GROVE GAZETTE

Historic Locust Grove
561 Blankenbaker Lane

(502) 897-9845 www,locustgrove.org

Louisville, KY 40207



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Diana Swindler* Spirit Award Winner

Aileen Novick, Program Director

Seventeen years ago, **Diana Swindler** received a

pamphlet about volunteer

opportunities at Locust

Grove. And her life hasn't

been the same since.

From that start in 1989, Diana has worked in the Visitors Center — greeting guests, answering phones, and ringing up countless items purchased by eager young shoppers on school field trips.

But that's not all she does. Come to the Gardeners' Fair or Candlelight Tours — or any of our special events, and there you'll find Diana.

When Diana decides to do something, she goes all the

way. She's been honored twice as the volunteer with the most hours — in 1995 and again in 2001. She often arrives early or stays late, and always brings great energy and cheer along with her.

"Diana is one of the most pleasant people to work with," says **Joanne Long**, Locust Grove's administrative assistant and a volunteer. "She's such a kind person — never grumpy or short with anyone."

Visitors Center co-worker and volunteer **Louise Seiler** says that Diana is "just plain goodhearted" — a perfect description. And she's always looking for more ways to help out.

This summer, Diana assisted with both the Wood Working



and Pioneer camps. She did everything — from helping campers saw and hammer to leading her young pioneers around the grounds on all sorts of adventures.

Fellow volunteer and docent **Diane Statler** notes that Diana is "so patient with the kids."

Perhaps that's because she also takes care of the babies at Wayside Christian Mission's day care center. And she's always finding ways to be with her three great-nephews.

Thanks, Diana, for your many contributions and your kind ways.

Yearly Events

Mark Your Calendars!

Afternoon Lecture Series

1:00 p.m. – the first Wednesday of the month (except this November).

Used Book Sale

Great book bargains to support Locust Grove's programs — held the second weekend in March.

'18th Century Thunder'

Our Revolutionary War Encampment — held the Saturday and Sunday of "Thunder Weekend" in April.

Gardeners' Fair

Friday, Saturday, Sunday — held the second weekend in May.

Mothers' Day Brunch

Sunday during the Gardeners' Fair. Reservations required.

Antiques Markets

Held on the last Sundays in June and in September.

18th Century Market Fair

Held Saturday and Sunday on the last weekend in October.

Holiday Candlelight Tours

Held Friday and Saturday evenings, the second weekend in December.

How To Dress Like It's 1806

Imagine making 30-some dresses, cloaks, vests or jackets in just two months. And they can't be just any kind — but must be historically accurate.

That's the challenge facing seamstresses **Kate Scott** and her mother **Sylvia Scott**.



Kate Scott does some handsewing on one of the dresses while mannequins line up behind, awaiting their turn.

Their challenge – create the correct clothing for all the costumed re-enactors participating in the Lewis & Clark Homecoming in early November.

HLG volunteer and docent **Mary Alice McAfee** is also lending a thimbled hand.

"Locust Grove has a nice collection of period-appropriate patterns," said **Bonny Wise**, HLG staffer, costumed interpreter, and another seamstress working on the clothing.

"We must portray the family, neighbors, and slaves in their proper socio-economic status, which dictates the kinds of clothes they would have worn. We studied costume and fabric books and then took a day to find the right kinds of fabrics."

Their hard work will be on display during the Lewis and Clark Homecoming celebrations events in early November.

Family and Friends Prepare For Lewis and Clark's Return

It's November 1806.

Preparations are in full swing for the homecoming of **Captains Meriwether Lewis** and **William Clark**.

They're returning to Louisville three years after their first meeting here in October 1803, when they recruited "nine young men from Kentucky" for their journey to the Pacific Ocean.

Friends and family will join with the explorers on River Road as they ride on horseback and in wagons up Blankenbaker Road to Locust Grove. They'll be accompanied by Clark's slave York, along with a member of the Mandan tribe.



HLG Marketing Coordinator Bonny Wise hems the dresses of two of Lucy Clark Croghan's nieces, Diana Gwalthmey (center, interpreted by Diana Merritt), and Eleanor Clark Temple (interpreted by Cheryl Adkisson).

The nieces will be on hand to welcome their Uncle William Clark to Locust Grove, along with Meriwether Lewis, Clark's slave York, and a member of the Mandan tribe. At the home of William Clark's sister **Lucy** and her husband, **Maj. William Croghan**, the explorers are expected to regale visitors with stories of their exploits into the unknown Louisiana Territory and beyond.

Camping on the grounds of Locust Grove will be members of the Corps of Discovery, ready to show any and all what it was like to forge through the wilderness for three very long years — and most likely will have a few tales of their own to tell.

The cooks will be busy in the hearth kitchen, preparing food for the distinguished guests and their friends. And of course, children will be playing games everywhere.

Fast-forward to **Sunday**, **November 5, 2006** — and you can join the celebration! It's free to the public, thanks to a grant from the **Brown-Forman Corporation**.

To celebrate this Lewis and Clark homecoming bicentennial, guests can do craft projects and learn about the "new" plants and animals brought back by the explorers.

Participants can see some Lewis and Clark items, and chat with a blacksmith and carpenter. They can also watch a man use a flax break to harvest that plant's tiny fibers, which eventually will be spun into linen thread.

There's another public event on **Sunday, November 12** — an



This is one of the banners on highways near Locust Grove that promote the Lewis & Clark Homecoming in November.

afternoon wine and cheese reception featuring Locust Grove volunteer Mary Lou Johnston. She'll present her photographic memoir of three years of celebrations along the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Trail. It's a free event, also.

On the actual 200th anniversary of Lewis and Clark's visit to Locust Grove on November 8, the Wednesday Afternoon Lecture features Peyton "Bud" Clark, great-great-great-grandson of William Clark. It's a free event, thanks to a grant from the Kentucky Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission.

That evening, there's an invitation-only celebration in the house and the Visitors Center with special guest, **Stephenie Ambrose Tubbs**, Lewis and Clark author and daughter of *Undaunted Courage* author Stephen Ambrose.

Please check page 5 for all events, or www.locustgrove.org.

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561 Blankenbaker Lane Louisville, KY 40207 (502) 897-9845 (502) 896-2433 www.locustgrove.org

The mission of Historic Locust Grove, Inc. is to preserve and interpret the 55-acre site, with its circa 1790 house and out-buildings, the collection, and the gardens, as an example of early 19th Century frontier America.

It is also our mission to share the stories of the many people who contributed to the history of Locust Grove, emphasizing the life of General George Rogers Clark, Revolutionary War hero and founder of Louisville.

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From The Director's Desk

Carol Ely, PhD., Executive Director

Locust Grove is a family of supporters — people who appreciate this place. Our family extends from staff, volunteers and board members to Friends of Locust Grove and visitors.

During these past few months, our family has increased in several ways. Most dramatically, our first Locust Grove staff baby in a long time arrived — two weeks late but most welcome. Levi Crowe
Sutherland was born August 2 to our gardener Sarah
Dickerson and her husband
Lowe Sutherland.

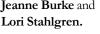
Lowe has been filling in for Sarah as gardener during her maternity leave, keeping it all in the family. Young Levi has been to visit us several times — and so far seems pleased with his surroundings.

Our staff has also grown in numbers. This spring, we welcomed **Bonny Wise** as our part-time marketing coordinator. Her job is to ensure that Locust Grove is no longer the best-kept secret in Louisville. Bonny comes from the ranks of volunteer re-enactors, and has catering skills as well as PR skills.

As we say goodbye to Weekend Manager **Mike Dwyer**, we welcome back our former intern, **Mary Beth Williams**, to join our weekend staff. A graduate student in curatorial studies, she has experience at several local museums, including ours.

We are delighted to welcome our newest volunteers who are training as docents, working in the garden, or helping in the Visitors Center. They include Eddy Arnold, Stephanie Brown, Jessie Daniels, Lucy Knight, Anne Pignataro, and Dolores White.

With the new fiscal year that started in July, our Board welcomed back former member Patricia Klinck (a docent and chair of the Chamber Music Concert Series), as well as two new members — Jeanne Burke and



Jeanne is the county historian for Clark County, Ind. She'll bring a Hoosier perspective to our programming, and will help carry the George Rogers Clark flag for us on the other side of the Ohio.

Lori is an archaeologist who has studied Kentucky farms, with an emphasis on slavery. She also has led public archaeology programs at Riverside and at the Portland Wharf. Watch for her to arrive for meetings on her bicycle!

We have a tremendously exciting fall coming up! Our evergrowing 18th Century Market Fair takes place the last weekend in October. The next weekend, the fun continues during our once-in-a-lifetime Lewis & Clark Homecoming celebrations. (See stories on page 1 and in the calendar of events on page 5.)

We're starting our delightful Chamber Music Concert Series in October. (See next page.)



The newest member of our family is Levi Crowe Sutherland, son of Locust Grove Gardener Sarah Dickerson and husband Lowe Sutherland.

Throughout all these events, our interpreters, staff, and volunteers will be preparing for our ever-popular Holiday Candlelight Tours the second weekend in December.

These fall programs are made possible by support from all levels of government, including Metro Louisville, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the National Park Service. We're also receiving funding from private foundations including Brown-Forman Corporation and the Falls of the Ohio Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission; and individual gifts.

It takes all of us – Board, staff, volunteers — to deliver this high level of programming. And it couldn't happen without our Friends, donors, and ... our visitors! Thanks.

Carl Ely

Excerpt From: 'George Rogers Clark and Locust Grove'

How Locust Grove Came To Be – Its Location and Its Design

Carol Ely, Executive Director

William Croghan had come to Louisville in 1784 and lived in what is now downtown.

In April 1790, William and his new wife Lucy purchased a tract of land from Hancock Lee of Virginia. Maj. Croghan supplemented the estate with additional acreage bought from James and Dolley Madison.

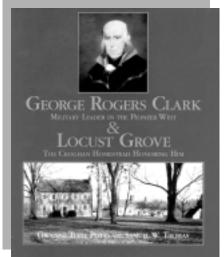
The site where the house would be built was on a plain above the Ohio River, reached from a path leading up from the road along the river.

Major Croghan had more than a passing knowledge of the rudiments of building. He had been directed by the Jefferson County Court to lay out a courthouse on the public square and to contract for its construction in April 1788. Architectural design books were available that detailed the prevailing Georgian style from the overall building plan to the embellishment of the mantel panels and trim. Itinerant carpenters passed from one construction site to another, a fact evidenced by the similarity of homes built in the vicinity. In particular, some of the exterior cornice work uncovered in a restoration of the nearby Taylor family residence, Springfields, has the same pattern as found in the parlor at Locust Grove. Likewise, the stairway in the frame section of the Bullitt home, Oxmoor, dating to 1791, has a decorative

stringer and balustrade similar to the ones at Locust Grove.

Enslaved laborers, trained in a particular facet, such as the production of molding by hand planing, were rented or purchased for the duration of construction...[in Croghan's 1792 tax assessment] of the enslaved men listed, 12 were above 16 and could be considered suitable for the manual and skilled labor involved in the construction of Locust Grove. The land was abundant with the necessary stone and wood materials.

Several years were typically consumed in the construction of



This book – a perfect holiday gift for any history buff or Kentuckian – is available from Locust Grove's Museum Store and at www.locustgrove.org.

a home with the proportions and detailing of Locust Grove. Several hundred dollars were expended for materials not readily available, such as locks, door latches, hinges, shutter hardware, nails and glass. The procurement of glass and hardware was handled by an agent, a situation which, when coupled with poor communication, led to considerable delays.... However, Croghan was quite adept at obtaining such materials, having worked for merchants in New York, and being acquainted with merchants in Philadelphia.

Excerpt from Pages 65-66.

2006-2007 Chamber Music Concert Series

Historic Locust Grove's Chamber Music Concert Series offers a rare opportunity to enjoy music much as the Clarks and Croghans would have in the early 1800s.

You'll be served light refreshments at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Dining Room of the historic house before going to the second-floor ballroom for the 5:30 p.m. concert. (The second floor is not accessible to patrons using wheelchairs.)

Please call (502) 897-9845 for information on season tickets and to make reservations.

Concert Royal

Sunday, October 22

Apollo's Cabinet presents an afternoon of music for baroque flute, cello, lute, and guitar by Telemann, Morel, Roman and Geminiani.

<u>December Winds</u> Sunday, December 10

Keith Collins & Company

present an energetic program with a tip of the top hat to the yuletide season.

Mirabel: A Period Instrument String Quartet

Sunday, February 11

Fresh from concerts in Dallas, Chicago, and Detroit, **Mirabel** presents an afternoon of Mozart and Beethoven string quartets as the composers would have heard them.

<u>A 200th Anniversary Salute</u> Sunday, April 1

Early keyboard specialist Joan Parsley, artistic director of Ensemble Musical Offering, helps celebrate the 200th anniversary of our Broadwood fortepiano with a Beidermeier afternoon of Schubert, Clementi, and others.

Lewis & Clark Have Arrived at HLG

Well, their portraits have, at least.

As part of preparations for the Lewis & Clark Homecoming celebrations, Locust Grove enlisted the aid of photography expert **Allan Wallace** at Murphy's Camera on Bardstown Road. He transformed two photographs of these two paintings of **William Clark** (left) and **Meriwether Lewis** into these portraits.

They're now watching over activities in the Visitors Center auditorium.



CALENDAR

2006 Afternoon Lecture Series

Our September, October, and November lectures have focused on Lewis and Clark to commemorate the 200th anniversary of their return to Historic Locust Grove.

Lectures are held on the first Wednesday of each month, except for January and May. (Note that November's lecture this year is the second Wednesday.)

Desserts and coffee or tea are served at 1:00 p.m., with the lecture immediately following. Admission is \$5, or \$3 for Friends of Locust Grove.

The National Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Celebration

Wednesday, November 8 (Please note that this is the second Wednesday of the month!)



Bud Clark "on the trail."

Peyton "Bud" Clark, the great-great-great-grandson of explorer William Clark, discusses his role and experiences with the National Lewis & Clark Bicentennial.

Bud portrayed his famous ancestor in The Discovery Expedition — a re-enactment of the original 4,100-mile journey from Wheeling, W. Va., to Oregon and return.

There is no charge for this November lecture, thanks to underwriting from the Kentucky Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission. Thank you.

Louisville Dulcimer Society Holiday Concert

Wednesday, December 6

Join "Santa Sam" and the Louisville Dulcimer Society for this kickoff of the holiday season. Hear seasonal songs played on the lap dulcimer — Kentucky's official state instrument — and other Appalachian and acoustical instruments such as hammered dulcimer, banjo, mandolin, guitar, and even a washtub.



CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

This is a rare opportunity to enjoy music much as the Clarks and Croghans would have in the early 1800s. Light refreshments are served at 5:00 p.m. in the house; the concert is at 5:30 in the ballroom. Seating is limited; reservations are required, even for season ticket holders. Please call (502) 897-9845.

Concert Royal

Sunday, October 22

Apollo's Cabinet presents an afternoon of music for baroque flute, cello, lute, and guitar by Telemann, Morel, Roman and Geminiani.

December Winds

Sunday, December 10

Keith Collins & Company present an energetic program with a tip of the top hat to the yuletide season.

18th Century Market Fair

Sat., Oct. 28 — 10 a.m – 4:30 p.m. Sun., Oct. 29 — 10 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Step back two centuries to a time when people gathered to trade goods, socialize, and be entertained. Shop for 18th century goods — such as blankets, soaps, copper-ware, and candles — great for today's living, too! Visit the tavern or enjoy hearty fare and sweets typical of the late 1800s.

Chat with Silas Moore, the Rat Catcher. Or brave a visit to "The Arrogant Frenchman." He makes lace, but he'd rather make you mad with his insults. Throughout the day, you'll want to watch

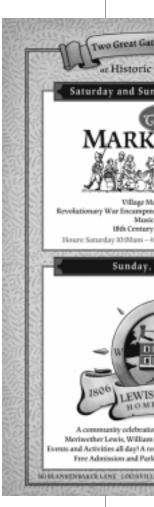
out for skirmishes between British and Colonial forces in the field.

Admission (which includes a tour of Locust Grove) is good for both days — \$6 for adults, \$3 for seniors over 62 and children aged 6 to 12, and free for children 5 and under.

Barn Brou-Ha-Ha

Saturday, October 28 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Come to Locust Grove's barn and dance around the campfire ... listen to stories of headless horsemen ... play frontier games ... bob for apples ... and enjoy hot cider and snacks. The event is free, with a suggested donation of \$3 for adults and \$2 for children.



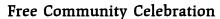
CALENDAR

Lewis & Clark Homecoming

Sunday, November 5 through Sunday, November 12

Our sincere thanks to the following sponsors who are making this week possible — Brown-Forman Corporation, Kentucky Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission, Falls of the Ohio

> Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission, Metro Louisville, Commonwealth of Kentucky, the National Park Service, Friends of Locust Grove, and individual donors.



Sunday, November 5 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Re-enactors from the Bicentennial Trail portray the explorers, Clark and Croghan family members, and Locust Grove slaves and neighbors. At 2:00 p.m., the explorers and other re-enactors will travel on horseback and wagon from River Road and up Blankenbaker Lane to their homecoming at Locust Grove.

Other activities include presentations by re-enactors of Lewis, Clark, York, and a member of the Mandan tribe ... visits with re-enactors from the Corps of Discovery who will be camping on the grounds ... exhibits about Lewis and Clark's discoveries ... crafts related to the journey ... and other interactive exhibits.

The National Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Celebration

Wednesday, November 8 1:00 p.m. — Peyton "Bud" Clark

See description, facing page.

An Evening of Lewis & Clark

By Invitation Only to "Friends of Locust Grove" Wednesday, November 8, 6:30 p.m.

Featuring cocktails and hors d'oeuvres served in the historic home and in the Visitors Center. **Bud Clark** will chat with visitors about the artifacts he'll be displaying from his great-great-great grandfather, **William Clark**.

Stephenie Ambrose Tubbs, Lewis and Clark author and daughter of *Undaunted Courage* author Stephen Ambrose, will talk about William Clark's leadership on the Journey of Discovery.

Free Tour and Gallery Talk

Sunday, November 12, 2:00 p.m.

A special tour of Historic Locust Grove will be followed by a wine and cheese reception in the Visitors Center. There, Locust Grove volunteer **Mary Lou Johnston** will preview a DVD she's made, documenting the three-year Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration.

LOCUST GROVE HOLIDAY SAMPLER

Friday, November 24 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Spend the day after Thanksgiving exploring our region's heritage. Costumed interpreters will be in the weaving room, kitchen, and woodshop. And it's all included in the regular admission price! (We are open our regular hours, 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

Locust Grove Museum Store Sale

Friday, November 24 thru Sunday, December 3

For special Christmas gifts without traffic hassles, shop our museum store! During this sale, you'll receive a 15-percent discount on all purchases. The museum store carries a wide array of stationery, music, toys, special books, and Kentucky-made crafts.

CANDLELIGHT TOURS

Friday, Dec. 8, and Saturday, Dec. 9, 5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

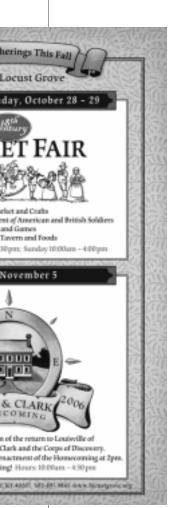
A celebration reminiscent of the year 1820 comes alive under the warm glow of candles. The house shines warmly as the illustrious Clark and Croghan families greet their guests.



Mantels and stairs are draped with fresh greens and exotic fruits.

Out in the kitchen, cooks offer samples of food prepared for the house guests, while carpenters in the woodshop finish repairs to farm tools and create everyday objects.

And it's all at our regular prices — \$6, general admission; \$5, seniors; \$3, children 6-12; free to children under 6 and to Friends of Locust Grove.



Shop Online and Donate to HLG!



Do you shop online? If so, your purchase can bring a small donation to Historic Locust Grove — at **no** cost to you!

Locust Grove is one of many museums that have this shopping logo (above) on their websites. It directs shoppers to popular online merchants. In exchange, the museum gets a fraction of the purchase price.

The first month, we received a check for \$9.29 — from only *two* online purchases! Imagine the amount if hundreds of our supporters purchased through the "Shop for our Museum" link — purchases you were going to make anyway!

In order to credit Locust Grove, you *must* enter through the link posted on our web page *before* you start shopping at the online merchants.

The link is at the lower righthand corner of our main page at www.locustgrove.org, as well as on the store page. Unless you choose to register at the site, your donation is anonymous. It's up to you.

A few of the hundreds of merchants participating include Alibris Books, Apple Computers, Babies 'R Us, Best Buy, Bose Sound, Circuit City, Dell Computers, Dean & DeLuca, Disney, Ebay, Eddie Bauer, Foot Locker, FTD Florists, GAP, Golf Galaxy, Hyatt Hotels, Kohl's, Lands' End, Lego, Macy's, Office Depot, Orbitz, Petsmart, Sony, Staples, Starbucks, Sur La Table, Target, and Zappo's Shoes!

School Tours Make a Big Impression

Each year, history comes to life for thousands of local school children who come to Locust Grove on field trips. They see how people really lived and worked on what was the edge of the frontier in the early 19th century.

They meet the cook, fixing food in her hearth kitchen. They visit the carpenter, working in his shop and surrounded by period tools. They chat with the weaver about making material from wool and flax. Sometimes they get to play period games.

Locust Grove is able to reach out to nearby communities through our bus and admissions



subsidy program. This gives a large number of students a chance to come to the Grove at no cost to their parents or

their schools. These funds come from Metro Council members and proceeds from our Used Book Sale in March.

Many of the teachers ask their students to write



letters about what they learned while visiting Locust Grove. Always a delight to read, the letters also offer insights into the kinds of things the children learn. Here are some excerpts:

"We found out that rich and famous people lived [at Locust Grove]. Some presidents came to visit them. They didn't have electricity or indoor plumbing. . . .

"They used fireplaces to cook their food. The cook put water on her dress so it wouldn't catch on fire. And I learned that you never put your leg on a fire."

"... I learned that William not George went on the expedition. Also I learned what kind of games they played... [and] what they wear.... This was the best trip ever."

HLG Hosts Slave Wedding Event



Hundreds of guests attended a reenactment of a slave wedding at Locust Grove in July. Volunteer Dolores White wrote and produced "A Slave Wedding: From Generation to Generation." Halena Diallo directed the cast from Genesis Arts Kentucky, Inc. "I learned that the top floor
[of the house] was for
children, no guests went up
there. . . . I learned . . . the
refrigerator [spring house] and
freezer [ice house] were about
a block away from each other.
(Woo, a lot of walking)."

"I had a great time at Locust Grove. It was just like this farm I went to in Ohio. I appreciate that you let us have a free bus ride and admission."

"... Locust Grove was a fun place. It was better than being in school all day. . . . my dad or mom would have fun there."

Friends of Locust Grove

Our "Friends of Historic Locust Grove" membership program began in January 2002. We now have more than 400 individual and family members.

A hearty "thank you" to all of these people who joined or renewed their memberships from June 1 through September 1, 2006, and to all of our longtime "Friends of Locust Grove"!

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To Become a Friend

Yearly memberships in the Friends of Locust Grove are available in three categories:

Individual - \$35

Family - \$50

For membership information

Student - \$15

and details, please call us at (502) 897-9845.

Save Your Books!



Please remember to save vour books for Locust Grove's annual Used Book Sale, which will be held March 10-11, 2007.

In the next Grove Gazette, we'll give details about how to get your good used books to Locust Grove.

You'll get a tax deduction, and we'll get the proceeds for our educational programs and events.

Thanks so much!

Thanks To Our Donors!

Many thanks to the hundreds of people who support **Historic Locust Grove through** various kinds of donations. We depend upon and deeply appreciate your generosity and involvement.

Thanks to the following people for their most recent donations:

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In Honor of Dr. Preston & Mrs. Margaret C. Thomas Ann F. Piper

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Murphy's Camera on Bardstown Road Dr. William and Mrs. Diana Winkler Ruth Ann Wuerth

To Make A

To donate in honor of or in memory of a person, please send a note, along with your donation to:

> Carol Ely, Executive Director Historic Locust Grove 561 Blankenbaker Lane Louisville, KY 40207

Please include where and to whom you would like us to acknowledge your donation. All donations are tax-deductible.

Did You Know?

There's a strange small box on a table in the Family Dining Room. It's called a "bee box."



Early settlers used a bee box to help them find beehives. Honey was an important sweetener since sugar was very hard to get and quite expensive.

Though bee boxes were made in many different ways, how they were used is quite similar.

The top of a bee box has an opening in it. Inside, are a couple of sections. There is usually a drawer containing flour at the bottom, covered by a pull-out shelf.

The box is actually a trap. The idea was to attract bees into the box with a little bit of jelly or other sweet. When they'd get several bees in the box, they'd close the box and trap them.

Then they'd slide out the shelf over the flour. The bees would fall into the flour for a few seconds, coating themselves.

This did two things - made it easier to see the bees as they flew back to the hive when they were released, and slowed down the bees so they were easier to follow.

Once the settlers found the hives, they'd claim them by carving their initials in the tree.

Honeycombs were highly prized, as was the honey. The settlers didn't want to hurt the bees, just harvest their honey.

And now you know.