

Spring 2019



2019 Gardeners' Fair—Plants, Advice, the Auction, and a New Tea!

Locust Grove returns to its roots as a 19th century farm with the 24th annual Gardeners' Fair—**Friday, May 10 through Sunday, May 12 from 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. daily**. Visit the place where Louisville begins to search for your own vines and fig trees, perennials and annuals, herbs and native plants, and garden art and garden tools among more than 40 vendors and demonstrators.

During the three days of the fair, guests can learn more about caring for their own 21st century green spaces. The fair celebrates sustainable gardening, green living, heirloom plants, organic gardening, and the many ways to create beautiful outdoor environments. When it comes to gardening, every action's an act of creation. Vendors will offer gardening tips and tricks—for experienced green thumbs or those whose interest is only to plant seeds in the ground.

We'll have plants available for all gardens and budget sizes. The ever-popular alpacas will be returning, along with demonstrations of sheep-shearing and pigeon-raising. And children of all ages can experience the magic of making their own fairy gardens!

Tour the site to find historic trades like hearth-cooking and flax-breaking, which would have been part of daily life on an early 19th century farm like Locust Grove. See the Locust Grove Farm Distillery in action and learn more about 19th century alcohol. That's where **Alan Bishop** of the **Spirits of French Lick** will open your eyes to the agricultural components of distilling.

Music from the Louisville Dulcimer Society and food provided by area food trucks will round out the festive atmosphere. In an effort to be more sustainable, guests are encouraged to bring their own reusable water bottles to fill at water stations provided by the **Louisville Water Company**.

Inside the Visitors' Center, guests will have the opportunity to bid on items in the Silent Auction—such as ticket packages from Churchill Downs, Holiday World, and Actors Theatre; a night at 21c Museum Hotel; and gift cards to area businesses. All proceeds benefit the educational programs at Locust Grove.

Admission is \$6 for adults; \$3 for children ages 6-12; free for children under 6. For further information and a complete list of vendors, visit www.locustgrove.org/gardeners-fair.

New this year—a Mother's Day Tea!

Sponsored by **Elmwood Inn Fine Teas**, we'll have two seatings—at 1:00 p.m. and at 3:00 p.m. This afternoon cream tea will feature special scones, sandwiches, and cakes and a selection of Elmwood Inn Fine Teas. Reservations are required, \$25 per person. Call (502) 897-9845 to reserve your Mother's Day celebration now!



Blow Us All Away With Your Knowledge of Hamilton!

If you think you're the biggest "Hamilfan" of them all, now's your time to rise up and drop some knowledge! Hidden among the articles in this issue of the *Grove Gazette* are eight quotations from *Hamilton: An American Musical*. If you think you've found all of them, email your list to Hannah at marketing@locustgrove.org to be entered into a drawing for two tickets to see the musical at the Kentucky Center in June!

LOCUST GROVE

The Age of Hamilton
2019

EVENTS

Grove Gazette is published quarterly by Historic Locust Grove, Inc. for members, volunteers and supporters of Historic Locust Grove. ©2019
561 Blankenbaker Lane (502) 897-9845
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www.locustgrove.org

The mission of Historic Locust Grove is to preserve and interpret the remaining 55 acres of William Croghan's estate, Locust Grove, with its circa 1792 house, outbuildings, collection, and grounds as examples of early 19th-century frontier America, and to share the stories of the many people who contributed to the history of the site, emphasizing the experiences of George Rogers Clark, Revolutionary War hero and founder of Louisville.

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DIRECTOR'S LETTER Carol Ely, Ph.D.

*“Ocean in view! O! the Joy.... This great Pacific Ocean which we been
So long anxious to See.”*

William Clark's excitement is palpable in the journal entry above, spelling be damned, as he gazed upon the Pacific for the first time during the 1803-1806 journey of the Corps of Discovery.

This journey has long been officially recognized by the nation through establishment of the 3,700-mile **Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail**. Part of the National Park system, the Trail spans the distance between St. Louis, Missouri, and Oregon's Fort Clatsop.

Here in Kentucky and Indiana, we always knew that this version of the Trail—and therefore the story of the expedition—was incomplete. Now, as of March 12, 2019, after years (decades!) of patient lobbying by historians and Lewis and Clark enthusiasts, the Trail has added another 1,200 miles from St. Louis east to Pittsburgh, via Louisville and the Falls of the Ohio.

Lewis began his journey in Pittsburgh—collecting men and materials along the Ohio River to meet William Clark at the Falls in October 1804. After travelling the wide, wide world of the American frontier, the explorers reunited with the Clarks and Croghans on November 8, 1806, for a dinner that evening. This joyful homecoming was celebrated here in 2006 as part of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial commemoration.

Today, Locust Grove is the only remaining structure west of the Appalachians known to have sheltered the two expedition leaders. And our site has been made an official stop on the Trail.

While we are perhaps not quite as excited as William Clark was, we look forward with enthusiasm to this new national recognition of the significance of Locust Grove.

We thank the Lewis and Clark Heritage Trail Foundation and its local members for their dedicated effort to get this legislation passed. O! the Joy!

Lewis and Clark, escorted by General George Rogers Clark, “returned” to Locust Grove during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration in 2006. They were reenacting the explorers’ 1806 visit to Locust Grove.



Researching the enslaved people who were owned by the Croghans is daunting because often their lives were poorly documented. Our largest source of information has been Croghan family letters. But relying primarily on one source can lead to incorrect assumptions. A prime example is the two men named Alfred.

We initially believed that the story of an enslaved man named Alfred unfolded across decades. But that wasn't right.

The inventory of Lucy and William's eldest son, Dr. John Croghan, after his death in 1849 lists Alfred as being 27 years old, meaning he was born around 1822. However, a letter by John Croghan in 1825 said, "Alfred goes to market almost every day . . ." If it were the same Alfred, he'd have been three years old! Keeping this in mind, I went back through my sources and gathered other documents. And, indeed, there were two Alfreds!

Alfred Number One spent his life being moved between Locust Grove and the home of the Croghans' daughter Ann Croghan Jesup in Washington, D.C. This Alfred was the one who was entrusted to go to the market. But his story ends abruptly. I'm continuing my research, but his disappearance from the family letters at this point hints



During the 2018 Candlelight event, first-person interpreters, Sidney Edwards and Xavier Harris, portray two enslaved people—Rose and Alfred Number 1—in the hearth kitchen at Historic Locust Grove. (Photo by Heather R. Hiner of Fox and Rose Photography.)

that he must have been sold as a punishment.

Now to Alfred Number Two. We know that he took the last name Croghan for himself. And he is the first enslaved person whose life we can trace from his birth at Locust Grove (c 1822) to his death as a free man of color.

Alfred Croghan possessed a keen and curious intellect, was well-read, and enjoyed gossip and

current events. He grew up at Locust Grove, then served William Croghan Jr.'s daughter Mary Schenley in Pittsburgh. Later, he became one of the enslaved guides at Mammoth Cave. He moved his family to Louisville when he was emancipated in 1856.

Researching the enslaved people who belonged to the Croghan family may be the most important research I have ever done. I'll continue to gather what we know, find new details to fill in the narratives, and share their names and stories. I hope to do well by them and to honor their lives.

I will post updates for Locust Grove's blog (locustgrove.louisville.wordpress.com) and to my personal blog, "The Past in Focus" (www.pastinfocus.com). Alfred Number One's story has been posted; and I'll soon post stories about Alfred Croghan (Alfred Number Two).



**SPIRIT AWARD WINNER:
Rosalind Scott**

Stop by Locust Grove's Visitors' Center almost any Wednesday afternoon and you'll be warmly greeted by this issue's Spirit Award winner, **Rosalind Scott**.

For six years, Rosalind has been greeting visitors, helping with concessions and grilling during special events, assisting with school group field trips, and helping Locust Grove's business manager with membership paperwork.

In mid-March, she went to the Kentucky Crafted Market with Visitor Services Director **Jennifer Jansen**. "Having her as a second set of eyes while shopping for the museum store was fantastic," says Jennifer. "What's more, she comes in early each month to check in First Wednesday Lecture attendees. Rosalind is amazing."



Rosalind retired after 40 years as a high school English teacher, Library Media Specialist, and, finally, as Coordinator for Grant Development for the Jefferson County Public Schools. "When I retired, I looked for ways to give back to my community," she says. She began volunteering at a local soup kitchen and is now a CASA volunteer (Court-Appointed Special Advocate) working with children in Family Court cases.

"Adding Locust Grove to my schedule allowed me to develop new skills, learn more about Louisville, and interact with our amazing volunteers and staff," Rosalind adds.

"The best part of being at Locust Grove is the people," she smiles. "After retirement, I realized I was missing personal interactions. I love being at the front desk because I get to meet so many people—local, out-of-town, and even from out of the country! And I am heartened at the level of professionalism and dedication of Locust Grove volunteers. Work isn't always about money."

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.



LOCUST GROVE'S BAR AT SPECIAL EVENTS: For many our special events, Locust Grove will be selling drinks, including beer, wine, or a selection of Brown-Forman liquors—all at reasonable prices. Purchasing your



The African American Revolution
Wednesday, June 5, 1 pm



What does “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” mean to black people caught up in the American Revolution? Historian **Richard Bell**, a professor at University of Maryland, explains that African Americans who decided to fight for this land had more at stake than did many white colonists. You'll hear about

Crispus Attucks, who was slain in a hail of redcoat gunfire during the Boston Massacre, and Harry Washington, Mount Vernon's runaway slave, who fled to British lines during the war. *Part of The Age of Hamilton series at Locust Grove.*



PUNCH WITH THE PRESIDENT:
Thomas Jefferson and George Rogers Clark
Wednesday, May 22, 6:30 pm



Locust Grove historian **Gwynne Potts** will reveal the respectful bond between two very different personalities. Thomas Jefferson and George Rogers Clark were mutual supporters in military ventures and politics, as well as in the exploration of western lands. These venerated Virginians, who grew up a few miles apart in Albemarle County, Va., shared an interest in natural history, prehistory, and Native American lore and language. Their correspondence is a window into the conquering and development of the early American west. Tickets: \$15 or \$12 for Locust Grove members. Reservations required; call (502) 897-9845. Admission includes one drink ticket; cash bar available. *Part of The Age of Hamilton series at Locust Grove.*



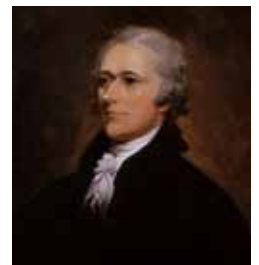
*Alexander Hamilton & Aaron Burr:
The Men and The Duel*
Wednesday, July 3, 1 pm

Jason Hiner, Locust Grove first-person interpreter and history aficionado will tell us about the Hamilton-Burr duel and how it became a gruesome symbol of the bitter and partisan political infighting among America's founders. This talk explores who these young men of great renown were, the different opinions they had about politics and politicians, and why their differences led to a duel that left Hamilton dead and turned Vice-President Burr into an outlaw. *Part of The Age of Hamilton series at Locust Grove.*



ALEXANDER HAMILTON EXHIBITION:
'The Man Who Made Modern America'
Wednesday, May 29 through Friday, July 5
Mondays—Saturdays, 10 am - 4:30 pm; Sundays, 1-4:30 pm

This five-week exhibition in the Visitors' Center examines Hamilton's central role during the Revolutionary War and the Federal Period in creating the economic, constitutional, social, journalistic, political, and foreign policy templates for modern America. Using reproductions from the Gilder Lehrman Collection and the Library of the New York Historical Society and drawing upon recent scholarship about Alexander Hamilton, this traveling exhibition helps students learn that Hamilton was a statesman and visionary, a hero and a scholar whose life shaped the America we live in more than 200 years after his death. *Part of The Age of Hamilton series at Locust Grove.*



*Making Dollars and 'Cents'
of the American Revolution*
Wednesday, August 7, 1 pm



Revolutions cost money. Even before the United States declared its independence, it was riddled with debt. Financiers traded bills of exchange with foreign nations; wealthy patriots were asked to give until it left them penniless. This situation forecast a nation built on credit. Valor on the battlefield alone would not be enough to acquire freedom. The SAR Museum's **Colleen Wilson** and **Zac Distel** will take us through the economy of the American Revolution and the years that followed. *Part of The Age of Hamilton series at Locust Grove.*



celebratory drinks from Locust Grove's bar is another way to support our site. We thank you in advance for your support—and for not bringing outside alcoholic drinks to our events.

MUSEUM STORE SALE

June 1 - 30, during Visitors' Center hours

Most items will be at least 20 percent off—with other very special sales popping up throughout the month!

CULTURAL PASS TUESDAYS

June 4 through August 13

Every Tuesday, 10 am–3:00 pm

Kids again may participate in Louisville's Cultural Pass program at Locust Grove this summer—each Tuesday from June 4 through August 13. They, with one adult per student, receive free admission for a special house tour. They can talk with historic interpreters; learn about 19th century items and customs; play historic games; and experience historic crafts. Visit your local library to sign up for this citywide summer program.



BOOKS, COLLECTIBLES, AND ART SALE

Saturday, June 29, 10 am–4:30 pm (Free Admission)

Sunday, June 30, 10 am–4:30 pm (With \$8 admission to Antiques Market)



This special show and sale includes dealers in used, new, and collectible books, as well as maps, prints, paper, and art—at all prices and in all categories. You'll find books about collecting, art, decorative arts, and architecture and design, as well as artwork and prints.

JUNE ANTIQUES MARKET

Sunday, June 30, 10 am–4:30 pm

Treasures from bygone centuries abound at this favorite summer sale—from delicate china teapots to silver spoons, vintage jewelry to Kentucky-made chairs. There's something for all tastes and every budget.



Dozens of professional dealers from around the region offer fine and country furniture, books, textiles, jewelry, and more. Admission includes tours of the historic house museum. Proceeds support the continued operation and preservation of Locust Grove. Fine food and drink will be available for purchase. Admission: \$8 adults; free for ages 12 and under. Thanks to our sponsors **Rod Lich** and **Susan Parrett**.

FABULOUS FREE FOURTH OF JULY

Sponsored in honor of The Society of the Cincinnati



Thursday, July 4, 10 am–4:30 pm

Free to the Public

It's Independence Day, 1816-style. Our first-person interpreters take you back 203 years as the Clark and Croghan families celebrate our country's independence. We'll raise a glass to freedom with historic toasts as General George Rogers Clark's soldiers honor him and all veterans. Hear readings of the Declaration of Independence throughout the day, play children's games, and tour the historic house. In the Visitors' Center, stock up on summer-reading books at our special Used Book Sale—with all books priced at \$1 or \$2. Food for purchase will be available, or bring a picnic lunch to enjoy on the grounds.

11TH ANNUAL JANE AUSTEN FESTIVAL

'Northanger Abbey': Adventure and Romance Unmasked

Friday, July 12 - Sunday, July 14



The largest Jane Austen Festival in North America! (See details on Back Cover)

CAMP SHAKESPEARE

Monday, June 17 - Friday, June 21, 9 am-4 pm

This camp from Kentucky Shakespeare introduces aspiring thespians to theatre and Shakespeare's works. Campers build an ensemble-based performance piece through collaboration and teamwork. Students will also participate in special workshops led by Locust Grove experts. The camp is open to children ages 7-12. Campers should bring a sack lunch, a snack, and a water bottle. \$195 for the week-long session. For further information, call Kentucky Shakespeare at (502) 574-9900 ext. 14 or email hannah@kyshakespeare.com.



HISTORY CAMP

Monday, July 29 - Friday, August 2, 9 am-4 pm

Sponsored by Jefferson Memorial Forest

Travel back in time more than 200 years to discover nature and people through Historic Locust Grove. Discover life in the 18th and 19th centuries for the first European settlers and American



Indians. This hands-on camp will take kids on a time-traveling adventure! \$175 for the week-long session. Register online at: louisvilleky.gov/government/jefferson-memorial-forest/forest-summer-camps.

Far left: Campers learn and practice the techniques of fencing for the stage. **Left:** Campers experience the challenge of starting a fire, 18th century-style.

LOCUST GROVE'S LONG RIFLE VISITS FRANKFORT, KY.

Kentucky Historical Society Exhibit

April 23 - October 22, 2019

Locust Grove's beautifully crafted Kentucky long rifle is usually over the fireplace in the Farm Office. It now is being featured in a special exhibit in the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History at the Kentucky Historical Society in Frankfort. Titled: *Into the Bluegrass—Rifles of the Kentucky Frontier*, the exhibit features 24 Kentucky-made long rifles and accompanying powder horns.

Locust Grove's rifle was made by a renowned gunsmith **Jacob Rizer** of Cumberland County, Md., and Bardstown, Ky.—dated

March 2, 1836. It is described as having a fine gouger-carved tiger maple stock with engraved and reticulated brass butt piece and patchbox. It has an octagonal steel barrel and brass trigger guard and trim.



Holding our long rifle's place in the Farm Office is the fowling piece from the boy's room on the third floor. The long rifle returns in November. More information: Kentuckyriflefoundation.org.

SUMMER THURSDAYS AT LOCUST GROVE

Thursdays: June 27, July 25, and August 29, 6 pm

Again this year, the sound of music will ring out from Locust Grove's porch the last Thursday of each month from June through August. Performers will be on the covered porch; audience members should bring their own chairs and blankets. Food and drink will be available at 6 p.m., or bring your own picnic. The drinks this year will be from Locust Grove's own bar! (No outside alcohol, please.) Performers are still being booked, so check the website, www.locustgrove.org, for updates. Tickets: \$16, or \$14 for members.



'CAMPAIGN FOR A THIRD CENTURY' CONTINUES

We're gratified that a recent mailing to members is bringing in welcome donations to Locust Grove's capital campaign—"Campaign for a Third Century." We're working now with the landscape architects—**Environs**—to do the preliminary engineering and geotechnical studies of the site that are required for the permit process.



Geotechnical testing is underway.

We've also signed a new contract with **DeLeon-Primmer Architecture Workshop**, which is developing final blueprints for the new pavilion and the renovated Visitors' Center. Although we're still in the process of planning and fundraising—we now get to build!

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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In Memory of Mary Jane Swetnam

Lynn S. Boone

IN MEMORIAM

∞
**Tippy Brittain
Charles Dobbs**

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

Annual Fund Societies

For people donating \$250 and up to Historic Locust Grove from January 1 through March 31, 2019

George Rogers Clark Society (\$5,000+)

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Lucy & William Croghan Society (\$2,500—\$4,999)

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JUNE ANTIQUES MARKET

Sunday, June 30, 10 am–4:30 pm



Spring 2019



11TH ANNUAL JANE AUSTEN FESTIVAL

'Northanger Abbey': Adventure and Romance Unmasked

The largest Jane Austen Festival in North America!

Sponsored by the Jane Austen Society of North America—Greater Louisville Region

Friday, July 12, 6 pm–9 pm

“Candlelight Shopping”—Under dreamlike candlelight, you’ll have early access to the Shoppes of Meryton, special Friday-evening foods, and a delightful romp through Austen trivia, Regency etiquette, and even bonnets with the “Bonnets at Dawn” pub trivia contest. It’s the stateside debut of this popular podcast. Teams will vie to become the smartest in the room—a total hoot!

Saturday and Sunday, July 13 and 14, 10 am–5 pm

Festival admission includes a raft of activities—fashion shows and displays, shopping, workshops, a Regency-dress promenade, and so much more. Featured speakers will talk about Regency clothing and accessories, finding history through re-enactment, and books about Austen’s *Northanger Abbey*.

More information and advance tickets for special events and the usually sold-out Afternoon Teas will be available in early June at www.jasnalouisville.com.



HISTORIC LOCUST GROVE
GROVE GAZETTE

www.locustgrove.org