## GROVE GAZETTE

Historic Locust Grove

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



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# Volunteering: Great for Locust Grove - and You

Teaching Laughing Assisting Creating Sharing Celebrating Learning Having lots of fun!

Our wonderful corps of Locust Grove volunteers give not only of their time, but of their spirit, their energy, and their enthusiasm.

Historic Locust Grove is looking for more volunteers, and will hold a special "Volunteer Fair" on Saturday, March 29. There we'll showcase the many opportunities available to volunteers, which include:

- **Docents** giving tours and working with school groups;
- Visitors' Center workers greeting visitors, working in the gift shop;
- **Gardeners** weeding, planting, assisting the gardener.

- Craft demonstrators sharing skills of hearth cooking, weaving, and woodworking
- Costumed interpreters portraying 19th century family members and visitors;
- Special events workers helping with admissions, concessions, set up; and,
- Summer camp aides assisting leaders and campers with their projects.

"I'm helping children learn about the past so they can understand the future," says veteran volunteer **Jane Smith.** "And I love the time I spend at Locust Grove."

As we read somewhere: "Volunteers aren't paid — not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless."

Please join us!



Executive Director Carol Ely "crowns" Pilkington Award winner Gwynne Potts.



Students give rapt attention as docent Ursula Dames shows how candles were made in the early 19th century.

# 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.

# From The Director's Desk

Carol Ely, Ph.D., Executive Director

What does it take to make a nation?

At the end of the Revolution in 1783, every inch, every foot, and every mile of the new territory that the United States now controlled had to be mapped and surveyed. Who would do this pressing task?

It was an urgent issue. The demand for land was part of the Revolutionary impulse, and it was one of the reasons why men fought. But, before the land could be fairly distributed, granted, or sold, it had to be measured. Various and existing

claims to Western lands had to be weighed. In the struggle for accuracy, there would be winners and losers.

The colonies, now to be called states, had already been surveyed and granted using the old English system known as "metes and bounds." This system used physical features — rivers, hilltops, prominent trees, boulders, or even slashes on a convenient tree trunk — to define boundaries of property.

This system was traditional, accepted, and highly imprecise. It was subject to interpretation

and dispute. The early Federal court system was flooded with overlapping claims, particularly in the region of Virginia called Kentucky. Here, there was often a long gap between claim and actual settlement.

In 1783, George Rogers Clark was commissioned as surveyor and given authority over a grant of 150,000 acres in Indiana to distribute to the men of his Illinois Regiment of Virginia. At about the same time, William Croghan qualified as a surveyor, and the two men began working as official surveyors of the Virginia State line.

Six years later, Croghan would succeed Clark as the chief surveyor. This appointment was very prestigious and lucrative.

Croghan went off with a crew of trained surveyors and assistants to map out the Cumberland River region of Kentucky, an area surprisingly full of squatters, would-be settlers, French travelers, and Native Americans of various nations. The work was hard and dangerous.

Unlike the old British surveying system, a new system was to be used in the Northwest Territory regions of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. It was geometric, precise, and rational.

Land was divided into rows and ranges, with square divisions of townships marked off into smaller squares of homesteads. These could be further subdivided and sold. George



Early surveyor's compass and tool kit.

Rogers Clark's grant in Indiana would be divided into squares and distributed to the officers and men of the Illinois Regiment using a variation of this system.

Who would survey the land? Without a doubt, William Croghan was one of the winners. He grew wealthy from his surveying labors; this difficult and challenging work allowed him the opportunity to build Locust Grove.

Our new exhibit gallery now under construction will focus on this new land — how it was claimed, protected, mapped, and farmed. The gallery will tell how George Rogers Clark and William Croghan played a key role in mapping out a future nation.

Our exhibits will look at methods of field surveying. And, in our circa-1805 log building, we will recreate the early surveying and county land office that William Croghan managed at Locust Grove. History will come alive – as exciting and interesting today as it was then.

### Farewell and Thanks, Aileen!

It was standing room only as volunteers and board members gathered in mid-December to thank departing Program Director Aileen Novick for all the hard work and long hours she gave to Locust Grove during her three-plus years as program director.

Aileen helped lead Locust Grove's "Lewis & Clark Homecoming" committee — a project that was two years in the planning, and culminated in an



HLG Board Chair Scott Waters and HLG Executive Director Carol Ely present a farewell gift to Aileen Novick, (center).

enthusiastic week of activities in November 2006. During her tenure, events such as the 18th Century Market Fair and the Gardeners' Fair generated much excitement in the community.

"Aileen has taken our programming up to a new level," said **Carol Ely**, Historic Locust Grove's executive director. "Aileen has high professional standards and a wonderful ability to work with all kinds of people."

HLG Board Chairman and President **Scott Waters** added, "Aileen's tireless devotion to supporting our programs and our volunteers has impressed us all not an easy task. Aileen, you are part of the Locust Grove family, now and forever."

Aileen has moved to Indianapolis, where her husband's job is focused, and she's now working on programs and special events at the Indiana Historical Society.

Everyone associated with Locust Grove thanks Aileen for her talents, time, and enthusiasm.

Card Sty

Grove Gazette is published quarterly by Historic Locust Grove, Inc. for members, volunteers and friends of Historic Locust Grove. © 2008

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.

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#### Getting To Know Locust Grove's Costumed Interpreters

# Mandy Dick is Lucy Clark Croghan

I am Lucy Clark Croghan. Welcome to my home.

I am a younger sister to General George Rogers Clark, an older sister to Governor William Clark, and the wife of Major William Croghan. My five older brothers all served as officers in the American army during the War for Independence. George was a leader in our family before he was a leader to secure the frontier from the British regulars and their Indian allies. Younger brother Billy and I were children together before he and Captain Lewis carried America completely across the continent, then brought it back to us.

All four of us sisters married men with military experience. Among my immediate family, my siblings and my children, there are 21 men, and 12 women. I keep house for soldiers and explorers. I can be generous, because my husband is one of the wealthiest men in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. We want to impress visitors and share with friends and family. I can be gracious because I was taught by my parents to remember that we Clarks are fourth-generation Americans and must be exemplary.

I have dozens of nieces and nephews. We have friends and guests from the community and from the world beyond. And everyone comes to Locust Grove. They come to celebrate coming of age, engagements, marriages, and new babies. They come to grieve and rejuvenate. They come for soothing herbs to

heal illnesses. They come because they are family and friends, and they are always welcome at my home.



#### Are those Lucy's words?

No. Lucy did not keep a journal, so far as we know. The words are mine, but they express some of Lucy's warmth, dignity and joy.

#### How long have you portrayed Lucy Clark Croghan?

I've been Lucy for ten years now. I like her, and try always to be respectful of her tenacity. She was fortunate - and smart enough to choose a partner for a husband. She and "Bill Croghan" relied on each other to keep the family strong. Each must have found strength and comfort from their bond. I am fortunate enough to know that same love and security, and therefore I can readily let Lucy show it.

#### How do you research your character?

I read constantly, trying to learn about Lucy, about the people she knew, and the time she lived in. Women have always sought - and achieved - liberation. But the

balance between liberation and a lady has always been delicate.

Lucy did not write down her opinions of women in business, or politics, but she lived a traditional life, which included running the household and the family's business interests when her husband was busy with other businesses.

#### What are some of Lucy's characteristics?

One discovery I made while reading the book, George Rogers Clark and Locust Grove, has given me many smiles. Lucy was quite a horsewoman, and rode sidesaddle, to be sure. Her husband purchased a retired racing thoroughbred for her to ride — a horse that had won races on an impromptu course created on some downtown streets.

Lucy must have appreciated a smart, spirited horse. And her husband must have relished this exuberance.

The first time she rode the horse into Louisville, however, some young people were waiting for her to reach the beginning of the so-called race course. At the appropriate mark, they began to cheer and the horse began to run for all it was worth. Lucy kept her seat, the wind whistling in her ears as the horse dashed for the finish line, winning handily in this one-horse race.

#### How do you make Lucy "come to life"?

As long as I portray her, Lucy Clark Croghan will continue to welcome guests to Locust Grove. These guests will come to know the people her famous family of soldiers and explorers really were. She will preside at state occasions, family gatherings, and the educational opportunities that were very important to her and which remain very imuch the future of Locust Grove.

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

# The Surveying Profession — Important to Locust Grove

William Croghan and George Rogers Clark were partners in the surveying business, working with another brother-in-law, Richard Clough Anderson.

The new permanent exhibition now under construction at Locust Grove will focus in part on this professional legacy, with our surveyor's office and field surveying exhibits re-creating the work they did in crafting the landscape of the new nation. This excerpt is from Pages 50-51:

While in Richmond (in 1783) Clark secured a 150,000-acre grant to members of the Illinois Regiment and was appointed and certified principal surveyor of bounty lands for Virginia State line troops. The debt owed Clark and his men by Virginia would be paid through opportunity rather than currency. He and William Croghan posted bond 20 December 1783 as "Principal Surveyors for Public lands," for the Virginia State line [for veterans of the Revolutionary Warl and State navy, entitling them to "one half dollar for each thousand acre as Surveyor's fee."

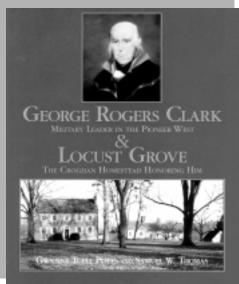
The Reverend James Madison, president of the College of William and Mary, examined Clark in late December 1783 prior to his being issued a surveyor's commission. It is assumed that Croghan went through the same process at the same time.

Within weeks, Croghan's old friend, Colonel Richard Clough Anderson, was appointed principal surveyor for The Virginia Continental Line by Governor Harrison.

Anderson opened his land office in July 1784, and Clark and Croghan created their land office also in Louisville at that time.

[Anderson's grandchild wrote:] As the surveyor-general, my grandfather was compelled to remain almost constantly in his office, for assistants made the actual surveys and reported them to him. This office-life was not to my grandfather's liking, and, whenever he could lay aside his pen, he would seize his gun and seek the woods. In these excursions he was often accompanied by George Rogers Clark, the grandest actor on the scene. These two would consider themselves happy when they could leave the safety of the fort, and without shelter, and exposed to many perils, wander in the grim forest.

The Clark and Croghan entry, survey, and account books still exist. How Croghan was teamed with Clark is not known. Despite his apparent status as a novice, Croghan immediately began his work of the Virginia State line



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.

veterans and used the position in the time-honored manner, by becoming a land speculator. His name appears in the first entry of state line surveys, indicating his purchase with partners of 4,000 acres on the Mississippi "on the Iron Banks" near the abandoned Fort Jefferson.

Croghan would acquire approximately 50,000 acres during his lifetime, most of it within the Virginia Military District.

Authors: Gwynne Tuell Potts and Samuel W. Thomas

#### Did You Know...? Gwynne Potts, Board Member

In 1807, President Thomas Jefferson asked William Clark to obtain "Mammoth" fossils from Big Bone Lick and send them to him in Washington.

Billy arrived at Big Bone in September, and was dismayed to see that the lick had been "pillaged so frequently that but few valuable bones are to be found entire."

Nevertheless, Clark and 10 laborers hired by Jefferson dug for several weeks. But many of the bones cracked when they were brought up from the river's muck. He did secure the front feet of the American Mastodon, which later were exhibited in Philadelphia by Charles Willson Peale, but failed to save the head.

"I regret very much the loss of this head," Clark said. "It is impossible to save those that are taken out of the water, and it is in the water or Mires that the Most entire bones are found."

Clark eventually exhumed as many as 300 bones, mostly of a mastodon, and divided them into two parcels. One went overland to Jefferson; the second went to George Rogers Clark's home at Clarksville, to be shipped from there.

The overland shipment arrived in March 1808; but the ship carrying the fossils from Clark's home via New Orleans to Baltimore was impounded in Havana, and its contents never were recovered.

After exhibiting William Clark's collection in Washington, Jefferson sent many of the fossils to Philadelphia, where they remain at the Academy of Natural Sciences. Another portion went to the Natural History Museum in Paris. And Jefferson took the rest home with him to Monticello - where visitors can see them today.

And now you know.

#### CALENDAR

### 2008 Afternoon Lecture Series

The theme of this year's series is "Early Louisville Society." Each lecture will investigate the changing social systems of early Kentucky.

Lectures are beld 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.

#### DR. EPHRAIM McDowell

#### Wednesday, February 6

L. Henry Dowell, Chautauqua performer, is "Dr. Ephraim McDowell, Frontier Surgeon and Father of Abdominal Surgery."

On Christmas Day 1809, a thousand miles away from the nearest hospital and 35 years before the discovery of anesthesia, Dr. McDowell removed a 22-pound ovarian tumor from the abdomen of a



Ephraim McDowell image from the Clendening Library Portrait Collection.

46-year-old woman, Jane Todd Crawford. It was the world's first ovariotomy, and it eventually brought McDowell worldwide acclaim as the "Father of Abdominal Surgery." **Free admission.** 

#### Louisville's Early Jewish Society

#### Wednesday, March 5

Historic Locust Grove's Executive Director **Carol Ely** is the author of *Jewish Louisville: Portrait of a Community*. She will discuss the early development of Jewish communities in frontier Kentucky.

#### EARLY CHURCHES IN LOUISVILLE

#### Wednesday, April 2

The Rev. Clyde Crews, who was appointed in 2007 to the new position of Bellarmine University Historian and Archival Coordinator, will offer insights about the early churches of Louisville. During his 34-year tenure at Bellarmine, Father Crews has served in numerous roles, including historian-in-residence, director of the Merton Center, chairman of the Theology department, and academic dean.

#### THE HISTORY OF SURVEYING

#### Wednesday, June 4

Learn more about the profession of William Croghan and George Rogers Clark. **Davie Ruckman,** a member of the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors, will talk about the history of surveying and explain early surveying techniques.

### 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.)

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 make reservations.

#### DEAN SHOSTAK AND THE GLASS ARMONICA

#### Sunday, February 3

Direct from Colonial Williamsburg, **Dean Shostak** performs on the Glass Armonica. In 1761, Benjamin Franklin designed this instrument which features 37 bowls mounted horizontally on an

iron spindle. The entire spindle turns by means of a foot-operated treadle. The sound is produced by touching the rims of the bowls with moistened fingers. Mozart, Beethoven, Donizetti, Richard Strauss, and Camille Saint-Saëns all composed works for the Glass Armonica. This concert has been generously



Image of Dean Shostak and his Glass Armonica from www.glassmusic.com.

underwritten by Chamber Music Subscriber and Glass Armonica inventor namesake, **Benjamin Franklin** of Louisville.

#### CIVIC BRASS BANDS

#### Sunday, April 6

#### Susan Reigler,

musician, writer, and former caretaker at Locust Grove, leads a brass quartet at an *al fresco* concert in the spirit of 19th century American civic brass bands. Well-known bands of virtuoso



musicians toured widely, and most towns had their own bands that put on weekend music concerts.

If you would like to receive updates about Locust Grove's programs and events via e-mail, please send your address to: wise@locustgrove.org, with "e-mail" as the subject. Locust Grove will keep your e-mail address private.

#### CALENDAR

## HLG'S BIGGEST USED BOOK SALE

#### Preview for 'Friends of Locust Grove' Only

Friday, March 7 - 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

#### SALE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Saturday, March 8 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 9 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.



Don't miss Historic Locust Grove's fourth annual Used Book Sale — our largest used book sale of the year. Last year, we had more than 13,000 books — most of which were priced at 50 cents, \$1 and \$2.

These books cover many categories — from history, philosophy and art to biography, fiction and mystery. Plus, we'll have tables filled with children's books, audiobooks and so much more.

Our volunteers spend weeks organizing all the books — a huge plus for shoppers who know what they want and can go right to it.

This year, we'll also have a silent auction of some valuable antiquarian books. And we'll have a special table devoted entirely to books about Louisville and Kentucky, and books by Kentucky authors.

All proceeds go to supporting Historic Locust Grove's education and preservation programs.

But to be successful, we need your books! We're accepting

donations
right now.
And because
proceeds go
toward
Historic
Locust Grove's
programs, all
donations are
tax-deductible.
Just ask us for
a receipt.



We'll accept books in good condition, including paperbacks and hardcovers, as well as DVDs, cassettes, videotapes, and audiobooks. *Please, no textbooks or magazines.* 

You may drop off books at Locust Grove during the hours we're open, seven days a week. If you need to have books picked up, just call 897-9845 and we'll make arrangements to do so.

And be sure to join us for great books — and great bargains!

### VOLUNTEER FAIR

Saturday, March 29 - 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

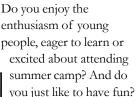


Do you like to garden? Are you interested in the theatre and acting? Do you enjoy history

and telling the stories of the people and places that made us what we are today?



Perhaps you're a great organizer and enjoy making events run smoothly. Or maybe you like to do crafts, or work with wood.





There are so many ways in which you could offer your time and talents to Locust Grove. Stop by

our Volunteer Fair to find out how you can join one of the best groups of volunteers anywhere!



### 18th Century Thunder

Saturday and Sunday, April 12 and 13 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

You'll hear the thunder of muskets, the clang of the blacksmith's hammer, and the melodies of the fife and drum. Men, women and children in Revolutionary War era gear will transport your family to another time — and provide a wonderful opportunity to bring history to life.

Companies representing General George Rogers Clark's troops from the Northwest Campaign will reenact life in a military camp, including surveying, cooking, drilling and other demonstrations.

And Locust Grove's volunteers will have a concession stand for your own hungry troops.

Admission: \$6 adults, \$3 children 6-12, free for children 5 and under.



# 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.

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#### Donate Online!

We now accept donations online through the secure servers at **Network for Good.** 

Go to www.locustgrove.org, click on "Participate" and then click on "Donate." Go to the "Donate Now" box on that page and you'll be sent directly to a secure page for Locust Grove.

You can determine the amount you'd like to give and even set up monthly automatic payments, if you'd like. You may designate what the gift is for and if it is in memory or in honor of someone.

#### **Donate By Mail**

If you'd rather send your check through the mail, you may print out the form on our website or just send your check with a note.

If the donation is in honor or in memory of a person, please include where and to whom you would like us to acknowledge your donation. Send your check and note to:

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

Of course, all donors will always receive acknowledgements, along with our sincere thanks for your donation. All donations are tax-deductible.

## Candlelight Tours Bring History Up-Close and Personal



Locust Grove's
December Candlelight
tours offers visitors the
chance to step into
history — to meet and
talk with first-person
interpreters who assume
the persona of a family
member or a friend who
lived at or visited Locust
Grove in 1820.

Here two visitors meet Dance Mistress Madame Dubois (left), Lucy's second son George Croghan, and Lucy's niece, Lucy Fitzhugh.

# Friends of Locust Grove

Enrollment/Renewal - September 15, through December 31, 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!

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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...

Or just fill in the form below, cut it out, and mail it to us!

**Total Enclosed:** 

# Attention, Volunteers!

Learning. Celebrating. Having a whole lot of fun. That's what's in store for all Locust Grove volunteers this quarter.

#### **In-Service Sessions**

Wednesday, February 20, or Saturday, February 23 10:00 a.m. – Noon

Join HLG Board Secretary and former HLG Executive Director

Gwynne Potts for an

informative session on William Croghan's uncle, George Croghan. You'll learn about George's role in the imperial and Native American struggles for the Ohio River Valley in the years leading up to the American Revolution. Please sign up for one of the sessions.

# Deadline for Nominations - Audrey Pilkington Award

Tuesday, April 1

This award recognizes volunteers — current or former — who have offered a lifetime of dedication and support to Historic Locust Grove. In 2000, the award was named for **Audrey Pilkington** in recognition of her pioneering and positive energy in nurturing Locust Grove's volunteer corps and programs.

Award winners to date: Emilie Strong Smith, Martin Schmidt, Fred Atkinson, Dorothy Martin, Bob Pilkington, LaMar Gaston, and Gwynne Potts.

Nomination forms will be available in the volunteer room/library. Or contact Carol Ely at ely@locustgrove.org.

If a 2008 winner is selected, the award will be announced at the volunteer appreciation party in April.

## Volunteer Appreciation Party

#### Thursday, April 24

This is a wonderful celebration of our volunteers and the tens of thousands of hours they give to Locust Grove each year.
Thanks for everything!

Become a '	Friend o	of Loc	cust Grove'
Fill in the blanks (please print), clip, an	nd mail to — Locust G	rove, 561 Blan	nkenbaker Road, Louisville, KY 40207
Name/Names:			
Address:			
City:		State:	ZIP:
Phone/s: Home ( )	Cell (	)	
Email Address: (will not be shared)			
"Friends" Categories Individual I	ual — \$35	•	
I/We wish to make an additional contr	ibution to Historic Lo	ocust Grove ir	n the amount of: _\$
I have included a corporate matching	gift form from:		
Payment Method:	d Please o	charge my:	☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard
Card #	Exp. Dat	te:	"Friends" Level: \$
Signature:			Friends Level: \$

"Friends of Historic Locust Grove" dues and contributions are tax-deductible.

Historic Locust Grove, Inc. EIN 61-1390403