the main requirement for Visitors Center workers is an ability to welcome people and to smile.

Three other volunteer activities require special training — **docent** (or tour guide), 19th century **crafts demonstrator**, and **costumed interpreter**.

Docents give tours to regularly scheduled school groups, walk-in visitors, and special

VOLUNTEERS AREN'T PAID, NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE WORTHLESS, BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE PRICELESS.

groups of visitors. Formal training lasts for three months, during which time the trainees learn the material, shadow different docents, and attend class once a month.

Participants learn about George Rogers Clark, Croghan family members, enslaved workers, the decorative arts, and the history of early Kentucky. Docents should have an ease of speaking with the public, an interest in history, availability to volunteer at least twice a month, and be able to go up and down two flights of stairs easily.

Craft demonstrators are the focus of school tours called "craft samplers." In these tours, the demonstrators are given 15 minutes each to describe and demonstrate various essential skills of the early 19th century. Cooking and spinning demonstrators show some of the activities that cooks and people who worked with cloth would have done. Some training is involved to become familiar with objects and to understand what was done and why.

We also have woodworkers or carpenters to show the tools and techniques of the

19th century craftsmen. It's helpful for these demonstrators to have some woodworking experience.

At Locust Grove, **costumed interpreters** are the people who portray 19th century Croghan and Clark family members and friends. There is a lot of training involved in this activity, mainly because these interpreters have to "become" the 19th century person. They must know a great deal about the person they're portraying and be able to discuss "recent" (as in 1816) events with their 21st century visitors.

Cast members are selected during an audition process — an activity that is attracting theatre students and drama and history majors. Once they're cast, the costumed interpreters attend regular workshops and rehearsals throughout the year. They learn the history of the period, as well as its language, manners, deportment, and dress. Their "big event" is the Christmaside celebration at Locust Grove in early December, but costumed interpreters appear at other special events throughout the year as it fits their schedules.

You can see that there are many options and several levels of involvement for volunteering at Locust Grove. If one of them fits your time, interests, or lifestyle, please call Locust Grove at (502) 897-9845. We'll love to talk with you!

Enrollment/Renewal from Sept. 16 through Dec. 31, 2013

A HEARTY “THANK YOU” TO ALL OF THESE PEOPLE WHO RECENTLY JOINED OR RENEWED THEIR MEMBERSHIPS, AND TO ALL OF OUR LONGTIME FRIENDS OF LOCUST GROVE! IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A FRIEND, PLEASE GO ONLINE TO WWW.LOCUSTGROVE.ORG, OR CALL US AT (502) 897-9845 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND DETAILS.

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Spirit Award Winners: The Hiner Family



When the **Hiner Family** members decide to take on a project, it's as good as done. In 2010, **Noah** (now 14) and **Jocelyn** (now 7) joined the homeschool chapter of the Kentucky Junior Historical Society that meets at Locust Grove. Their parents, **Jason** and **Heather**, now are co-sponsors of the chapter.

“Our involvement in KJHS events led us to volunteer as a family at Locust Grove,” says mom Heather. So, in 2012, dad Jason, son Noah, and daughter Jocelyn joined the house cast as part of the costumed interpreter (CI) program.

Besides homeschooling her children, Heather researched and sewed much of the period dress her three interpreters wear. She also is a professional photographer and takes photos at Locust Grove events. Her latest project was to make portraits of all the Christmastide cast members for Locust Grove's use, including the one with this story.

“Doing photography and researching clothing for the costumed interpreter program has allowed me to blend two of my favorite things — history and photography,” Heather says.

Dad Jason portrays Judge Fortunatus Cosby, a good friend of the Croghans. “I love talking to people about this formative period in American history and about these key people who made such valuable contributions to the early history of Louisville,” says Jason.

Noah portrays one of Lucy and William's twins, Charles Croghan. His volunteer activities at Locust Grove inspired him last year to create a National History Day project about George Rogers Clark — which took him to the national competition where he displayed and discussed his project at the Smithsonian Museum of American History.

“I'm glad I can be a part of a historic institution that I like,” Noah says. “And it's fun to learn the techniques that a good costumed interpreter needs in order to tell the story of Locust Grove.”

Jocelyn portrays Eloise Bullitt, the great-niece of Lucy Clark Croghan and George Rogers Clark. She especially likes the old games and toys. “Mary and Eliza, the dolls I use when I'm being Eloise, are very special to me,” she says. “I'm also learning to sew so I can show visitors some of the things Eloise would do.”

Three of the family members have gone through Locust Grove's docent training program. “Jocelyn is a little too young for the training — but she already knows all of the history!” laughs HLG Program Director **Mary Beth Williams**. “The Hiners are such a nice family and so dedicated to Locust Grove.”

Nearly seven years ago, the Hiners moved to Louisville from northern Indiana because of Jason's job. He's the global editor-in-chief of an online trade publication for information technology professionals.

Jason and Heather both add that their involvement at Locust Grove has given them “a great opportunity to meet fellow history lovers along with many wonderful people in the community.”

And we're all delighted they've joined the Locust Grove family.



Three of the four Hiner family members at Christmastide — dad Jason, son Noah, and daughter Jocelyn. Mom Heather is there, too — taking the photo!.



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10th Annual Spring Used Book Sale — Open Later On Friday Night!

Members' Only Preview:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 5 PM— 7:30 PM

Open to the Public:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 10 AM — 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 1 10 AM — 4:30 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 2 10 AM — 4:30 PM

You can start to fill that “lovely bookshelf” with great bargain books at Locust Grove’s Spring Used Book Sale — celebrating our 10th season!

This year, we’re extending Friday shopping hours to 7:30 p.m. so those who can’t be here during the daytime hours still can be among the first to snap up bargains.

At our Fall 2013 sale, we had some 20,000 donated books — and it looks like we’ll have as many again this year.

All the books are carefully sorted into categories such as history, biography, mystery, reference, travel,



science fiction, cooking, children’s, Kentucky/regional, art, crafts, gardening, and much more!

Most paperbacks will be \$1; most hardcover books, \$2. On the other side of the room divider, you’ll find a number of books bargain-priced at \$3 to \$8. And as always, we’ll have a fascinating selection of illustrated, rare, autographed, and book sets at various prices, all of which are great bargains, too.

Our volunteers and staffers continually add books to the tables (and floors) during the first two days. On Sunday, you can fill a bag of books for \$10 or purchase any of the books for half-price.

All the books in our sale are donated by readers who clear off their “lovely bookshelf” to make room for more great reads. We’ll give you a tax-deduction receipt for your book donation. And our grateful thanks, too!

“So please,
oh PLEASE,
we beg,
we pray.
Go throw
your TV set away.
And in its place
you can install
A lovely
bookshelf
on the wall.”

— Charlie and the
Chocolate Factory

HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE
GROVE GAZETTE