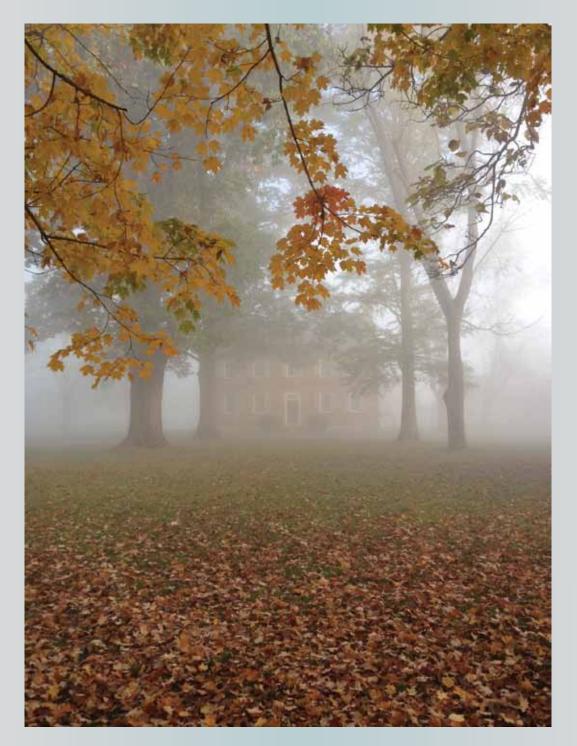


HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE ANNUAL REPORT 2014





HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE

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 nineteenth-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.



Locust Grove is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

Locust Grove is owned by Louisville Metro Government and managed by Historic Locust Grove, Inc.

From the President of Historic Locust Grove



Locust Grove is one of Louisville's great assets. As the last home of Louisville founder Gen. George Rogers Clark and the family seat of the Croghans, a key stopping point for Lewis and Clark as they began their expedition, and with its history as the site of one of the oldest farms in this area and a center for politics, culture and hospitality in its day, Locust Grove gives us a unbroken link to our city's past, and through it to the Revolutionary and Federal eras of our country.

Many people are responsible for keeping that link in good order. Historic Locust Grove, Inc., which operates this site in partnership with its owner, Metro Louisville, benefits from the dedicated efforts of more than 130 volunteers. Our emeritus board still includes active members who have been involved here since the 1960s, when the house and 55 acres were purchased by Jefferson County and restoration began.

Last year saw the completion of a Master Plan for Locust Grove available on our website — with a focus on using all 55 acres of this historic property in smarter and more appealing ways. This new fiscal year brings the challenge of starting to implement this plan. As we begin, Locust Grove's staff and board are focusing on

new and newly-improved programming, the re-restoration of the dairy building outside the hearth kitchen, and research on recreating a Croghan-era farm distillery exhibit in another outbuilding on the grounds. You can read more detail about these plans and about the past year's accomplishments in the pages that follow.

Maintaining a property of this age and importance is never easy and never cheap. This year's budget will be \$470,000, and of that half will be earned income from programs, tours and events. But donations continue to be essential to our ability to maintain this site. This year our annual appeal goal is set for \$90,000, or a crucial 19% of our budget.

To reach that goal, we need you. If the story of Louisville's founding is important to you, and if you enjoy the beauty of the house and grounds, please help us keep this National Historic Landmark in good order by responding to the Annual Appeal, or by including Historic Locust Grove, Inc., in your planned giving, or by donating to a specific operational or capital project during the year. Your support is vital to the future of Locust Grove—the future which is also our past.

I speak for the whole board when I say I am very grateful for your involvement. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathein Jalton Boge

Kate Dalton Boyer, *President* Historic Locust Grove, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2013-2014

Executive Committee

Kate Dalton Boyer, *President* Rosalind Streeter, *VP* Tom Noland, *VP* B. Preston Thomas, M.D., *Secretary* Christopher Green, *Treasurer*

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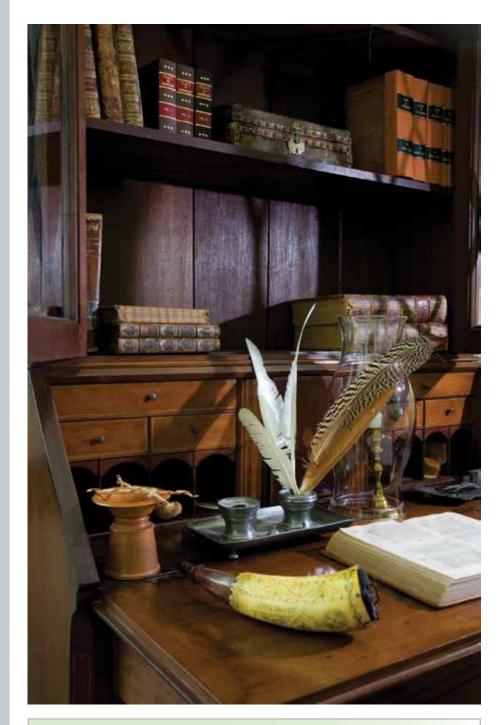
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Carol Ely, Executive Director

We thank our outgoing 2013-14 Board members: Liz Swearingen-Edens and Lane Roland, for their service to Locust Grove



Locust Grove Blog

Our weblog, or blog, provides an entertaining behind-the-scenes look at life at Locust Grove. Follow along at locustgrovelouisville.wordpress.com! Updated weekly or even more frequently, the blog is currently a project of Weekend Manager Hannah Zimmerman.

From the Executive Director

This year was my tenth as Executive Director of Locust Grove. It's amazing and humbling to see how much we have accomplished together in the last decade. Through outstanding Board leaders, skilled staff, hardworking volunteers, imaginative donors, dedicated members, and our many community friends, we've sustained and expanded the reach of this beautiful and challenging place.

Metro Louisville took over site ownership from Jefferson County only three months after I came to Locust Grove, and we've worked ever since with Metro Parks as a strong partner in preservation and maintenance of the site.

A successful capital campaign built an exciting new exhibit space in the Visitors Center. With research and an amazingly generous foundation grant, we were able to fully re-restore the house, from wiring to plaster to appropriate wall coverings, carpets, and a new furnishings and interpretation plan. The Potts-Thomas book about Clark and Locust Grove was published, and it formed a solid base of knowledge for all of our work.



With your support, we created major new events for education and fundraising: the 18th Century Market Fair, the Jane Austen Festival, and the semi-annual Used Book Sales. To promote these events, we now have a new website and a new blog, and are active on social media platforms that were undreamed of ten years ago. Our Gazette is now full color, our logo is refreshed, and our printed and online publications reflect the quality and style of the house itself.

We've refined and expanded the stories we tell, and the ways that we tell them. We're proud of our continuing efforts to bring the stories of the enslaved of Locust Grove into our presentations. We're also proud to continue to explore the life and complex personality of George Rogers Clark and his role in the American Revolution of the West. And William Croghan has finally emerged as the important character in our story that he deserves to be.

Through all this, we've kept our standards, our supporters, our audiences, and our friends like you. **None of this** would have been possible without generous individual, business, and foundation gifts to pay for the exhibits, the restoration, the programs, the publicity, the research, and the staffing to operate.

Our 2014 Master Plan offers great opportunities for expanding what we do best in ways that will excite the imaginations of familiar and new visitors.

I'm looking forward to: new delicious and thought-provoking collaborations with the Berry Center, Kentucky Shakespeare Company, and the Frazier Museum; Master Plan ideas for food and farming demonstrations ranging from the Dairy to the Smokehouse to a proposed distilling program; planting new garden areas with ornamentals and food crops; archaeology (we've discovered some intriguing hot spots for artifacts); preservation initiatives to strengthen and protect our historic resources beginning with the 1790s house; expanding the "Voices Project" recordings to include an alternative house tour, garden and grounds tours, and more "Voices"; and expanded summer hours, with innovative social & educational programs in the gardens and house.

Can't wait to see what Locust Grove looks like in the next ten years!!

and Shy

Carol Ely, Ph.D., *Executive Director* Historic Locust Grove, Inc.

Historic Locust Grove Staff July 2014

Executive Director Carol Ely, Ph.D.

Curator of Collections & Education Mary Beth Williams

Visitors' Center Manager Jennifer Jansen

Business Manager/ Development Assistant Debbie Scott

Caretaker John Bateman

Program Coordinator Brian Cushing

Marketing Coordinator Bonny Wise

Custodian Chris Jones

Education Assistant Diane Statler

Gardener Sarah Sutherland

Weekend Managers Bob Boone Alba Jennings Tricia Langley Hannah Zimmerman



Volunteers

Locust Grove volunteers make all the difference. They greet visitors at the front desk, lead tours, assist in the museum store, teach school groups, run concessions and take admissions at our events, perform as costumed interpreters, demonstrate period crafts and skills, assist with cleaning, bake for our lecture series, help with the garden... and much more. In 2013-14 they provided more than 11,000 hours of service.





Program Spotlight: Jane Austen Festival

Some ask, "why Jane Austen at Locust Grove?" but most simply come to enjoy the spectacle of masses of superbly garbed participants in Regency/Federal dress, consume quantities of scones and clotted cream, cheer on the duel, watch performances of Austen-based plays, shop, admire the interior of the historic house, hear lectures on the works and life, and generally revel in all things Austen.

It all started in 2007. Executive Director Carol Ely and Marketing Coordinator Bonny Wise were talking about how hard it is to convey the Federal Era period of Locust Grove to visitors who can picture colonists and the Civil War era, but have little sense of the 1810s. But, they realized, many people had seen the films and TV series of Jane Austen's novels, a period that perfectly overlaps the time of Clark and the Croghans at Locust Grove (Austen died in 1817, Clark in 1818). The world of Austen and the world of Croghan were not so far apart. And wasn't there some sort of Jane Austen organization?

Wise did some research, connected with the Jane Austen Society of North America (JASNA), and created a new chapter, the Greater Louisville Region. The group found an audience immediately, and Janeites flocked to her monthly events, which were held from the beginning at Locust Grove. Enthusiastically, the group planned the first local Jane Austen Festival in partnership with Locust Grove in 2008.

It was a wild success. The annual event now brings visitors from much further away than other Locust Grove events, including some from Europe who have planned vacations around a trip to the Festival. Other JASNA regions can't measure up - our event is the largest such gathering outside of Bath, England, which was one of Austen's homes.

So successful is this program nationally, that in October 2015 Louisville is hosting the continent-wide JASNA annual conference, to be held downtown. Sadly, this means that a full JASNA-sponsored Jane Austen Festival will not be possible in July next year. But don't despair: instead Locust Grove, with JASNA's cooperation, will create a smaller but still enjoyable and innovative event on the usual Jane Austen weekend in July.

And we know that the visitors may come for Jane Austen, but they take away a bit of George Rogers Clark and a bit of Louisville's history when they go.



MAJOR PROGRAMS 2013–2014



July 4– Free Day

On Independence Day, Locust Grove is free to the public. But rain kept the attendance down to only 163 visitors, far less than usual.

Jane Austen Festival – July

This event is held in cooperation with the Jane Austen Society of North America, Greater Louisville Chapter. Austen enthusiasts from around the country converge for two days of lectures, workshops, shopping, tea, and a Ball (held offsite); and while here, explore the site and learn about the Clarks and Croghans and the similarities and differences between Federal-era America and Regency England. Revenue from the event helps to support our other programs. Attendance: 1594



Antiques Markets – September & June

The Antiques Fair is offered in conjunction with the promoter Rod Lich. The event promotes knowledge of early furniture and decorative arts to an appreciative audience. Local antique shop sponsors helped to underwrite the event. Attendance: September – 1129 (an afternoon rainstorm cut into attendance) June – 159



Nancy Lee and Locust Grove's 'Voices' Project

hen HLG Director Emeritus Nancy Lee wanted to support a meaningful project at Locust Grove, she talked with HLG Executive Director Carol Ely about where her money could be best used. When Nancy heard that Locust Grove was developing a program to add audio presentations recalling some of the conversations that might have occurred in the historic home, she was delighted.

"It hit me that the 'Voices Project' was something different and very educational," Nancy says. "As a retired teacher, I'm always looking for ways to enhance the understanding of the children and adults who visit our site.

"Letting our visitors 'hear' the voices in various rooms in the house or in the outbuildings reinforces the fact that real people lived and worked here – serving General George Rogers Clark, eating in the dining room, practicing the pianoforte, making the food, and putting their children to bed."

And so, Nancy made a significant donation to get the project underway. (A second major donor later added to the Voices Project fund).

For more than two decades, Nancy Lee has been involved at Locust Grove. She taught social studies to Jefferson County third- and fourthgraders for 30 years. "I brought so many classes to Locust Grove over those years that I decided to become a part of Locust Grove when I retired," she says.

"By December of that first year as a docent, I'd given so many school tours that I took a Sunday shift as well so I wouldn't forget how to give an adult tour."

Over the years, Nancy has served on the Volunteer Steering Committee, and on HLG's Board of Directors, and has given "more tours that I ever could count!" she laughs. She's mentored new docents and generously supports Locust Grove with her time and treasure.

"I'm not a historian but I love history," she adds. "And I'm an educator. I have a little disposable income for donations and choose places and projects that help to educate people. And I always give 'at home' – focusing my donations on Louisville and Kentucky.



"I know that when we have adequate funding here at Locust Grove, we can do so many more things to enhance our site and our educational programs. I'm most pleased to be able to do my little bit.".



MAJOR PROGRAMS 2013-14 (continued)



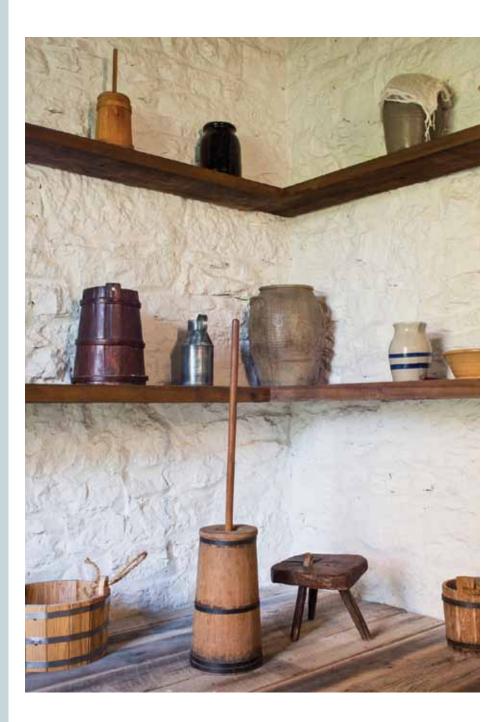
18th Century Market Fair – October

The Market Fair, in its ninth year, had a great program of activities and events, with some new entertainers and exciting battles. This event promotes our mission to present the history of the Clark/Croghan era in an exciting and accessible way. We offered a "school day" on Friday, with reenactors present. Cold weather this year reduced attendance. Attendance – 2024



Christmastide at Locust Grove – December

This year was the debut of a re-constumed and retrained reenactor corpts, presenting the a family gathering of the Clarks and Croghans in a new year, 1816. Children's craft activities in the Visitors Center were very popular. Once again, cold rainy weather kept attendance down. Attendance: 385



LaMar Gaston and Locust Grove's Dairy Restoration

hen you meet LaMar Gaston, you see that energy and enthusiasm can be made visible. It seems he just never sits still. No project stands a chance of falling by the wayside when LaMar gets involved.

A few months ago, he was chatting with HLG Executive Director Carol Ely and Business Manager/Development Specialist Debbie Scott about projects that would enhance the interpretation of the Locust Grove site. The conversation turned to Locust Grove's dairy – the lovely stone building that sits outside the hearth kitchen.

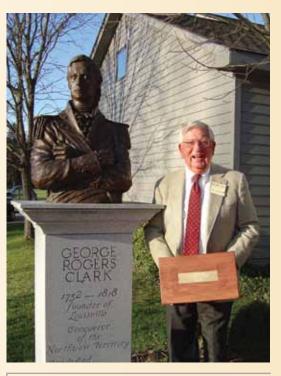
Research and a plan existed to recreate an early 19th century dairy interior, developed by former intern (now Weekend Manager) Hannah Zimmerman. But "there just weren't any funds to make that dairy into a teachable part of our site," says LaMar. "We decided that it would be great to restore that dairy. So my wife, Joan, and I made the initial donation to get the ball rolling." He described the project to a friend, Bill Burbank, who jumped on the project with a matching donation. LaMar also recruited two other major donors – the Ed and Helen Rhawn Foundation and Betty and George Gibbs.

Hannah's research showed that early dairies had floors of wood, stone, or tile. So LaMar reached out to a good friend, Ray Renaud . They found Kentucky Boardworks in Brownsboro, specializing in reclaimed wood. "They had some solid red oak board available – exactly what we wanted for the dairy floor."

As the dairy restoration was getting underway, the neighboring city of Riverwood offered to continue its support of Locust Grove. So LaMar's daughter and granddaughter took some photos of the dairy and added a floor to the photos to show what the dairy could look like. "I took those images to Riverwood's City Council," LaMar says." When they saw what the dairy could be, they bought into the project enthusiastically."

LaMar has served on HLG's Board of Directors, leading it through two capital campaigns. He has led the wildly popular Gardeners' Fair for many years and chaired the exuberant Lewis & Clark's "homecoming" in 2008 at the conclusion of that expedition's bicentennial.

Modesty aside, it's LaMar's enthusiasm and tenacity that makes him such an effective ambassador and fundraiser for important Locust Grove projects. No one can say "no" in the face of his love for this place.



"I love Locust Grove; I love history; and I'm interested in people. It's just a natural to work on projects where you can see the results."



MAJOR PROGRAMS 2013-14 (continued)



Book Sales - March & August

The Book Sales continue to grow thanks to great donors of books and enthusiastic buyers. Book Sale funds support Locust Grove programs, especially education programs. Smaller sales of special books were also held during our Antiques Market events. Revenue (all book sales this year): \$43,700

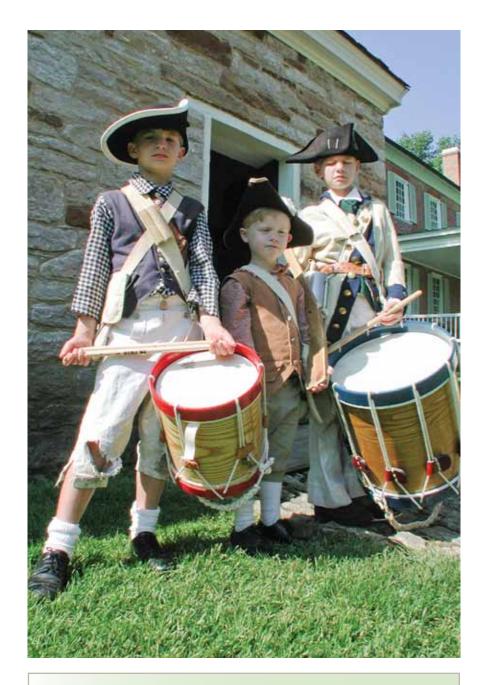


Spring Encampment: 18th Century Thunder – April

Since this event always falls on "Thunder" weekend, we decided this year not to continue to compete for visitors, and we simplified the event. The Illinois Regiment encamped on the grounds, and offered free demonstrations of 18th century military life for our visitors. Attendance: 350

Gardeners' Fair – May

This annual event offers visitors the chance to purchase flowers, herbs and plants along with a variety of tools, artistic and practical gardening accessories, wrought iron sculptures, water gardens and antique yard furniture among other delightful finds. The silent auction, a fundraiser for Historic Locust Grove, with scores of offerings from antiques, quilts and other handiwork to art, gardening accessories and valuable gift certificates. The three-day event was affected by rainy weather. Attendance: 2868



Making a legacy gift to Locust Grove

It's simple to give a legacy gift to support Locust Grove. When making out your will, a bequest to Historic Locust Grove can go to support a particular project of your choice, or you can make an undesignated gift to be used for the greatest needs and opportunities. These gifts are usually added to our endowment funds to support all of the work of education and preservation in perpetuity. If you wish, let us know of your generous intentions; but your decision is as private as you choose.

Joe Spalding and His Legacy Donation

For more than two decades, Locust Grove docent Joe Spalding could be found every Tuesday morning, leading adults or school children through the house and grounds at Locust Grove. His ready smile and gentle personality endeared him to everyone he met.

It was a great loss to all at Locust Grove when Joe died in 2013. Tuesday morning would never be the same. Nor would the many organizations that benefited from Joe's dedication.

Besides more than 20 years at Locust Grove, Joe contributed thousands of hours to the Franciscan Shelter House, doing everything from peeling potatoes to serving as board secretary. He was "on call" with the American Red Cross to assist with blood drives. And he drew upon his love of the outdoors to volunteer at Bernheim Forest.

In 2005, Joe was given one of the region's most prestigious honors – a Bell Award from WLKY-TV's Spirit of Louisville Foundation. The Bell Award recognizes people who have demonstrated a true "spirit of Louisville" through selfless volunteer service to the community.

"At the Franciscan Shelter House soup kitchen, I ran the dishwasher," Joe said during his Bell Award acceptance speech. "When an older woman hands me her plate and says, 'Thank you and God bless,' I know I'm in the right place. At Locust Grove, when a visitor says, 'I didn't know there was so much history in Louisville,' I'm sure I'm in the right place."

We at Locust Grove were grateful that Joe devoted so much of his time to our historic site. And we were doubly thankful when we learned that Joe had bequeathed a sizeable gift to Locust Grove in his will.

Joe did not specify how his bequest was to be used. But since he loved teaching schoolchildren, we have dedicated part of his gift to underwrite a new children's film, which is currently in development. The rest of his donation was placed in Locust Grove's Endowment Fund where his gift will continue to grow and support the site for many years to come.

Joe's spirit remains here at Locust Grove; his gift continues to enrich the educational programs for children and adults. Thank you, Joe.



"At Locust Grove, when a visitor says, 'I didn't know there was so much history in Louisville,' I'm sure I'm in the right place."

MAJOR PROGRAMS 2013–14 (continued) Chamber Music Series

A series of four concerts held through the fall and winter use the beautiful and intimate setting of the great parlor to present music of the period that might have been enjoyed by the people of Locust Grove. This season included a special concert with the Kentucky Center Chamber Players, held in the Audubon Room of the Visitors Center. Concert-goers include series subscribers and individual ticket-purchasers.



Lecture Series

Our monthly lecture series this year included topics such as politics and personalities in Revolutionary-era America. Attendees at our lectures are often Locust Grove members and volunteers, and the lectures create an atmosphere of learning and community. Ten lectures were held this year.

Camps

Summer camps are a regular feature of summer at Locust Grove. Pioneer Camp offers varied activities to enthusiastic campers; this year we also offered a Nature Camp (with Jefferson Memorial Forest), and a Craft Camp.

Workshops, Special Tours & Other Programs

- Family Picnic with Louisville Children's Museum
- Locust Grove Death Tour
- Woods Tour
- Old Fashioned Cocktail event
- Bourbon Bookcase
- Collecting Kentucky book launch
- Mayor's Cultural Pass Program





Members

Friends of Locust Grove, our membership group, has grown to 427 individuals and families. This year we reached out to all of our neighbors living on the original 700 acres of Locust Grove, and created some special programs just for them. Many have since become "Friends". Memberships cost \$35 for an individual and \$50 for a family, and are available as gifts.

Donations: Special Funds

While general gifts are always welcome, you may choose to direct your gift to one of these special funds:

- Acquisitions 🌣
- # Garden Fund
- Preservation/Conservation
- Education
- # Potts Research Fund
- # Grounds & Trees
- Endowment

Acquisitions & Collections

Inally, Locust Grove's collection has a curator! This July, Mary Beth Williams, our Program Director, became our first Curator of Collections and Education. While she continues to manage many aspects of her former position, including school programs and volunteers, she now will take on the role of collections manager and curator. It's an appropriate and long-awaited change: Ms. Williams' education includes an M.A. in Curatorial Studies from the University of Louisville, and experience working at the Kentucky Historical Society. Her Master's thesis was the specifications for collections storage at Locust Grove. These duties were formerly part of the Executive Director Carol Ely's position, but this change gives a greater focus and emphasis to the care and interpretation of our outstanding collection. A new staff member, Brian Cushing, now takes on the expansion of our public programming.





2014-15 Attendance	
JULY	2757
AUGUST	2274
SEPTEMBER	2668
OCTOBER	3489
NOVEMBER	949
DECEMBER	691
JANUARY	153
FEBRUARY	1112
MARCH	2096
APRIL	1226
MAY	3984
JUNE	2809
TOTALS	24,208

2013-14 BY THE NUMBERS:

ATTENDANCE: 24,208

5271+ RENTAL EVENT GUESTS

1200+ REGULAR TOURS GIVEN

10,710+ VOLUNTEER HOURS WORKED

1934 CULTURAL PASS VISITORS (SUMMER '14)

63 SCHOOL GROUP TOURS

9 MAJOR WEEKEND EVENTS

10 LECTURES

5 CONCERTS

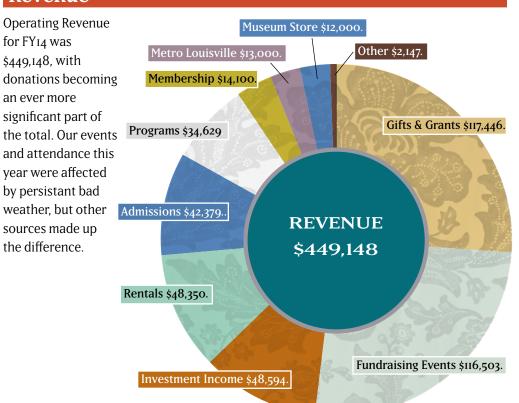
3 BOURBON-THEMED EVENTS

4 FREE DAYS

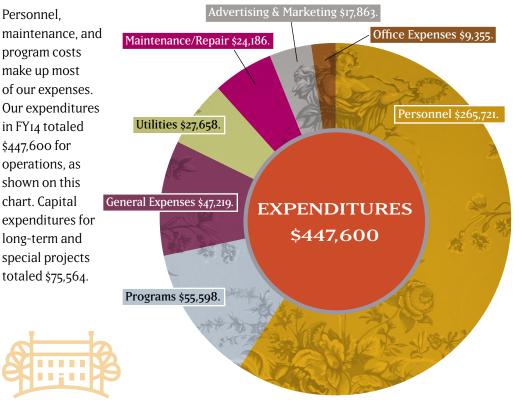
3 SUMMER CAMPS

NUMEROUS INVITATIONAL EVENTS FOR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

Revenue



Expenditures



George Rogers Clark Society \$5,000+

Anonymous Mrs. Edward R. Dumesnil, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. G. LaMar Gaston, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. William W. Hancock, Jr.

Nancy W. Lee Vivian Ruth Sawyer & Thomas T. Noland, Jr

Dr. & Mrs. B. Preston Thomas

Lucy & William Croghan Society \$2,500

Edith S. Bingham Robert Cusick Mr. & Mrs. George F. Duthie Downey M. Gray III Jean Kreke Robert M. Pilkington Doug & Nancy McFarland Grover & Gwynne Potts Lynn S. Renau Edward & Helen Rhawn Fund at the Community Foundation of Louisville Mr. & Mrs. George E. Stablein Elizabeth Stokes John & Jeannie Vezeau

Publishers Printing Company

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Mr. & Mrs. William O. Alden, Jr. Barbara Castleman Mrs. John C. Diebold Sandra A. Frazier Mrs. Downey M. Gray, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Hundley Mr. & Mrs. David Jones Marilyn Motsch, Stellar Design

Clark Family Society \$1,000+

Christian Rapp Susan Reigler & Joanna Goldstein

Martin F. Schmidt & Kate Schmidt Moninger Fund

Dace & King Stubbs through the Indian River Community Foundation

Mrs. Samuel W. Thomas Harry & Betsy Wall

Illinois Regiment Society \$250+

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Brown-Forman Friendship Force of Long Island GE Appliances Highland Cleaners Jane Austen Society of Greater Louisville Kentucky Select Properties, LLC Stockyards Bank & Trust Co. The Antiques Market at Distillery Commons The Society of Colonial Wars in the Commonwealth of Kentucky Triage Entertainment Wilson & Muir Bank & Trust Co.

Thank you to Charles Bartman for his donation of professional services.





HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE

DONORS 2013 – 2014

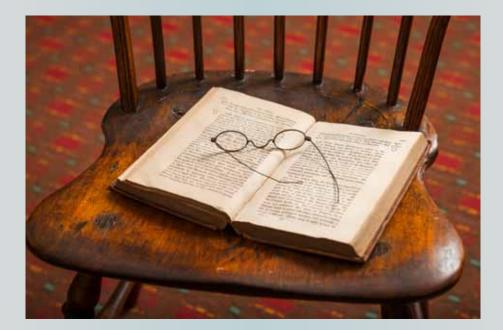
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