

HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE GROVE GAZETTE



Locust Grove Receives National Recognition for Excellence



Historic Locust Grove has earned renewed accreditation from the American Association of Museums (AAM). Locust Grove is one of fewer than 5 percent of American museums to meet the association's high National Standards and Best Practices. AAM Accreditation first was awarded to Locust Grove in 2000.



"By achieving re-accreditation, Historic Locust Grove has again proven it is, simply, one of the finest museums in America — providing invaluable educational and cultural service to the people of Louisville and the nation," says AAM President **Ford W. Bell**.

Locust Grove is one of only five museums in Kentucky to achieve this recognition, and is the only one of these to hold the distinction of being a National Historic Landmark. The other AAM-accredited organizations in Kentucky are the Speed Art Museum, the Kentucky Historical Society, the Louisville Zoo, and the University of Kentucky Art Museum.

Louisville Mayor **Greg Fischer** believes that Locust Grove is one of Louisville's historical treasures. "This important designation certainly affirms the tremendous effort and dedication that goes not only into preserving and protecting Locust Grove, but also in providing a high quality

experience for visitors to this historic home," says Mayor Fischer.

Kentucky's District 3 U.S. Congressman **John Yarmuth** cites this accreditation as a major honor for Locust Grove. "It is yet another affirmation that these historic grounds represent more than just an interesting past, but also a promising future," says Congressman Yarmuth. "In its educational and cultural offerings, Locust Grove proves itself at home among America's top museums."

HLG Board President **Gwynne Potts** adds, "Historic Locust Grove is proud to be recognized again as one of America's excellent museums. Our work as managers of William Croghan's Locust Grove is focused upon the expression of the professional standards associated with the AAM. We remain dedicated to both the interpretation of American history and the stewardship of this National Historic Landmark museum."

Requirements for Accreditation from American Association of Museums

Since 1906, the American Association of Museums (AAM) has been bringing museums together — helping to develop standards and best practices, gathering and sharing knowledge, and providing advocacy on issues of concern to the entire museum community. With more than 18,000 individual, 3,000 institutional and 300 corporate members, AAM is dedicated to ensuring that museums remain a vital part of the American landscape, connecting people with the greatest achievements of the human experience — past, present and future.

To receive accreditation, a museum must prove its excellence in these nine major areas of operation:

- Public Trust & Accountability
- Community Engagement
- Diversity and Inclusiveness
- Mission and Planning
- Leadership and Organizational Structure
- Collections Stewardship
- Education and Interpretation
- Financial Stability
- Facilities and Risk Management

Rigorous Accreditation Process Takes Several Years

American Association of Museums (AAM) accreditation is earned through a rigorous process of self-examination, peer review, and professional assessment.

Locust Grove began several years ago to review every aspect of operations in light of the latest professional standards and best practices for museums in America. All museums — from large museums of art to the smallest county historical society — must

meet the same standards. (See sidebar.)

"Our Board, volunteers, and staff worked together during the self-study period to bring our operations up to 21st-century expectations in areas from collections storage to security to interpretive programs," says HLG Executive Director **Dr. Carol Ely**. "Last spring, a team of peer reviewers visited. After their report was reviewed by the AAM, we submitted a

response to additional questions and concerns. Several months later, at the AAM's accreditation meeting in March, we received our re-accreditation.

"We look forward now to fulfilling the promise that this honor represents," adds Dr. Ely. "We will continue striving to bring the excitement of our nation's history to the public in new ways, evolving as the world changes, and serving this community's heritage for many years to come."

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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.

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Grove Gazette

Carol Ely, Ph.D., *Executive Director*
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Photography by: Gary Bourne, Audrey Coley, Courtney Novak, Jeannie Litterst Vezeau

Director's Letter Carol Ely, Ph.D., *Executive Director – Historic Locust Grove*

Locust Grove recently received two very special gifts. The first is a fine miniature portrait of George Croghan, the second son of William and Lucy. The miniature was the gift of a descendent of the family who still resides in California, where George's wife Serena relocated during the Gold Rush era.



In excellent condition, the portrait shows a man who has aged slightly since the time of his full-sized portrait that hangs in Locust Grove's parlor. He is paler, with red-gray hair in place of the dark curls of the earlier image. His eyes are a nearly translucent gold instead of the brown that we expected. But the features are familiar. The artist is currently unknown, though we hope that research will uncover some possibilities.

Col. George Croghan has been in our thoughts lately as we plan our War of 1812 commemoration around his war service at the battle of Fort Stephenson in 1813. George is also the subject of an independent film now being shot in and around Locust Grove and other sites of early 19th century Kentucky. (See story on page 4.)

Second, we are excited to receive a document signed in 1789 by both William Croghan and George Rogers Clark. It is a land grant indenture for a parcel granted to William Harrod in Clark County, Indiana. This original deed grants 500 acres of land on the north bank of the Ohio River as a reward for military service. This land was part of the 150,000 acres of land rewarded to General Clark and his regiment, the Illinois Regiment of Virginia, by the Commonwealth of Virginia for their service during the American Revolution.

This document is a gift to Locust Grove from members of the present-day Illinois Regiment of Virginia military re-enactors — who are our partners in our annual 18th Century Thunder (April) and 18th Century Market Fair (October) events. We thank the Regiment and especially **Tansy Holm**, who spotted the document for sale (on eBay, of course) and spearheaded the fundraising drive.

We'll display both the new miniature, along with other family portrait miniatures from our collection, and this new document along with others in our exhibit gallery this spring and summer.

A Colorful New World for Grove Gazette

Welcome to the new, full-color **Grove Gazette!** Locust Grove is in the process of updating all of its printed and online materials to better represent Locust Grove.

Our new logo, designed by **Liz Swearingen**, debuted last year. This year we are working with graphic designer **Marilyn Motsch** to redesign all of our publications. The colors being used are inspired by the bright, rich tones of William Croghan's Locust Grove, as you see in the interiors of the historic house.

This issue of **Grove Gazette** — a collaboration among our designer, staff, and editor **Jeannie Litterst Vezeau** — is another step towards improved communications with our members, donors, visitors, and all who love Locust Grove.

Locust Grove is most grateful to **Publishers Printing** of Shepherdsville, Ky., for donating the full cost of the printing of the new **Grove Gazette**. Let us know what you think — lghh@locustgrove.org.



Summer Antiques Market

Discover Books Series

Locust Grove's new "Discover Books" series is for those who find the lure of another new book irresistible...who would like to learn more about local authors and their works... and who just love to read. Discover Books events are held in the Visitors' Center Audubon Room

Saving Kentucky

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 7:00 PM

Local author **Sally Van Winkle Campbell** presents and signs her book, **Saving Kentucky**, which focuses on Kentucky's culture and heritage. Featured in the book are Kenny's Cheeses and the Smith-Berry Winery, both of which will have a wine- and cheese-tasting for this event. Copies of **Saving Kentucky** will be available for purchase and autographing. Admission: \$5 per person; free for Friends of Locust Grove.

Book Arts Day Workshop

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 11:00 AM - 4:30 PM



Last year's popular hands-on workshop on "The Art of the Book" was so popular that we're offering a similar workshop this year. It will include sessions on printing and binding, papermaking, and related arts. Please check Locust Grove's website www.locustgrove.org for the schedule and fees. If you'd like to receive email announcements on this and all our special events, please send a message to join the list to lghh@locustgrove.org.

Summer Antiques Market

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM

This is the first of two semi-annual Antiques Markets at Locust Grove. Professional dealers from the South and Midwest will be displaying their wares. The show features formal furniture, books, textiles, jewelry, and silver. Admission is \$6 (\$3 for children 6-12). Admission includes tours of the historic house museum. Concessions are available. Proceeds support the continued operation and preservation of Historic Locust Grove.

Independence Day at Locust Grove

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM
 Free to the public all day



Kelly Brengelman as Lucy Audubon

Celebrate our nation's Independence in the style of the early Republic. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the grounds of Locust Grove.

This month, the Audubons are visiting Locust Grove! Noted artist and bird lover John James Audubon and his wife Lucy are in residence. Meet and chat with Lucy Audubon from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. as she spends the day as a guest of the Croghan family. You also can practice your sketching in period style on the house's front porch — a great activity for kids, but all are welcome to give it a try!

This program co-sponsored with Kentucky Chautauqua and the Jane Austen Society of Greater Louisville.

First Wednesday Lecture Series

Our lecture series this year offers a variety of interesting speakers and unusual topics that relate to the lives of the Croghans, Clarks, and the region. Lectures are held on the first Wednesday of each month, except for January and May. Desserts and beverages are served at 1:00 p.m., with the lecture immediately following. Admission is \$5, or \$3 for Friends of Locust Grove.

The Discovery of Jeanne Baret

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1:00 PM

The first woman to circumnavigate the globe did so disguised as a man. Join University of Louisville professor **Glynis Ridley** to learn about how, in 1766, Frenchwoman Jeanne Baret worked as an assistant to the expedition botanist on the Comte de Bougainville's expedition around the world. Dr. Ridley will discuss the life of this remarkable woman and explain the process of reconstructing what really happened on the voyage. Her book will be available for purchase and autographing.



Why Quilts Matter: History, Art, & Politics

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 1:00 PM

NOTE: Since the first Wednesday of the month is July 4, the July lecture will be the next Wednesday.



Quilt expert **Shelly Zegart** talks about her new nine-part documentary series exploring quilts in fresh new ways. Join Shelly to view an episode and delve into the inner workings of the art world, explore behind the scenes in the marketplace, and journey into the complicated, kaleidoscopic world of quilts.

Clarks, Croghans Subject of New Film



The cast of "Old Soldiers" includes (from the left): Jessica McGill as Ann Croghan Jesup, Cristina Mullins as Lucy Clark Croghan, Jamie Eiler as Maj. William Croghan, Casandre Medel as Serena Livingston Croghan, Brian Cushing as Col. George Croghan, and Michael Ramsey as Dr. John Croghan.

A film featuring the stories of the grown-up children of William and Lucy Clark Croghan is in production at Locust Grove and other locations in the area and commonwealth. This locally produced independent film is being headed up by director/filmmaker **Brent Humes** and writer **Brian Cushing**. (Brian is also a weekend manager and costumed interpreter at Locust Grove, as well as a re-enactor with the Illinois Regiment.)

The script is based closely on transcripts of Clark and Croghan family letters as well as insights from experienced Locust Grove historians, including **Gwynne Potts**, **Lynn Renau**, and **Dr. Carol Ely**. At the center of the story are the years' worth of "misadventures" (as they often were referred to in letters) of George Croghan and his often-strained relationship with his wife, Serena Livingston Croghan.

Figuring prominently into the story are the Croghan children — Dr. John Croghan, William Croghan Jr., Ann Croghan Jesup — Ann's husband General Thomas Jesup, along with Lucy Croghan.

"We'll see John Croghan exploring Mammoth Cave for the first time, as well as flashbacks to the 1813 Battle of Fort Stephenson," says Brian. "Other events may be lesser-known. But we hope they will inspire interest in what happened at Locust Grove after George Rogers Clark's death in 1818 and in the human side of these people whose names we know so well."

Brian Cushing and Locust Grove costumed interpreter **Jamie Eiler** are familiar faces at Locust Grove and the rest of the cast is from the local acting community. "These excellent actors are bringing the family members to life in a most exciting way," adds Brian.

Fundraising will continue throughout the spring and summer. "We're hoping to premiere 'Old Soldiers' by the end of the year," says Brian. "And we're pursuing many exciting venues for the film — including television, online streaming, DVD, and perhaps even a theatrical showing."

Congratulations!

Preservation Kentucky has honored Historic Locust Grove Adviser **Eddie Bingham** with its "Excellence in Preservation Education" award. Mrs. Bingham, a long-time historic preservation advocate, is known throughout Kentucky for her support of significant architecture and landscapes. She joined the HLG Advisory Council in 2010. Preservation Kentucky presented the award at its annual meeting in April, held at Louisville's Whiskey Row Theatre and Gallery.

William's Wall Gets a Face-Lift

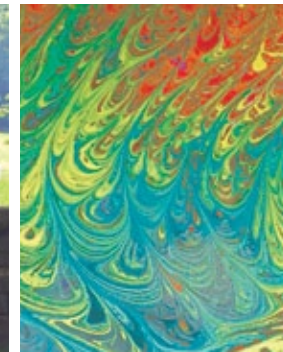
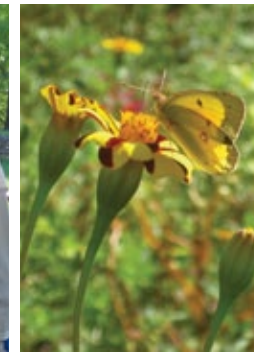
Did you know that the wall on the south and west sides of the Locust Grove dates back more than 200 years?

Locust Grove's dry stone wall — encompassing hundreds of feet of massive dry-laid stone — was here when the builder of Locust Grove, Major William Croghan, was alive. Sometimes mistakenly called a "ha-ha" wall, it is more appropriately thought of as a retaining wall — less romantic but more accurate. The wall forms a level platform on which the house stands.

The wall seems most impressive when approached from the west, up the Blankenbaker Road hill from River Road. A section of the wall near the southwest corner collapsed this winter, unable to withstand tree roots and time.

Enter the skilled artisans of the Dry Stone Conservancy of Kentucky in Lexington. This group is the only organization in the country devoted to dry stone masonry — keeping alive dry stone wall skills through training and restoration projects. They devote themselves to researching, studying, and rebuilding Kentucky's miles of stone fences — a unique feature of the Bluegrass countryside.

The wall is mended for now; but other fragile sections will require additional work over the next few years. The care of this important feature will be an ongoing maintenance and fundraising task. But it's William's wall, and we owe it to him to keep it strong.



Woodworking Camp

MONDAY, JUNE 18 – FRIDAY, JUNE 22
AGES 11 – 14: 9:30 – 11:30 AM
AGES 7 – 10: 12:30 – 2:30 PM
COST: \$85 (\$75 LOCUST GROVE MEMBERS)

Learn about how to use tools and the basics of woodworking from experienced Locust Grove woodworkers. You'll learn about types of wood, historic and modern woodworking tools, and make an item out of wood — like a stool or birdhouse or chest — that you can take home.



Nature Camp at Locust Grove

A collaboration with the Jefferson County Memorial Forest
MONDAY, JUNE 25 – FRIDAY, JUNE 29
ARRIVAL: 8:30 – 9:00 AM
CAMP DAY: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
PICK-UP: 4:00 – 4:30 PM
AGES 6 – 12
COST: \$195

This is a new camp for Locust Grove and the Jefferson County Memorial Forest! Travel back in time more than 100 years to discover the natural world and the people at Locust Grove in the 18th century. Track native wild animals, experience Native American games and survival techniques, and discover life in the 18th century. This camp immerses campers in the lives of the people who lived on the land before there was Louisville.

To register, call **Gina Tate** at the Jefferson County Memorial Forest's Welcome Center, (502) 368-5404, or visit www.memorialforest.com for more information.

To register for any of these camps or the workshop, call Locust Grove at (502) 897-9845 for a registration form, or email Mary Beth Williams at williams@locustgrove.org.

Pioneer Camp

MONDAY, JULY 9 – FRIDAY, JULY 13
9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON
AGES 7 – 10
COST: \$90 (\$80 LOCUST GROVE MEMBERS)

Explore the past through crafts, hands-on activities, and demonstrations. Experience 18th century living first-hand, using the house, gardens, grounds, hearth kitchen, and woods at Locust Grove. Try some of the tasks and games of early Kentucky children. New projects every year — so if you've come in the past, come back again this year!

Book Arts Workshop for Kids

MONDAY, JULY 16 – TUESDAY, JULY 17
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
AGES 9 – 13
COST: \$85 (\$75 LOCUST GROVE MEMBERS)

Make your own book in this two-day workshop in the art and technique of making books. You'll experience papermaking, printing, binding, stamping, paper marbling, and more. Create journals, albums, and other projects to take home. Learn about the methods and supplies you'll need to keep on making your own books. All materials are included. Please wear clothes you can get messy in and bring a sack lunch.

Junior Re-enactor Camp

TUESDAY, JULY 24 – THURSDAY, JULY 26
9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON
AGES 10 – 14
COST: \$60 (\$50 LOCUST GROVE MEMBERS)

Have you ever wanted to live in the past? You can get an idea of what that would be like as you learn how to become a costumed re-enactor. In this three-day camp, junior historians will learn the basics of re-enacting the past. Through hands-on activities and guided research, campers will learn how to research a character, will see historical presentations, and try on some period dress. You even learn some historical dancing. Become a history detective as you bring the past to life in this unusual and exciting camp.

Jane Austen Festival Returns for Fifth Year

Ladies in their summer finery, with ruffled parasols and high bonnets. Gentlemen in waistcoats, cravats, and boots. Tea in flowered pots served with delicate iced cakes and tender scones. A marketplace offering fabrics, ribbons, books, and all manner of necessary items.

On the weekend of July 21 and 22, the Jane Austen Festival returns to Locust Grove — transforming the grounds to the early 1800s when Lucy and William were living there. This annual event, now in its fifth year, is co-sponsored by the Louisville chapter of the Jane Austen Society of North America.

Last year, 1,300 people came to Locust Grove from 18 states and Canada for the Jane Austen Festival. In addition to regular attractions such as afternoon tea and a Regency style show, other activities around the grounds include:

- ✿ Lectures: “A Dangerous Indulgence: Jane Austen’s Illness and Her Doctors” and “Austen-itis: Sickness and Health in the Novels of Jane Austen”
- ✿ A Children’s Tea — the last seating on Sunday afternoon, with each child getting a cup and saucer to take home
- ✿ The Earl of Sandwich Tea Shop with simple libations such as sandwiches, scones, cookies and drinks.

- ✿ A one-woman theatrical performance, “Shame the Devil,” about Fanny Kemble, a famous English actress who married an American, moved to the south, and became active in the early anti-slavery movement.
- ✿ A side-saddle demonstration
- ✿ A duel between gentlemen
- ✿ A tutorial on fencing
- ✿ A bare-knuckle boxing demonstration



Spirit Award Winner: Ted Wright



Ted Wright is this quarter’s Spirit Award winner. He’s the Monday afternoon docent, serves on the Volunteer Steering Committee, and helps with many special events — both as himself and portraying General George Rogers Clark.

“Ted’s cheerful enthusiasm and big smile are some of the best things about Mondays at Locust Grove,” says Program Director **Mary Beth Williams**. “And having ‘The General’ on hand during our special events is such a plus.”

Five years ago, Ted responded to a newspaper article about Locust Grove needing docents. “I’ve always been a history buff ... and Locust Grove is not far from my house,” he says. “So it just seemed to fit.”

The Louisville native spent his professional life as an industrial engineer working for a large manufacturing firm before forming his own company. In retirement, he’s become an avid genealogist. He and his wife also “dabble in antiques.”

So, volunteering at Locust Grove just seemed natural to Ted. Early docent duties often had him leading school tours. One day, a teacher pointed to George Rogers Clark’s portrait, saying, “You look just like him.”

She wasn’t the only one who noticed the resemblance. It’s uncanny how much Ted looks like the General. Soon, Locust Grove staff members and other costumed interpreters were encouraging Ted to take on the role of George Rogers Clark. “By that time, I’d learned a lot more about the General and decided it would be great fun.”

Since then, he’s done a great deal of research and reading about George Rogers Clark and even visited the areas in Virginia significant to the General’s early life.

Adds Locust Grove Executive Director **Carol Ely**, “It’s so important for visitors to understand that these were *real* people — Ted’s presentation allows us to see Clark’s pride and pain.”

Friends of Locust Grove

Enrollment/Renewal from January 1 through March 31, 2012

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

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In Memoriam

We note with sadness the recent deaths of these members of our Locust Grove family. We treasure their generous contributions to Locust Grove of their time, energy, support, and enthusiasm. Thank you.

✿ Dixie Bottom ✿ John Diebold ✿ Ed Dumesnil ✿ Don Roth ✿

Thanks to Our Recent Donors

Donations received from January 1 through March 31, 2012

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.

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Historic Locust Grove
561 Blankenbaker Lane
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(502) 897-9845
www.locustgrove.org

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Gardeners' Fair and Silent Auction.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 11, 12, & 13
10:00 AM — 5:00 PM

This annual event offers visitors the chance to purchase flowers, herbs and plants, along with a variety of tools, artistic and practical gardening accessories. Among other delightful finds are wrought iron sculptures, water gardens, antique yard furniture and many other creative items.

The **Silent Auction** is a fundraiser for Historic Locust Grove, with scores of offerings from antiques, quilts and other handiwork to art, gardening accessories and valuable gift certificates.

General admission to the event, which includes a tour of the historic house museum, is \$5, or \$3 for children age 6 to 12.

Mother's Day Brunch

SUNDAY, MAY 13
SEATINGS: 10:00 AM, NOON, & 2:00 PM

One of the most popular events at the Gardeners' Fair is the Brunch – because of its high popularity and limited space, paid reservations are required. To make reservations call 502-897-9845.

Go to <http://www.locustgrove.org/mothersday.html> to view the menu.

HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE
GROVE GAZETTE