

# GROVE GAZETTE

Historic Locust Grove

561 Blankenbaker Lane

Louisville, KY 40207

(502) 897-9845

www.locustgrove.org



Locust Grove is accredited by the  
American Association of Museums.

NONPROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

MASONIC HOME, KY.  
PERMIT NO. 16



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

Printing of *Grove Gazette* is contributed by Publishers Printing, Shepherdsville, Ky. Thank you.

## Carolyn Lentz – Spirit Award Winner

**Aileen Novick, Program Director**

Kindness and dedication are two words that describe this quarter's Spirit Award Winner, **Carolyn Lentz**.

Carolyn grew up in Henry County, Ky., and lived in Louisville for the first seven years of marriage. Then the moves began; and before her husband's retirement, she and her family had lived in four other states. But they always knew they'd return to their "Kentucky home."

So when she was back in Louisville in 1996, she looked for something new to do — and found Locust Grove.

Carolyn's dedication is evident in her duties at the Visitors Center. "It's great to see Carolyn on a Monday

morning," says **Carol Ely**, Locust Grove Executive Director. "She's always reliable and helps kick off the week with great cheerfulness."

During her Monday morning shift, Carolyn often is the main person greeting guests and answering the phones. **Jane and Bob Smith**, two other regular Monday morning volunteers, agree that Carolyn's "quiet ways and sunny smile make our visitors feel so very welcome."

Carolyn's favorite Locust Grove event is the Candlelight Tour offered every December. "I love to see the house so beautifully decorated for the Croghan's holiday party," Carolyn says.

Everywhere she's lived, Carolyn has had a garden. And she's a



wonderful knitter. "One of these days, I'll come dressed only in clothes that I've knitted or made!" she promises.

Carolyn enjoys the Locust Grove community immensely. "There are so many lovely people here — volunteers, staff, and our interesting visitors," she says. "Locust Grove is a real treasure, and I wish everyone would come to see it."

We all thank Carolyn for the great service she provides to everyone who works at or visits Locust Grove.

## Yearly Events Mark Your Calendars!

### Afternoon Lecture Series

1:00 p.m. — the first Wednesday of the month (except January and May).

### 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 & Auction

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

Costumed interpreters in the house and out-buildings on Friday and Saturday in early December.

# GROVE GAZETTE

Historic Locust Grove

## From The Director's Desk

**Carol Ely, Ph.D., Executive Director**

Lately we've realized that there seems to be a real hunger for local history — a need to learn and understand more about the particular people of this particular place.

This is shown by the popularity of our Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series, held on the first Wednesday of each month (except January and May). Attendance has been growing surprisingly fast, often reaching standing-room only capacity in our auditorium. It's a fun way to participate in research and scholarship about this region's past.

Our lectures always begin with fabulous home-baked desserts (thanks, volunteers!), which sets a relaxed and social mood.

Distinguished lecturers and the occasional performer present insightful talks about a topic in the chosen theme. Audiences listen and participate, and history is in the air. There are always many questions, and the speakers linger afterward to chat with guests. We even offer a discount at the Museum store, which many take advantage of.

Over the past year, we've had a parade of fascinating characters

"visiting" Locust Grove — from the return of Lewis and Clark (played by dedicated reenactors) to the individuals that we've introduced to audiences this year.

2007's lecture series features famous visitors to Locust

Grove — from Aaron Burr to John James Audubon, Stephen Bishop to Cassius Clay (the 19th century abolitionist, that is). George Rogers Clark's amputated leg was even featured at the lecture in March.



*It was standing-room-only for this Wednesday Afternoon Lecture by "Bud" Clark during Locust Grove's Lewis & Clark Homecoming last November.*

There's a growing awareness that the Croghan and Clark families lived in a social context of neighbors, merchants, slaves, tradesmen, statesmen, and tenant farmers. The houses of some remain; descendants of others live in the area.

Traces can be found of multiple lives and experiences passing through time — if you know where to look and whom to ask. People are eager to learn how to put the pieces together. Who are we now, who were we then? How did Locust Grove fit in to each era, each community?

Come visit us on the first Wednesday of most months in 2008 when we'll be looking at the society and people of early Louisville and the region.

Thanks to the Locust Grove Education Committee, our dedicated Program Director **Aileen Novick**, and our excellent Hospitality Committee — our Wednesday Afternoon Lectures will continue to be the most fun you've ever had learning about history.

*Carol Ely*

## New Activities, Old Favorites at 18th Century Market Fair



Exciting entertainers, disciplined soldiers, creative vendors — they'll all be at Locust Grove for the 18th Century Market Fair on October 28 and 29.

The 40-plus vendors include wood workers, potters, tinsmiths, and fabric vendors. The costumes and trappings might be 18th century, but the goods fit right into 21st century lives. There's even Lisette Le Proux who will be telling fortunes.

New this year is "His Lordship's Beef — Caterers of Fine Victuals," which will be slow-roasting meats on-site.

"His Lordship" — part of The Thomas Family Winery — will also be serving wines, hand-crafted cider, and ale. And you'll want to stop by Locust Grove's dessert shop for delicious pies and other period baked goods.

Check out Fluir Herbals, where herbs, lotions and salves can be found. Be sure to keep an eye out for Daniel Boone. And watch out for the Arrogant French Lace Maker, who will be busy insulting visitors while he makes beautiful lace in his fine tent. Then take a tour of the soldiers' camps to see how they and their followers lived and worked 200 years ago.

It's all great fun. Don't miss it!



Grove Gazette is published quarterly by Historic Locust Grove, Inc. for members, volunteers and friends of Historic Locust Grove. © 2007

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 the city of Louisville.

#### Board of Directors

J. Scott Waters IV, *President*  
Nancy Stablein, *VP*  
John H. Stites III, *VP*  
Laurie Stahlgren, *VP*  
Gwynne Tuell Potts, *Secretary*  
Downey M. Gray III, *Treasurer*

Doris M. Berry  
Jeanne Burke  
Joy G. Carew, Ph.D.  
Roberta Dixon  
Laurie Diebold  
George Duthie  
Mary C. Hancock  
John Hamilton  
Cathy J. Hundley  
Jennie A. Johnson  
Patricia Klinck  
Susan S. Means  
Robert Micou  
Christopher C. Morris  
Lee W. Robinson  
John Rippy  
Mollie G. Smith  
Diane Statler  
Elizabeth Swearingen-Edens  
Larry F. Telle  
B. Preston Thomas, M.D.  
Claudia Trudel

#### Board of Advisors

Ken Carstens  
Peyton "Bud" Clark  
Richard T. Jett  
Dale Josey  
Stephen C. Lannert  
Nancy Lee  
Dorothy T. Martin  
Nancy A. Millard  
Jean D. Miller  
Claudia F. Runge  
Martin Schmidt  
Brook T. Smith  
Emilie Strong Smith

#### Locust Grove Staff

Carol Ely, Ph.D., *Executive Director*  
Aileen Novick, *Program Director*  
Jennifer Jansen, *Visitors Center Manager*  
Sarah Dickerson Sutherland, *Gardener*  
John Moses, *Housekeeper and Groundskeeper*  
Lindsey Carter, *Caretaker*  
Bonny Wise, *Marketing Coordinator*  
Debbie Scott, *Administrative Assistant*  
**Weekend Managers—**  
Alba Jennings  
Rita Jones  
Tricia Langley  
Marino McDaniel

#### Grove Gazette

Jeannie Litterst Vezeau, *Docent  
Writer/Editor, Layout/Design*

## Getting To Know Locust Grove's Costumed Interpreters

# Brian Cushing is George Croghan



### How did you select George Croghan as the person you would portray?

George just seemed like an incredibly likeable fellow. I was drawn to him because so often he was *not* "larger than life," as were his father (William Croghan) and uncles (George Rogers Clark and William Clark).

His human story seems more like real life as we, in the 21st century, know it. He's someone people can identify with.

### What are some of the characteristics of George Croghan?

As you know, he's the second son of Lucy and William Croghan, and grew up here at Locust Grove. Imagine — he was here for two years after his Uncle George Rogers Clark moved in with Lucy and William. So he must have gotten to know his Uncle George quite well, and I'm sure he relished hearing all his uncle's stories.

He joined the military in 1811 and was a highly celebrated hero of the War of 1812. His defense of Fort Stephenson in 1813 was incredibly heroic. In fact, over the mantel in the Formal Dining Room is the sword the grateful people of Fremont, Ohio, gave

George as thanks for saving their city from the British.

However, his life was quite troubled. He left the military in 1815 and married the beautiful, aristocratic, and wealthy young Serena Livingston of New York. But that marriage did not go well.

The life he offered Serena was a far cry from the majestic world she knew. This, along with his drinking and gambling and his constant indebtedness, set the stage for tragedy. (See "Did You Know" on page 7.)

### What are some of the things you do to make George Croghan come to life?

My interpretation of George has changed quite a bit over the past few years. At first, the defense of Fort Stephenson stood out so much that I nearly made that into the entire character — with the drinking and gambling almost as comical side notes.

But as I got to know George better, he became a person, not an event. I stopped giving as many detailed, grand accounts of military action and started being more of a friendly gentleman with a somewhat diminished confidence.

Where once I came across as a braggart, I now know George as someone quite humbled by the grandeur he perceived of men like his father and his uncle George.

### How did you research your character?

I've learned a great deal from other people here who

interpreted George and Serena. And I continue to soak up every detail I possibly can, whenever and wherever I can find it. Plus, it's very important to know about the time period of the character himself. Our corps of interpreters often makes this research a team effort — through discussion and sharing of resources.

For me, the most difficult part about staying in character when talking to 21st century visitors is wanting to tell them about parts of Locust Grove's history that spans beyond the knowledge that this gentleman would have in 1820.

But my life as George Croghan is always a priceless experience, one that lets me go into another time and place.



From: 'George Rogers Clark and Locust Grove'  
by Gwynne Tuell Potts and Samuel W. Thomas

## George Rogers Clark's Role in Lewis & Clark Expedition

November 8 marks the 201<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the homecoming return of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to visit Clark's family at Locust Grove after their great expedition to the West. In many ways the expedition was possible because of George Rogers Clark. This excerpt is from Page 78.

When President Jefferson sought to refortify the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers in 1802, his secretary of war requested information about the location from William Clark, who had previously inspected the site of old Fort Jefferson. As George Rogers Clark had established Fort Jefferson in 1780, he took the opportunity to write Jefferson on the subject, concluding his letter of 12 December 1802:

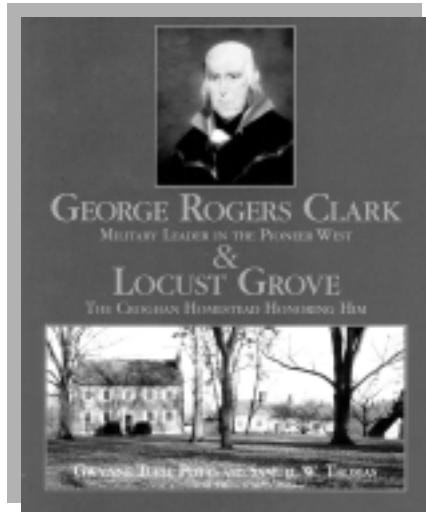
*"I have long since laid aside all Idea of Public affairs, by bad fortune, and ill health. I have become incapable of persuing those enterprising & active persuits which I have been fond of from my youth – but I will with the greatest pleasure give my bro. William every information in my power on this, or any other point which may be of Service to your administration. He is well qualified almost for any business. If it should be in your power to confur on him any post of Honor and profit, in this Countrey in which we live, it will exceedingly gratify me."*

At the same time, William Clark contacted Meriwether Lewis, seeking his help in retrieving financial papers that would support George Rogers' claim against Virginia. Lewis,

who had served in an elite rifle company under William Clark's command, had been selected as private secretary by President Jefferson because of his knowledge of the Army and the western country...

The claim against Virginia would not be resolved in George Rogers Clark's lifetime, but William's correspondence with Meriwether Lewis was of more lasting consequence. In the remainder of his long letter to William Clark, Lewis laid out Jefferson's designs for an expedition, concluding: *"I make this communication to you with the privity of the President, who expresses an anxious wish that you would consent to join me in this enterprise."* The day after William received "with much pleasure" the invitation at Clarksville, 17 July 1803, he accepted. *"This is an invitation fraited with many difficulties, but My friend I do assure you that no man lives whith whom I would perfur to undertake Such a Trip &c. as yourself, and I shall arrange my matters as well as I can against your arrival here."*

Jefferson's instructions to Lewis and Clark, issued 20 June, were to *"explore the Missouri river, & such Principal stream of it, as, by it's course & communication*



This book – a great gift for any history buff – is available at Locust Grove's Museum Store and from our website at [www.locustgrove.org](http://www.locustgrove.org).

*with the waters of the Pacific Ocean, may offer the most direct & practicable water communication across the continent, for the purposes of commerce."* Clark's preparations for the journey included securing his Clarksville land in anticipation of his return....

Jonathan Clark noted in his diary 26 October 1803: *"Rain at Louisville at Clarksville Capt Lewis and Capt Wm. Clark set off on Western tour..."*

**Authors: Gwynne Tuell Potts and Samuel W. Thomas**

Field trip participants pause in the garden of the Mary Todd Lincoln home.



## Docents, Others Visit Lexington, Ky.

Jeannie Litterst Vezeau, Docent

Exploring the history of Locust Grove, Louisville, and the surrounding region is one of the ways that Locust Grove docents, volunteers and staff members stay informed.

A great — and fun — way to do this is through the volunteer field trips organized a couple times each year by Program Director **Aileen Novick** and the Volunteer Steering Committee.

Our most recent trip took us to two historic homes in Lexington — Ashland, the home of Henry Clay, and the Mary Todd Lincoln home. Enthusiastic docents at both homes brought the people and places to life for the 30+ field trip participants.

Among many other things, we learned that Henry Clay was more than just "The Great Compromiser." He was also a "scientific farmer" who practiced crop rotation and introduced several new breeds of sheep and kinds of trees to the U.S.

Our fascinating docent at the Mary Todd Lincoln home painted a different picture of this wife of the 16th President than our history books often give us. She was a lovely young woman, was fluent in French, began collecting Meissen china when she was 13 years old, and loved talking politics. No wonder Abe fell in love with her.



## 2007 AFTERNOON LECTURE SERIES

The theme of this year's series is "They Came to Locust Grove: Important Visitors to the Home." The Education Committee gives many thanks to volunteer Melzie Wilson for inspiring this year's lecture series title with her recently published book, "They Came to Locust Grove."

Lectures are held on the first Wednesday of each month, except for January and May.

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

### STEPHEN BISHOP

Wednesday, November 7

Joy Medley Lyons brings us information about Stephen Bishop, the famous cave explorer of the Mammoth Cave area. Bishop was a slave owned by Dr. John Croghan, oldest son of William and Lucy Croghan. Bishop visited Locust Grove and drew his famous map of the Mammoth Cave system here. Ms. Lyons, chief of programs at Mammoth Cave National Park, has a new book, *Making Their Mark: The Signature of Slavery at Mammoth Cave*, and has done considerable research about the slaves who worked at the cave.

### LOUISVILLE DULCIMER SOCIETY'S HOLIDAY CONCERT

Wednesday, December 5

The Louisville Dulcimer Society members come to Locust Grove every December. They bring with them joyously toe-tapping traditional holiday music played on Kentucky's official state instrument (the lap or mountain dulcimer) and other folk instruments.

It's a great way to kick off the holiday season and to conclude another successful lecture series.



## 2008 AFTERNOON LECTURE SERIES

Join us next year to learn about "Early Louisville Society" — the theme of our 2008 Afternoon Lecture Series.

Life in early Louisville was filled with activity; organizations and systems of all kinds were being created to make this city thrive. Lectures will investigate systems of transportation, the system of slavery, early school and church systems, early medical offerings, the networks of commerce, and much more.

The first lecture of 2008 will be on **Wednesday, February 6**. Check [www.locustgrove.org](http://www.locustgrove.org) for the latest information on all our events.

## CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

This is a rare opportunity to enjoy music much as the Croghans and Clarks would have in the early 1800s. Light refreshments are served on the first floor of the historic house at 5:00 p.m.; the concert is at 5:30 in the ballroom. (The April concert will be held on the porch, weather permitting.)

We have three levels of support for our Chamber Music Series — Patrons, \$200; Supporter, \$100; Season Subscriber, \$65. Individual concert tickets may be purchased at \$20 each. Seating is limited and reservations are required, even for season ticket holders. Please call (502) 897-9845 for further information and to subscribe.

### CANTERBURY TALES

Sunday, October 7, 2007

An evening of storytelling with a concert version of selected readings from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, read in Middle English, with wind and percussion music of the period.

### FRENCH HOLIDAY CONCERT

Sunday, December 9, 2007

A concert of popular songs, dances and noëls from 18th century France, arranged for hurdy-gurdy, bassoon and guitar. **Robert Green**, a nationally renowned hurdy-gurdy player, will join us.

### DEAN SHOSTAK AND THE GLASS ARMONICA

Sunday, February 3, 2008

Direct from Colonial Williamsburg, **Dean Shostak** performs on the Glass Armonica. This concert has been generously underwritten by Chamber Music Subscriber **Benjamin Franklin**, whose namesake invented this model of the Glass Armonica.

### CIVIC BRASS BANDS

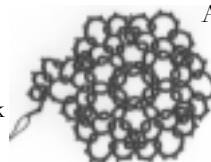
Sunday, April 6, 2008

**Susan Reigler** leads a brass quartet at an *al fresco* concert in the spirit of 19th American civic brass bands.

## TAT & CHAT

Third Saturday of Each Month —

November 17, and December 15, 2007; January 19, 2008  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



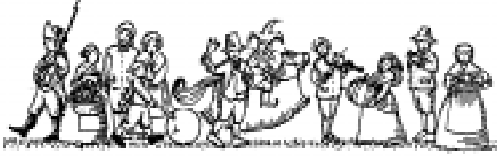
Attention, new tatters and experienced ones! All are invited to our new "tat and chat" sessions. Bring your own projects to work on, and perhaps you'll pick up some new ideas. These sessions are held the third Saturday of each month. Please join us!

## 18TH CENTURY MARKET FAIR

Saturday, October 27, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday, October 28, 10:00 a.m. to 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, copperware, and candles — great for today's living, too! Enjoy hearty fare and sweets typical of the late 1700s, along with hand-crafted cider and other liquid refreshments. Take a tour of the American, British, and Native American encampments — but watch out for skirmishes.

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.



Photograph by Kathy Cummings.

## PAINTED FLOOR CLOTH WORKSHOP

Friday, November 23 – 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m., and  
Saturday, November 24 – 10:00 a.m.–12 Noon



Virginia Tucker, owner of The Virginia Floor Cloth Company in Louisville, will show you how to create a versatile floor covering for your home. The art of making floor cloths (a precursor to linoleum) became popular in the 1700s.

Participants will use a diamond pattern with a border to create a 2-foot by 3-foot floor cloth. Frames, canvas, paint, brushes, and the pattern will be provided. The workshop is being held in two sessions to allow the first day's painting to dry. The cost of the workshop is \$75. Reservations are required. Please call 897-9845 to save your spot!

## BARN BROU-HA-HA

Saturday, October 27  
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Come to Locust Grove's barn to listen to some Celtic tunes . . . dance and sing around the campfire . . . tell ghost stories . . . watch the sword-swallower . . . and have a great time!

## LOCUST GROVE MUSEUM STORE SALE

Friday, November 23 through Sunday, December 2

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.

## HOLIDAY SAMPLER

Friday, November 23 —  
*(The day after Thanksgiving)*  
Demonstrations —

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Last tour starts – 3:15 p.m.

From 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., your family and out-of-town guests can experience the early 19th century at Locust Grove. You can interact with our woodworker, who will be using his collection of historic tools to create wooden treasures . . . our cook, who will be busy tending to her pots over the hearth fire . . . and our weaver, who will show you just what it took to turn wool and flax into fabric.



During a Holiday Sampler tour, weaving demonstrator Carrie Nakajima describes how flax is made into linen fabric.

## HOLIDAY CANDLELIGHT TOURS

Friday, December 7 and Saturday, December 8  
5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

A celebration reminiscent of the year 1820 comes alive under the warm glow of candles. The illustrious Clark and Croghan families welcome their guests with dancing and singing; mantels and stairs are draped with fresh greens and exotic fruits; and family members are

found in every room of the house. In the kitchen, cooks show how food is prepared for the



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 for children under 6 and Friends of Locust Grove.



## HOLIDAY BOOK SALE AT CANDLELIGHT

Friday, December 7 and Saturday, December 8  
12 Noon–4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Check out this special holiday sale of gift-quality antiquarian and remaindered books in the auditorium. This sale benefits the education and preservation programs of Historic Locust Grove.

## Friends of Locust Grove

Enrollment/Renewal – July 1, through September 14, 2007

Our "Friends of 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 recently joined or renewed their memberships, and to all of our longtime Friends of Locust Grove!

Mary-Jo Acree

Maude Baker

Mr. & Mrs. R. Bruce Bass

Joanne Bentley

Paul & Elizabeth Bergmann

Mrs. Paul Bickel Jr.

Dr. & Mrs. Harold Blevins

Beverley Braverman

Mr. & Mrs. Prentice E. Brown Jr.

Patricia Carey

Bud Clark

Janice Nuss Corum

Paula, Mike & Nicholas Covault  
Carolyn Cox

Lucy & Roger Dalton  
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon B. Davidson  
Laurie & John Diebold  
Charles & Ann Dobbs  
Sheila R. Dunlap  
George & Mary Lee Duthie

Katherine Eirk & M. Edward Veazey  
Pete & Marty Ely  
Caroline M. Ewing

Margaret Flowers

Myra Glass

Mr. & Mrs. Downey M. Gray Jr.

Cornelia W. Guthrie

Kathy Hall

William & Allys Huff

Jane Humphrey

Alba Jennings

Susanne Jones

David Kremer

Bill & Bonnie Kugler

David, Joy, Rebekah & Hayley Lyons

Vivian McDonald

Scott & Ann Miller Jr.

Jean and Samuel Miller

Marilyn Motsch

Dr. & Mrs. William N. Nash

Lucy Nasser

Bogdan & Geraldine Nedelkoff

Sonny & Betty Neurath

Scott & Susan Norris

Marda Numann

Edward J. & Sandra T. O'Brien

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Owen Jr

Frank & Marge Perrin

Elizabeth Reutlinger

Mrs Anne Ricci

Lee Robinson

Mrs. Barbara Rodes

Patricia E. Rogers

William Rowe

Dave Ruckman

Charlie & Frances Scholtz

Frances & Rebecca Smith

Gordon A. Snyder

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Speckman

Bill C. & Olivia Sumner

James & Elizabeth Voyles

Louise R. Wall

Doris D. Warren

Susan H. Wilburn

Harriett C. Wilson

Paula & Mike Wolf

### To Become a Friend

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

Individual — \$35

Family — \$50

Student — \$15

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

## Many Thanks To Our Recent 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.

### Donations & Grants

Anonymous

Mrs. R. Bruce Bass

Norman & Doris Berry

Mrs. Paul Bickel Jr.

Richard & Gwen Bischoff

Charles & Ann Dobbs

Katherine Eirk & M. Edward Veazey

Myra Glass

Mrs. Downey M. Gray Jr.

John P. Hamilton

Alba B. Jennings

Mary Lou Johnston

Nancy W. Lee

Jean D. Miller

Susan Norris

Edward & Sandra O'Brien

Lee W. Robinson

Olivia S. Sumner

Margy & Preston Thomas

Major General & Mrs. William Winkler

The Community Foundation  
of Louisville

GE Foundation Matching Gift Fund

*Underwriting of Antiques Market*

Rod Lich, Inc.

Central Bank of Jefferson County

Andrew Gentile Antiques

Another Antique Shop

Breck Morgan Antiques

The Century Shop

Dover House Antiques and Mercantile

Goodall's Antiques

Louisville Antique, Art &

Collectibles Show

Mixed Bag Antiques

Oakridge Antiques

Scott F. Nussbaum Antiques & Fine Art

Steve Tipton, Antiquarian

Trace Meyer Antiques

Works of Art Clock Shop

*In Honor of Shirley & Ed*

*Dumesnil's Anniversary*

Virginia & Peter Fleisher

*In Memory of Molly Bush*

Frances Newman Alden

Stanley & Roberta Dickson

Historic Locust Grove Board

George & Nancy Stablein

*In Memory of Ethel Chack*

Anonymous

*In Memory of John Gaines*

Historic Locust Grove Board

Nancy W. Lee

Diane & Jim Statler

*Underwriting of 18th Century Market Fair*

Neighborhood Development Funds from  
Councilmember Kelly Downard,  
16th District

Stockyards Bank & Trust

### In-Kind Donations

Charles Bartman

Charles Dorenkott

Scott F. Nussbaum

Publishers Printing

## Donors, Vendors, Public Help Make Antiques Markets and All Events a Success

Historic Locust Grove's special events, such as the June and September Antiques Markets and the 18th Century Market Fair, directly benefit HLG's educational and preservation efforts.

The semi-annual Antiques Markets are a joint project of promoter Rod Lich, Inc. and Locust Grove. All our valued donors and major underwriters — such as Louisville's **Central Bank** which supports our Antiques Markets — make it possible for even more of these funds to help Locust Grove.

Thanks to the underwriters, donors, and all who attend our events!



## It Was A Busy September Sunday

Cars and people were everywhere on Sunday, September 23 as Historic Locust Grove hosted two new events — a bus tour of “hidden” historic homes and an antiques appraisal session. Proceeds from both events go toward Historic Locust Grove’s educational and preservation programs.

### ‘So Close From Home’ Tour with Lynn Renau

From noon until 3:45 p.m., author and Locust Grove volunteer **Lynn Renau** entertained the 55 people on the “So Close From Home” bus tour — giving fascinating stories of the earliest families in the Brownsboro Road/Locust Grove/St. Matthew’s area of eastern Jefferson County. The first stop was a visit to the Bellarmine



Lynn Renau

University Designers’ Show House, “Elmwood.” Built in the mid-1850s, it was owned for several generations by a prominent and prolific early Louisville family. Then the tour wove in and around the area, revealing other historic Louisville homes hidden in suburban neighborhoods — including a surprise stop at Lynn’s home, dating to the early 1800s. The homes and families are all an integral part of Lynn’s new book about the history of the area around Locust Grove. The book is sold exclusively at Locust Grove’s Museum Shop.



### Antiques Appraisals with Scott Nussbaum



Scott Nussbaum

The line began forming an hour early, with people clutching vases and paintings, rocking chairs and lamps, boxes of what they hoped would be treasures. For the next five-plus hours, antiquarian and antiques dealer **Scott Nussbaum** conducted his own “road show” of antiques. As always happens at these events, there were some

great surprises. A painting was appraised at \$10,000, and a silver tea service was estimated at \$8,500. The thrilled tea service owner said, “I’ve been to several appraisers, who were stumped. But Scott knew what it was right away. This is a great event!”



## Did You Know?

Carol Ely, Ph.D., Executive Director



**Serena Croghan’s portrait as it hangs in the Formal Dining Room.**

The portrait of a beautiful young woman dressed fashionably in red velvet that hangs in the Formal Dining Room at Locust Grove intrigues visitors. Some are disappointed to learn that she’s a daughter-in-law, not a daughter of the family.

But Serena Livingston Croghan, wife of George Croghan, was one of the most formidable and independent characters in the remarkable Locust Grove family.

Born wealthy and well-connected into a prominent New York family, Serena met George in 1816. It was apparently a love match (George’s brother William referred to his sibling as being “on the wings of love” during the next year). But the relationship was tumultuous from the start.

They married in 1816, and by 1820, a friend referred to George as “hen Pecked.” He noted that George had left Serena in New York when he returned to Kentucky to establish himself as a farmer after his military career.

George and Serena soon moved to New Orleans where he held, and then lost in disgrace, the position of Postmaster. He had embezzled government funds, then apparently attempted suicide.

His family rescued him from utter disaster; but George continued to alternately repent and reform, and then slip back into drinking and money troubles. Lucy Croghan refused to see her son. Some of the family blamed Serena for George’s troubles; but apparently not Lucy. She left land in her will to their children, but not to George.

In 1844, after George once again stole money through his government position, Serena filed for separation from her husband — a very unusual step for a woman to take in that era.

She and her children at first lived on the East Coast — in Washington and New York. Then, in the early 1850s, Serena took her youngest daughter, “Tiny,” for an extended visit with an older daughter, Angelica — who had married and moved to San Francisco during the Gold Rush. After the Civil War, Serena moved permanently to California.

Said a descendant: “Very courageously, Serena and her baby set forth on the long trip to California. [Tiny] thrilled me from the time I was a little girl with her stories of Serena crossing the Isthmus of Panama on mule ... while she carried her baby in one arm and held an umbrella in the other hand.” (*Letter from Virginia Wheaton to Locust Grove, 1990.*)

Serena died in California in 1884, at the age of 90 — outliving her husband and all of his brothers and sisters by many years.

The California descendents of George and Serena Croghan later donated family possessions to Locust Grove — including George Rogers Clark’s sword, a silver service, the portraits of Lucy and William Croghan that are in the parlor, and the portraits of the sadly mismatched couple, George and Serena Croghan in the dining room.

And now you know.