

KYGMCC

Home of the KSB Miniatures Collection and Old Pogue Experience

Window to the past.

Bridge to the future.



KENTUCKY GATEWAY MUSEUM CENTER

Messenger

VOLUME XXIV

ISSUE II

MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY

WINTER / FEBRUARY 2019



HIXSON'S HOARDINGS & MORE... ABRAHAM LINCOLN



Photo of the Lincoln Law Office miniature, now on display in the Scaled to Perfection Exhibit.



SPECIAL FEATURE

ROSENWALD MAY'S LICK NEGRO SCHOOL



2019 CHARTER CELEBRATION
MARCH 19, 2019
NOW ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS

Public Ledger
Established April 4, 1892

The Daily Independent
Established May 16, 1907
MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1968
PHONE 564-3351
SINGLE COPY 5c

UNITED NATIONS - FAMILY

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE LEDGER INDEPENDENT

Currently on Display



THE VIEW FROM SECOND AND SUTTON

It's winter and regardless of the cold weather temperatures your Museum Center is warm and full of new exhibits and special events for members and visitors to Maysville. Our staff is looking forward to seeing you in the Museum on a winter day to enjoy viewing the exhibits on display both in our Galleries and in the *Limestone Building*. From new exhibits, the beautiful new collection of miniatures in the *Calvert Gallery* to the planning of the **Annual Museum Charter Celebration** in March our staff and volunteers are in full preparation mode for the museum events of 2019!

Please save the date of **Tuesday March 19** as the Museum hosts our **Annual Museum Charter Celebration** as the oldest Chartered Museum in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. On this special evening we will reflect on our founding in 1878 and invite our guests to peruse today's Gateway Museum. Our staff and trustees will serve as your docents, servers and guides for a full evening of entertainment, our Gala Banquet, visits to the Galleries and sharing of our goals for 2019. Proceeds from this special evening will benefit the Museum's *Endowment Fund*.

The Museum Charter Celebration opens with the Museum Center's *Wormald and KSB Miniatures Galleries* open for Charter Celebration guests at 5:00 p.m. The Gallery tours will continue to the *Old Pogue Experience* in the *Limestone Building* with hors d'oeuvres at 5:45 p.m. Guests will then move to the Ballroom of the *Washington Opera House* to enjoy the Charter Celebration Banquet at 6:30 p.m. The concert entertainment and program will follow dinner with remarks on the State of our Association and the announcement of plans for 2019 in the Auditorium of the Opera Theatre. The program concludes with an auction and desserts following the concert. Reservations for this special evening are required and space for the full program of tours, banquet and concert is limited. Watch

your mail for your invitation card or you may call the museum at 606.564.5865 to make your reservation. Please join our Board of Trustees and Museum staff in this benefit celebration for the support of the Endowment Fund of the Museum.

We continue to celebrate our Museum's participation in **NARM** (*The North American Reciprocal Museum Association*) which allows our *Wormald Members* reciprocal admission to 1,013 participating institutions across North America. When your membership is due this coming year, consider upgrading your support to the *Wormald Membership* level which is the regular member's dues plus \$100.00 which entitles you to be a member of **NARM**. Your donations allow us to expand our mission to serve our community with new exhibits, programs of study, historical research and outreach to our community.

We are very excited to report 2018 attendance totals of **18,702 visitors** both in the Museum and in our outreach programs to area schools. This is the highest number of visitors in our Museum's history. We continued to welcome visitors from around the world in 2018 with guests from 48 states, the District of Columbia and eighteen countries.

We project our museum's service opportunities for 2019 to continue to grow as we welcome an increased number of schools, community groups and historical associations to our Museum Center. The increase of visitors and our requests for service to schools and historical research create needs for both added volunteers and financial support. If you are interested in joining the museum staff as one of our volunteers, call the Director's Office

and set up a time to meet with our curators and discuss the many opportunities for service at the Museum Center.

We have opened our *Wormald Collectors Series* exhibit for this winter titled, **Celebrating Fifty Years of the Ledger-Independent**. This reflective exhibit features newspaper related items and a wonderful collection of photographs and cover pages of selected newspaper editions that tell our Maysville story over the last fifty years. The displays are located on both the first and second floors of the Wormald Gallery.

Remember winter is the perfect time for a visit to the museum exhibits or *Old Pogue Experience*. Take the time to check our new **Books for a Donation** table in the Atrium. Make a donation to the *Education Outreach* program and pick up a new book to enjoy on a winter day.



Select titles available in the atrium during our Books for a Donation promotion.

Thank you for being a Museum Member, make your reservation for the **Charter Celebration** early, and visit your Museum often to rediscover the many treasures on Second and Sutton Street!

C.J. Hunter
Executive Director

REAC
CRE Real Estate Asset Counselling, Inc.
P.O. Box 27
Maysville, KY 41056-0027

Phone (606) 883-3602 Fax: (606) 883-3603
Email: tcoe@maysvilleky.net
James Thomas Coe, CRE

<http://www.postalrealestate.com/Home.html>

Celebrating Fifty
Years of the
Ledger-Independent.

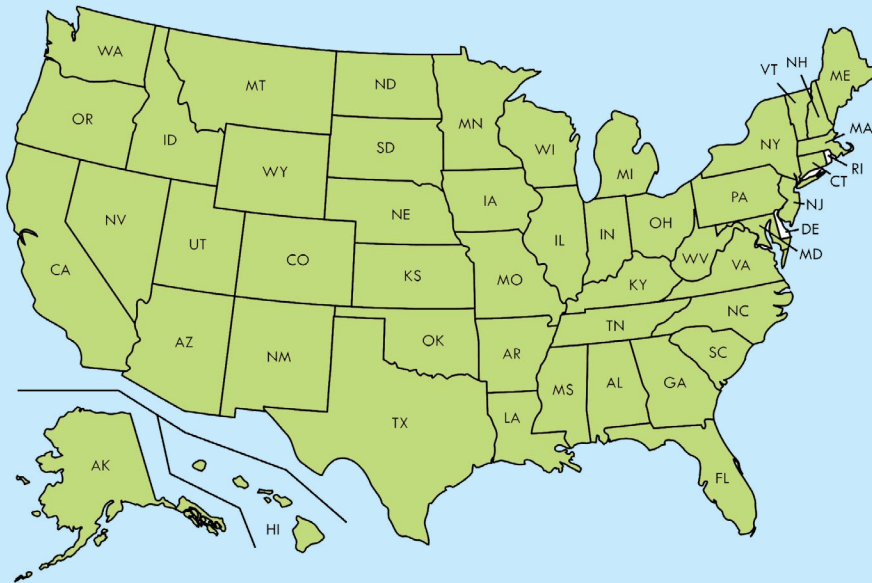
Now on Display

Compliments of John Sims, Jr.
70th Legislative District



john.sims@lrc.ky.gov

A Look Back at 2018



Volunteers Keep Us Going!

In 2018 we had a total of 50 volunteers who logged.....2,689.09 hours!

KYGMC hosted visitors from **48 STATES** and the **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA** and **18 COUNTRIES OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES** including:

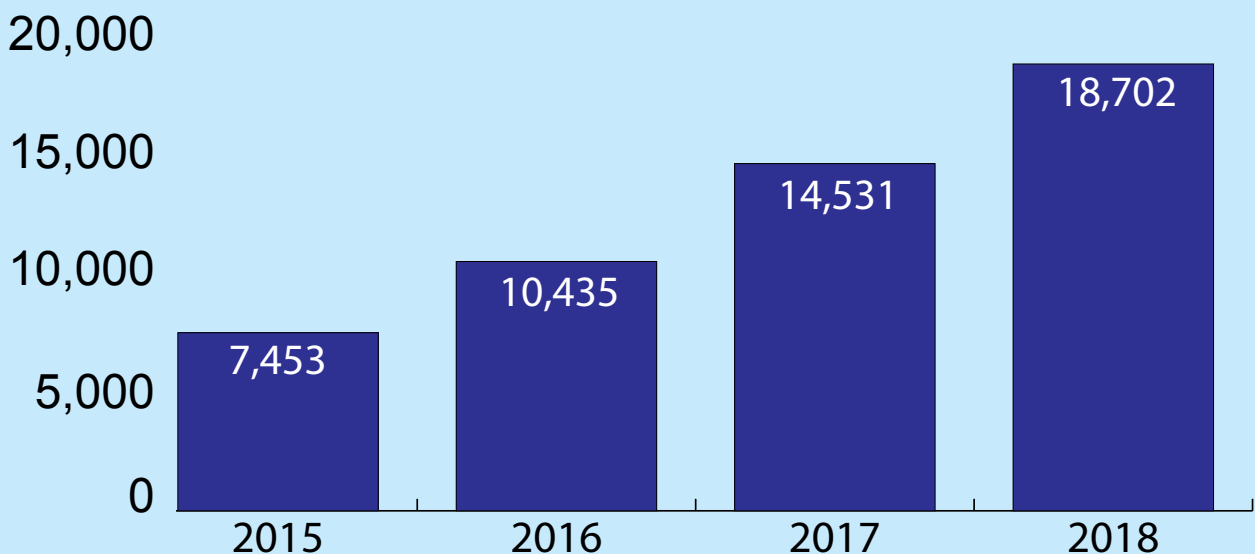
Austria, Belgium, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, China, Columbia, Denmark, England, France, Germany, New Zealand, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Scotland, St. Croix, and South Africa.

Students in the 2018 IGMA Guild Study Program, *pictured right.*

This is just one of many events hosted by the KSB Miniatures Collection that attracts visitors from around the world.



KENTUCKY GATEWAY MUSEUM CENTER 4-YEAR ATTENDANCE



HIXSON'S HOARDINGS AND MORE...

By Tandy Nash

We would like to invite you to visit the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center in honor of Presidents Day to view the Herndon and Lincoln Law Office in the KSB Miniatures Collection. The artisans, Ashby and Jedd, estimate that they spent more than 1,200 hours researching and building the law office. The unique roombox displayed in the Jean Weis Calvert Gallery, is filled with period furniture, including a writing desk and cabinet. The documents on the desk are scaled-down versions of actual Lincoln papers. The view through the door into the Law Office model is the same one that Lincoln would have had upon entering the office each morning. You can see Lincoln's top hat lying on the bench, a wooden wall clock replicating a period piece and the cellar door is ajar where Lincoln was said to listen to lawyers and clients talk above, making sure that the information given was correct.

Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois claim Lincoln as theirs and of course he ended his life in Washington, D.C.. Abraham was born on February 12, 1809 in a one-room log cabin at Sinking Spring farm, south of Hodgenville in Hardin County, Kentucky. The family relocated eight miles north to Knob Creek farm until he was seven. It was there that "the foundations of the morals of Lincoln are really instilled in him-through his family, through the church his family attended... and where his ideals on slavery [were] put in place." Kentucky was the place where Lincoln got his early real-life education from what he observed. "It was the only state where Lincoln lived where slavery was legal, and it's believed that some of the Lincoln family's neighbors owned slaves."

As more people made their way into Kentucky, his father, Tom Lincoln, found that "the law didn't protect him from people who were out to poach his farm" and he couldn't "compete in an economic model that included slaves" so they moved to Little Pigeon Creek in Perry County Indiana. "The area where they settled was largely unsettled with an average of only 3 people per square mile", and the land was terribly overgrown and difficult to farm. Abraham later described life

in the area as a "fight with trees and logs and grubs." Tom worked hard at farming but had to rely on hunting in order to feed his family. There was no flooring and little furniture in the cabin and the family slept on corn husk beds that "frequently were inhabited by bugs and visited by rodents." Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks, was very religious and taught the children about the Bible, and she believed in the importance of education. Schools were uncommon in those lightly populated areas but when Abe was about seven, a school opened up nine miles away. "At best, the walk to school would have taken the children 2.5-3 hours each way" but Nancy insisted to Tom that the children be allowed to attend. The school didn't last long but the importance of education was impressed upon Abe's mind.

In 1818, Nancy became ill with "milk sickness". (If cows ingest a plant known as white snakeroot, it goes through to their milk, and some people become sick and die from it.) Nancy's death left nine year old Abe and his sister Sally in the sole care of their father. Research shows that Tom may have been a tough man who was "Known to knock his son down in anger at times". (Lincoln rarely talked about his father and when Tom died in 1851, Abe did not attend the funeral.) He left the children alone for 6 months, went back to Kentucky and returned with his new wife, Sarah Bush Johnston. She on the other hand "was even handed in her treatment of Abe and Sally and her own three children." She had heard about Abe's efforts to read and she brought books and though the family had little money, she did what she could to get a few things so Abe could read and write. At that time it was customary for a son under legal age to give any earnings to his father. Abe worked for neighbors and area business people, and Tom was given all monies Abe earned. "Finally, at the age of 22, Abe packed his few belongings and moved to New Salem, Illinois." His rise in Illinois was the central dynamic that made him a great politician and a great president. He worked as a boatman, store clerk, surveyor, militia soldier, and became a lawyer in Illinois. He was elected to the Illinois Legislature in 1834. In 1837, he started a law partnership

with John Stuart. Lincoln handled most of the firm's clients, while Stuart was primarily concerned with politics and election to the United States House of Representatives. Lincoln realized "he was equal in ability and effectiveness to most other attorneys, whether they were self-taught like Lincoln or had studied with a more experienced lawyer." By 1840 Lincoln was drawing \$1,000 annually from the law practice, along with his salary as a legislator. He had been re-elected in 1836, 1838 and 1840 and in 1841, he entered into a new partnership with Stephen T. Logan who was nine years older than Lincoln and a former attorney in Kentucky before moving to Illinois. Logan saw "Lincoln's effectiveness with juries superior to his own." Lincoln absorbed some of the finer points of law and the importance of proper and detailed case research and preparation, and found Logan's written pleadings precise and on point. Lincoln used them as his model. Night after night, he spent reading in the Supreme Court Library searching out precedents that applied to the cases he was working on.

Lincoln's partnership with Logan was dissolved in 1844 when Logan entered into a partnership with his son. Lincoln was tired of being the junior partner and entered into a partnership with William Herndon. Like Abraham, Herndon was an active Whig but was one of the "leaders of the younger, more populist portion of the party". It was at this time Lincoln became one of the most active regulars on the circuit. Each spring and fall Lincoln traveled the district (about 11,000 sq. miles) for nine to ten weeks at a time. His reputation for "integrity and fairness on the circuit led to him being in high demand both from clients and local attorneys who needed assistance." It was also during his time riding the circuit that he picked up the nickname, "Honest Abe". His partnership with Herndon continued through Lincoln's presidential election, and he remained a partner of record until his death.

Kentucky may have had Lincoln first, while Illinois had him the longest, but the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center and the KSB Miniatures Gallery has him forever!


meadowview regional
your hospital
606-759-5311
989 Medical Park Drive
Maysville, KY 41056
meadowviewregional.com


Kathleen Savage Browning
MINIATURES COLLECTION

Clarke and Clarke Attorneys at Law

James L. Clarke J. Kirk Clarke Michael M. Clarke

Call us for an appointment (606) 564-5527

119 Sutton St., Maysville, KY 41056

<http://clarkeandclarkelaw.com/>

ROSENWALD MAY'S LICK NEGRO SCHOOL

By Dr. Cheryl French

During Black History Month we often cite the achievements of outstanding people such as Fredrick Douglas, ML King, Harriet Tubman, Col. Charles Young, Danielle Copeland, Neil Tyson and Hakeem Olu-seyi. Regular everyday people are often overshadowed by these celebrated personalities. We know that it took thousands of those "regular everyday people" to guide us through our turbulent past and help us build a promising future. One such "everyday family" that captured my attention was the Alexander family of Mays' Lick, Kentucky.

While researching information for the Rosenwald Mays' Lick Negro School, several articles were found about the Alexander family. Henry Alexander, the head of the Alexander family, was born a slave in Virginia around 1802. It is unclear when he arrived in the Mays Lick area and with whom (still to be investigated), but by the time he was 21 years old he had purchased his freedom.

Between 1822 and 1840 Henry was able to purchase his wife, Lucy, supposedly from Vice President Richard Mentor Johnson. According to information published in *Parallel Words: The Remarkable Gibbs-Hunts and the Enduring (In)significance of Melanin* by Adele Logan Alexander, Lucy became one of Johnson's common law wives following the death of Julia Chinn (slave/common law wife) during the cholera epidemic of 1833. After Lucy's attempt to escape she was sold on the slave market. Purportedly, while Johnson's slave/common law wife, Lucy had children which Henry Alexander also purchased.

On the 1840 U.S. Federal Census, Henry Alexander was listed as a free colored person, with a wife and 5 daughters; all of them free people of color-mulatto. By the time of the 1850 U.S. Federal Census Henry appears to have become a very prosperous merchant, his real estate was listed with a

value of \$8,350 (to be verified).

Henry and Lucy Alexander, during a very tumultuous time in Kentucky history, raised five daughters (Louisa Lydia, Rachel, Elizabeth, Maria, Lamira) 4 of whom were able to attend Oberlin College (i.e. Oberlin Collegiate Institute until 1850). Oberlin, in 1837, became the first predominantly white college institution to admit African American women. Oberlin was the first college to admit students without respect to race as a matter of official policy.

Louisa Lydia, a country girl from Mays' Lick, Kentucky, a daughter of slaves who



May's Lick Elementary, Oct. 31, 1957

purchased their freedom, was one of the first African American women to attend Oberlin from 1850-1856, completing a Ladies Teaching course. Although she did not graduate with a BA degree it was no small feat to be one of the few African American women in the United States to receive an education beyond grade school! Lemira attended Oberlin from 1853-1854, Rachel attended Oberlin from 1862-1864, and Maria Ann attended Oberlin from 1852-1854.

After completing her Ladies Teaching course, Louisa Lydia taught at several schools throughout the south and eventually returned home to Mays' Lick to teach. The one room school house behind the Mays' Lick Second Baptist Church was

probably filled with friends, old neighbors and relatives ecstatic that one of their own had made a place in the world. Imagine, if you can, the courage, drive and love Louisa Lydia needed to endure racism, hate and the violence of that era to bring education to the African American communities in the south. We are still attempting to locate records which indicate the length of time Louisa Lydia taught at Mays' Lick.

Louisa Lydia died in 1910 and is buried in Oberlin Westwood Cemetery.

History does not provide information on three of the other daughters of Henry and Lucy Alexander, but their oldest daughter Maria Ann obtained a Literary Degree from Oberlin in 1854 and taught for a short time in Covington, Ky. Maria's claim to fame is her marriage to Mifflin W. Gibbs, who became the first African American judge in the United States.

Maria Ann's daughters, Harriet A. Gibbs, a musician, writer and educator - best known for opening the Washington D.C. Conservatory of Music and School of Expression and Ida Alexander Gibbs Hunt, teacher, Pan-Africanist and civil rights leader, were strong women who also left their mark on the world.

Henry and Lucy Alexander, regular everyday people who purchased their freedom, established a thriving business during a dark time, and raised five strong women, would be proud....so should Mays' Lick, Kentucky.

We would like to collect more information concerning the Alexanders, especially a photo of Louisa Lydia which will be placed in the Rosenwald Mays' Lick Negro School. We would appreciate the help of the community or any of the Alexander descendants in obtaining historical documents and photos for Henry, Lucy and their daughters. If you have information or documents that we can copy or that you would like to donate, please bring them to the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center.

R. Fred Keith

Attorney at Law
Certified Public Accountant

KEITH & ASSOCIATES, PLLC

Direct: (859) 292-2468
Cell: (513) 259-6299
fkeith@keithlawyers.com

<http://keithlawyers.com/>

715 Bakewell Street
Covington, KY 41011-1227
Main Phone: (859) 261-6800
Fax Number: (859) 261-6882

2019 Charter Celebration

March 19, 2019

THE INSURANCE EXCHANGE

www.tieoh.com

West Union, Ohio 45693
937-544-5505

Peebles, Ohio 45660
937-587-2246

<http://www.tieoh.com/>

KYGMC STAFF

Executive Director
C.J. Hunter IV
director@kygmc.org

Miniatures Curator
Kaye Browning
browningminiatures@kygmc.org

Curator
Sue Ellen Grannis
curator@kygmc.org

Education Curator
Tandy Nash
education@kygmc.org

Business Office
Gayle McKay

Finance Officer
Joyce Weigott
finance@kygmc.org

Registrar
ShaFon Art
registrar@kygmc.org

Guest Relations
Lisa Massey-Brown
Christy Hoots
Timothy Douglas

Building Services
Liz Smith

Researcher
Cay Chamness
cay@kygmc.org

Researcher
Myra Hardy
myra@kygmc.org

Reference Registrar
Anne Pollitt
anne@kygmc.org

Media & Advertising Director
Amanda Hankinson
amanda@juneybdesigns.com

Special Exhibits Curator
Marla Toncray
exhibits@kygmc.org

TRUSTEES

Tom Coe
President

Joe McKay
Vice President

Gerry Schumacher
Secretary

Fred Keith
Treasurer

Chris Bauer
Trustee

Kaye Browning
Trustee

Dan Fannin
Trustee

Wanda Felice
Trustee

C.J. Hunter IV
Ex-Officio Trustee

Louis Browning
Trustee Emeritus

Bill Whitaker
Trustee Emeritus

Donald L. Wood
Trustee Emeritus

Kentucky Gateway Museum Center
215 Sutton St.
Maysville, KY 41056

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
PERMIT NO. 12

To:

or current resident.

KYGMC CHARTER CELEBRATION MARCH 19, 2019



*Reservations Required. If you have questions or to RSVP call 606-564-5865.
Reservations must be received by March 12, 2019.*

KYGMC HOURS

Sun. & Mon.
Tues. – Sat.

CLOSED
10am–4pm

KYGMC LIMESTONE BUILDING

Sun. & Mon.
Tues. – Sat.

CLOSED
11am–3pm



215 Sutton St., Maysville, KY 41056
606-564-5865 www.kygmc.org