

# HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE GROVE GAZETTE



## Stabilization Stars at Locust Grove This Summer

**D**o you see stars? Take a closer look!



Now that the stabilization of the historic house is almost complete, you can see the black cast-iron stars that are part of the reinforcement of the brick walls on the east and west sides of Locust Grove. These stars tie off metal rods that extend into the interior at floor level on the third floor and in the attic.

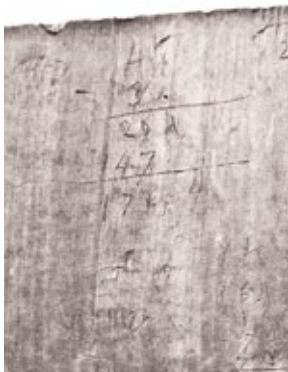
Now that the masonry is firmly attached to the house's wooden frame, the house has a unified structure that will prevent any further bowing and displacement of those walls.

And there's a lot more that you can't see. Just try to spot the reinforcement at the second floor level. The skilled workers drilled holes and inserted a mesh "sock." Into this sock, they injected a form of high-tech cement that hardened to form a lock between the bricks and the wooden joists. When the holes were filled again, the repair became invisible — and the house now is stronger.

We've been pleased by the speed and efficiency of this very sensitive work, which made for minimum disturbance of our operations and only a small amount of dust and debris.

With funding from Louisville Metro Council, the firms of **SSRG** and **TetraTech** accomplished the work under the supervision of Preservation Consultant **Christopher Quirk** and Metro Parks' Architect **David Wilding**.

And, there were some good surprises.



On the first day inside the house, workers inside the house, workers removed some floorboards from the third floor. That's when Preservation Education Assistant **Jennifer Patterson** discovered a loose scrap of wood that appears to be measurements for the floor boards.

Also in the space under the eaves, we found another intriguing surprise — a



board with nails that likely dates back to the house's original construction — hidden for centuries.

Workers needed to remove a mortise and tenon joint of poplar and red oak beside the fireplace in Dr. John Croghan's office on the third floor to make way for a steel plate. It had served our house well for 225 years! (A mortise and tenon has been used for centuries as a way to strongly join two pieces of wood, usually at a 90-degree angle.)

This work not only strengthens the house, it enhances our understanding of the structure and just how well this house was constructed.

The last bit of work will be completed in late September, when the third floor plaster is repaired, the carpets are re-laid, and the third floor is again ready to be opened to the public.

Next up — a new roof!



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**Director's Letter – Carol Ely, Ph.D.**

**Have you walked through Locust Grove's 30 acres of woodland recently?**



If so, you can't help but notice big piles of brush stacked in a much more open landscape. The bush honeysuckle, an invasive plant, is nearly gone from most areas of our woodlands, along with other uninvited and unwanted non-native intruders.

What replaces these understory plants? Ideally, native plants — either emerging on their own or with a little help from us, like lady slippers, bluebells, and spicebushes. The canopy trees are strengthened as well with reduced competition.

It will take years, and both professional and volunteer help, but the end goal is a forest that William Croghan's household would recognize. A woodland filled with oaks, ashes, maples, poplars, locusts, even pawpaws. And, someday perhaps, we can restore the nearly extinct elms and chestnuts that once were plentiful. This is not a five-year plan; this is a 100-year plan.

**And then there's our meadow.** We know that the hillside on the east of the property around the barn has been looking ragged this summer. This was intentional — though not universally popular! It's the start of an experiment in creating a meadow. We wanted to see what plants would emerge from an unmowed field.

Next year, we plan to seed the area with wildflowers, grasses, and other meadow plants to bolster the attractiveness of the field. We'll mow the perimeter of the area for a walking path and to act as a boundary with the woods. We'll also cut a path through the

meadow to the barn. Like the woodland restoration, it will take patience. But in the end, we'll have a much more accurate and appealing historic landscape that will attract birds, butterflies, and bees.

These landscape improvements are an outcome of the Master Plan — which is already resulting in positive changes to Locust Grove's land and buildings.

**Changes coming to the Visitors' Center, as well.** Watch for some minor changes in access to some exhibit areas as we shift offices, library, and volunteer areas. We'll also install a small film-viewing area within our main exhibit gallery.

The museum store is another important part of future planning for Locust Grove. (*See story Focus on Museum Store Yields Great Suggestions on page 3.*) Through this process of improvement, we value your support, patience, and ideas. Contact me any time: [ely@locustgrove.org](mailto:ely@locustgrove.org) or (502) 897-9845 ext. 103.

*Carol Ely*



**Locust Grove Closed in January** As we did last year, we're closing Locust Grove in January 2018 for cleaning, repairs, and planning. The staff will be on site most of the time, but please call ahead if you plan to come by. We'll continue to answer the phone, take reservations, and answer queries.

**Focus on Museum Store Yields Great Suggestions**

Locust Grove's museum store has always been important — not just as a source of revenue, but as a way for visitors to take away a memory or to learn more about Locust Grove and the people who lived here.

After many years of serving our visitors, the store now is overdue for an upgrade. In August, under the direction of museum store expert **Andrew Andoniadis**, we analyzed years of sales and purchase data, looked at the experiences of other museums, and started drafting some new plans. But first, we wanted to check in with our community — our customers.

Who are our customers? Tourists, volunteers, board members, dog walkers, neighbors, school children, reenactors, families, preservation buffs, teachers, Jane Austen fans, and so many more.

We couldn't fit them all into our auditorium, so we convened a representative sample of our customers and brainstormed. Price points, sales schedules, displays, signs, staff involvement — all were up for discussion.

But the hottest topic was, of course, the merchandise. What do you want to buy when you come to the museum store? We received so many ideas — from home décor to books and journals; table runners to ornaments; activity kits for kids to nice T-shirts for adults; and, of course, food.

People also asked for more Kentucky products, botanical-themed products, Locust Grove original reproductions, and more merchandise that appeals to men.

After the focus group breathlessly concluded with a long list of "wants," Guest Services Manager **Jennifer Jansen** now has the hard task of choosing from among the many options. She must determine what will be popular and profitable, and what will project Locust Grove's image and mission most effectively.

We will be reducing some of the small store's clutter and back inventory with a big sale (watch for it!) and will judiciously choose new merchandise throughout the next year. We'll work on a more-focused presentation, appropriate pricing, and more information about the products.

Thanks to all of the people who volunteered to assist us through the focus group. And thanks to all of you who shop at the Locust Grove museum store. Come back and shop again — we think you'll be pleased.



**Spirit Award Winner: Heather Hiner**

**Heather Hiner** wears many hats at Locust Grove. She researches and then teaches historic games to visitors and first-person



interpreters. She spends hours and days in libraries and online, uncovering previously unknown details on the people who lived at and visited Locust Grove in 1816. She taught herself to sew so she could create the clothes that her husband, son, and daughter wear when interpreting various Croghan and Clark family members.

She takes incredibly beautiful photographs of the first-person interpreters — as

portraits and in action. Heather is a docent for many special events and is always at hand to engage children, especially during the summer's Cultural Pass day (where Jefferson County schoolchildren can visit for free, with an adult). She has organized learning stations on things like historic money and how artisans used block printing to make the wallpaper in the home. And Heather still finds time to pursue her career as a professional photographer.

For these and so many other reasons, Heather has been named this quarter's Spirit Award Winner by the Volunteer Steering Committee.

"Heather focuses on an area of life in the past and makes it come to life — not only for our visitors but also for our first-person interpreters," says **Brian Cushing**, Program Director. "Her uncompromising commitment to excellence has inspired our other interpreters to have the same zeal."

"Heather's dedication to the Cultural Pass program has been invaluable," adds **Mary Beth Williams**, Curator of Collections and Education. "The richness she brings to the activities geared to those children is such an enhancement for all our visitors."

Heather says that her favorite thing to do is help with research. "I've found that I really love sifting through old documents to find little bits of information that help broaden what we know about the Croghans and their family and friends," she says. "It's especially gratifying when I turn up something new about the women in the family, of the enslaved people, or something that helps confirm a long-held theory."

"Being a volunteer lets me take the things I'm good at and use them to help out," Heather adds. "While my goal is to have guests leave with all of their questions answered, I also like when they ask me something I don't know — because it means I get to go look up the answer."

Heather's special joy is watching her children become passionate about history and about volunteering. And we're all especially delighted that Heather and her family have found Locust Grove.



FIRST WEDNESDAY LECTURE SERIES

Hear a variety of interesting speakers on unusual topics that relate to the lives of the Croghans, Clarks, and the region. Held on the first Wednesday of each month, except January and May. Lectures begin at 1:15 p.m., with desserts and beverages served beforehand. Cost — \$6, or \$4 for members.



Jack Jouett

**Jack Jouett and Matthew Harris Jouett: The Father-Son Duo that Shaped Kentucky**

NOV 1 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2017 — 1:15 PM

On the night of June 3-4, 1781, Captain Jack Jouett Jr. rode 40 miles through the backwoods of Virginia to warn Governor Thomas Jefferson and the Virginia legislature of the approach of 250 British troops. Often called “The Paul Revere of the West,” Jack Jouett helped to prevent the capture of the American Revolution’s most important political leaders. **Jill Roseberry**,

executive director of the Jack Jouett House in Versailles, Ky., will discuss the Jouett family, which included one of Jack and Sally Jouett’s sons, renowned portrait painter Matthew Harris Jouett.

**Holiday Dulcimer Concert**

DEC 6 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1:15 PM

Strum in the holidays with the **Louisville Dulcimer Society** as they bring us traditional carols and tunes for singing along — as well as new compositions that are quickly becoming favorites. Arrive early to get your seat and enjoy the seasonal treats prepared especially for you by Locust Grove’s fabulous Lecture Bakers.



**Stabilizing Our Historic House**

FEB 7 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2018 — 1:15 PM

When an engineering study revealed stresses in the brick structure of Locust Grove’s museum house, preservationists



recommended stabilizing it to prevent any further damage to the 225-year-old house. In July 2017, work crews delicately drilled through the masonry on the east and west walls to insert metal rods and braces into the sides of the house — which are evident only by the newly installed masonry stars. Locust Grove Education Assistant **Jennifer Patterson**, who documented the entire process, will show what was done and what we discovered.



**Discover ‘1777 Philadelphia’ at 18th Century Market Fair**

OCT 28 & 29 SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28 & 29, 10 AM — 4:30 PM

When you enter Locust Grove’s grounds during this year’s 18th Century Market Fair, you’ll be transported to Philadelphia, 1777. That’s where William Croghan and his future brothers-in-law, Jonathan Clark and John Clark, were stationed that first year after the new nation declared independence from England.

The reenactors will be talking about what’s happening in 1777 in the fight for independence, especially as the Continental Congress is evacuated from New York ahead of the British advance. As a special treat, historian **Gwynne Potts** will give a talk at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday about William Croghan and his participation in the Revolutionary War.

George Rogers Clark didn’t raise his Illinois Regiment of Virginia until the next year in 1778; so this year, the American troops-reenactors will be acting as general Continental Line troops. They will be joined by British Dragoons and Marines, as well as Scottish Highlanders and Hessians — many with their wives and some children.

While at the fair, you can visit the camps to chat with the reenactors — learning how they lived, how they cooked their food, what their tasks



were, and what they ate. You’ll watch mock battles for independence, with “analysts” to explain what the troops are doing and why.

You’ll delight in 18th-century style entertainment, including a period boxing match, a Punch and Judy show, a fascinating wig-maker, a fortune-teller, the ever-popular “rat catcher,” and the funny Common Stock “characters.” Vendors and craftspeople will be demonstrating their skills and selling their wares.

As always, you can buy replicas of 18th century household and military items — which are eminently usable today. Look for the sheep that will be with the spinner and weaver, as well as blacksmiths, and a cordwainer (a maker of new shoes).

You’ll enjoy food and drink from favorite vendors, such as His Lordship’s Beef — using the meat they fire-roast on site... Crown Point Bread Company — with its hearth-baked breads, popular cookies, and huge wheels of cheese... Hellringer & Kurtz Kaffeehaus — with its great coffee and delicious handmade soft pretzels... and Locust Grove’s own concessions — with its burgoo, sandwiches, drinks, and desserts. Join us! Admission is \$8 for adults; \$4 for children; free for children under 6.

**For Members Only: Wolf Pen Branch Mill Tour**

NOV 4 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 10 AM

Millwright and Farm Manager **Ben Hassett** will take Locust Grove members through the Wolf Pen Branch Mill, which dates to 1877. The water-powered gristmill is particularly special with its original water source and dam. You’ll follow the water down the race, into the flume, over the wheel, and then descend to the millstone level. No charge. Limited to Locust Grove members only.

For specific details and directions to the mill, call **Mary Beth Williams** at (502) 897-9845 to sign up.



**Museum Store Holiday Sale**

NOV 24 - DEC 3 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24 — SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Holiday shopping with no traffic hassles! For 10 days after Thanksgiving, you’ll get 20 percent off our wide array of books, toys, gifts, and Kentucky-made products. Locust Grove members will receive extra discounts on Small Business Saturday (Nov. 25) and Museum Store Sunday (Nov. 26). The store is open during regular Visitors’ Center hours — Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

**Christmastide, 1816**

DEC 2 ONE DAY ONLY — SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, NOON — 7 PM See story on the back cover for details.



**EMILIE STRONG SMITH CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERTS**

The 34th season of the Emilie Strong Smith Chamber Music Series offers concertgoers a unique opportunity. Patrons delight in music that the Clarks and Croghans would have heard in the room where they most likely would have enjoyed it — the second-floor Great Parlor of the historic house. Refreshments are at 5:00 p.m.; the concert begins at 5:30 p.m. Season subscriptions are available by calling Locust Grove at (502) 897-9845. Categories — Patron, \$200; Supporter, \$100; and Subscriber, \$70. Individual concerts are \$20 each. We hope you’ll join us.



NOV 5 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2017, 5 PM

Harpisichordist **Charles Metz** will perform works by William Byrd, John Dowland, Thomas Tallis, and others on two harpsichords — a restored anonymous harpsichord from 1600 and an exquisite copy of a Ruckers harpsichord from 1640.

DEC 3 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017, 5 PM

Almost to the day, we are commemorating the death of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (d. Dec 5, 1791) with some of his most beautiful chamber music. Louisville Orchestra clarinetist **Ernest Gross** is joined by **Bill Bauer** (viola), and **Kenneth Kusiak** (fortepiano) to perform Mozart’s “Kegelstatt Trio,” K. 498, and “Fantasia No. 3 in D minor,” K. 397. *FYI: The Kegelstatt Trio is so named because it was written for Mozart’s musician buddies with whom he played Kegels — called “skittles” in England and similar to duck-pin bowling in the U.S.*

FEB 25 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018, 5 PM

The **Locust Grove Chamber Musicians** celebrate 1818 with an all-Beethoven concert. The year 1818 was a watershed year for Beethoven when he produced his largest works — the “Missa Solemnis,” the “9th Choral Symphony,” and the “Hammerklavier Sonata, Op. 106.” Tonight’s concert features Beethoven’s “Thirteen Variations for Piano on the Aria, *Es war einmal ein alter Mann*, from Dittersdorf’s opera, “Das rote Käppchen,” along with Beethoven’s violin sonata, “Spring Sonata.”

MAR 25 SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2018, 5 PM

A concert of early Baroque music for violin by composer/performers working in Germany in the 17th century. Fascinated by the musical revolution taking place in Italy, German nobles and musicians imported books, instruments, and players in an attempt to stay up-to-date. The program features examples of Italian musical experiments including improvisatory sonatas and toe-tapping dances as well as German imitations of the Italian style. **Samuel Breene** on baroque violin and **Jeff Noonan** on theorbo and baroque guitar.



**Enrollment/Renewal from July 1 through September 1, 2017**

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](http://WWW.LOCUSTGROVE.ORG), OR CALL US AT (502) 897-9845 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND DETAILS.

- |   |  |
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**A Historic Summer Full of Music, Drama, Festivals, and Fun!**

If it seemed like there was always something happening at Locust Grove this past spring and summer — it's because there was! In early May, the Kentucky Shakespeare players performed a modern-dress version of *Julius Caesar* on the side lawn. A week later, the grounds were transformed into a gardeners' paradise during the 19th annual Gardeners' Fair. And a weekend later, we opened our new farm distillery exhibit.

From June through early August, excited children and adults visited on Cultural Pass Tuesdays. A summer camp in June focused on Shakespeare; another in July, on history. On the Fourth of July, free

admission and the reading of the Declaration of Independence found hundreds of visitors joining in the celebration. In mid-July, more than 2,000 Jane Austen fans celebrated their favorite author. June, July, and August welcomed fans of all kinds of traditional music in our new Concerts in the Garden as well as the new Watershed Festival. And nearly 18,000 used books found new homes during the huge August Used Book Sale.

We hope you were a part of this excitement — and we look forward to seeing you at our October, November, and December events!



HISTORY CAMP



19TH ANNUAL GARDENERS' FAIR



CULTURAL PASS TUESDAY



JANE AUSTEN "REGENCY MOURNING PARADE" PARTICIPANTS



KENTUCKY SHAKESPEARE'S JULIUS CAESAR



AUGUST USED BOOK SALE



CONCERTS IN THE GARDEN

**In Memoriam**

- Judge David Armstrong
- Julius Friedman
- Linda Fuchs
- Rev. Joe Kiser
- Faye Sellers

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





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MASONIC HOME, KY  
PERMIT NO. 16



## 18th Century Market Fair

OCT  
28 & 29

SATURDAY & SUNDAY,  
OCTOBER 28 & 29, 10 AM – 4:30 PM

[Fall 2017]

## Christmastide, 1816

DEC  
2

Friends travelling down the river and through the woods to Locust Grove on a crisp day in early December means only one thing — it's time for Christmastide! Locust Grove will come alive with the sights, sounds, and smells of the season, enlivened by conversations about the events of the past year.

Go behind the scenes of an 1816 Croghan family celebration as they prepare to welcome their friends and neighbors from Louisville, Clarksville, and beyond to their home!

Find Lucy and her female friends and relations as they prepare for the party. Join in the music, dancing, and singing. When you come upon the young men engaging in a game of whist, pull up a chair and ask them to deal a hand to you. And then venture out to the kitchen to watch the preparation of the evening's treats and chat with the cooks about herbs and spices.

Shop at the Holiday Crafts Market in the Visitors' Center to find 18th century-style goods for your own families. Buy some holiday-themed books at Locust Grove's special book sale — a great place to find that perfect holiday gift. Enjoy the music as your children make orange and clove pomanders and holiday cards.

The Clark and Croghan families and their friends hope you'll join them for the one-day only Christmastide, 1816.



**One Day Only — SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, NOON — 7 PM**  
Admission — Adults, \$6; children under 6, free.

HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE  
**GROVE GAZETTE**

[www.locustgrove.org](http://www.locustgrove.org)