

VOLUME XXVI • ISSUE II



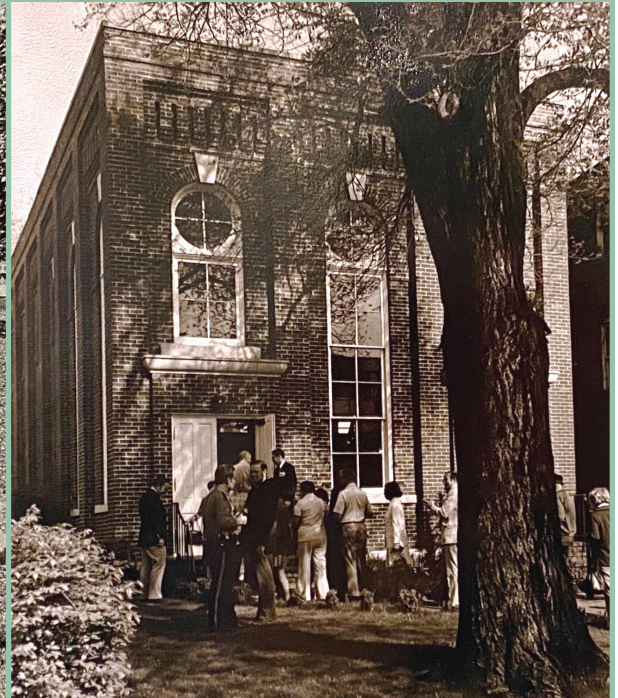
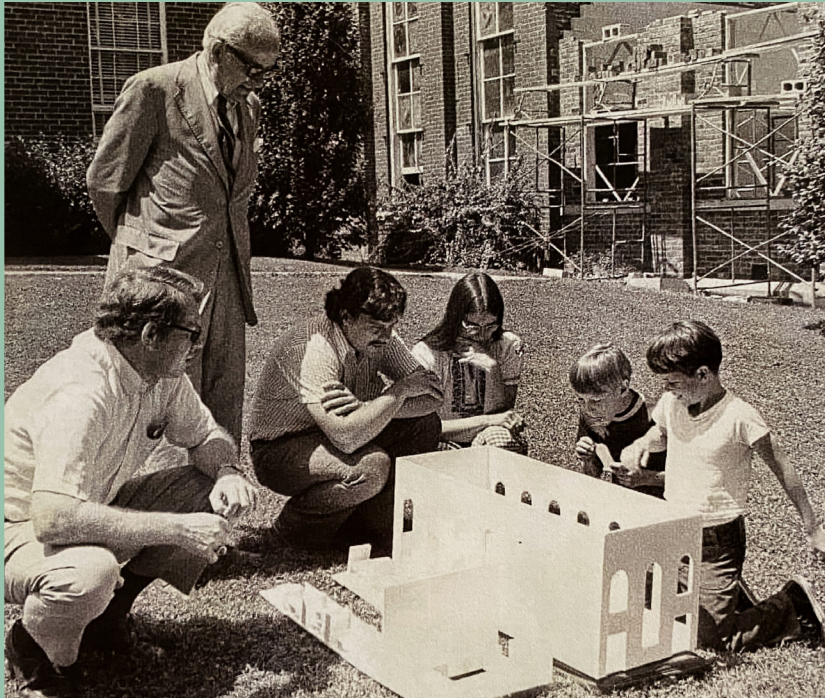
Messenger

KYGMC

HOME OF THE KSB MINIATURES COLLECTION
& THE OLD POGUE EXPERIENCE

MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY

SPRING/MARCH 2021



By an act of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's General Assembly,
our Museum's Association was Chartered on March 1, 1878.

Celebrating 143 Years of our Charter!

THE VIEW FROM SECOND AND SUTTON

Spring is a time for new beginnings and a time to reflect and celebrate our historical traditions at the *Kentucky Gateway Museum Center*. One hundred and forty-three years ago on March 1, 1878, by an act of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's General Assembly, our museum association was formed as the *Maysville Mason County Library, Historical and Scientific Association* to serve our community. As we celebrate our history, it is not only a time of celebrating our Association's Charter, but a time to say "thank-you" to our members, patrons, volunteers and guests that have supported the Museum during this difficult pandemic period.

The year of 2020 and winter of 2021 have been very different times that have required a new outlook at our programs and services. Even during the pandemic restrictions our mission continues to grow in service to our community ranging from educational programs to our newest endeavor with the QR codes on many of our exhibits and the formation of *Gateway Virtual Resources*. Our many museum programs of service continue to supplement the visitor's experience from viewing our museum galleries showcasing our historical collections, *The Old Pogue Experience*, *Educational Outreach* and the *KSB Miniatures Collection*. From our galleries to our research library, outreach programs to schools and exchange exhibits with other museums, we continue to see a growth in all areas of our museum experiences.

During the pandemic year of 2020, we had a total attendance of nearly 12,000 guests even though we were closed for 88 days during the year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Donations to the Museum have been very positive with increases in total funds to both

the *Sustaining Fund* and the *Museum Endowment* accounts over previous years. Our Museum community has responded in a very positive way to support the *Kentucky Gateway Museum*. Our staff and trustees are most grateful for your time and financial resources.

The Old Pogue Experience and *Museum Galleries* welcomed visitors from 8 countries and 37 states in 2020. We are excited to announce the formation of our *Gateway Virtual Program*, which will allow our guests to tour the Museum virtually using our web page. During this age of limited travel, our virtual component will allow guests and classroom teachers to use our resources from their computers. This new level of service to our schools and guests from around the world will enable us to reach a larger museum audience using the latest 3D mapping technology of our many galleries and exhibits.

Our exhibits this spring produced by KYGMC include *Tea Cups and Tools* and *Portraits from our Past*, which showcase some of the items from our Museum collections and archives. Our *Wormald Historical Gallery* features several displays of the extremely rare maps and engravings of our Kentucky history. These exhibits allow our guests to learn about the early history in Limestone/Maysville from farm products, bourbon distilling, riverboat shipping, the *Limestone Road* and all the effects on the economy of early Kentucky. I encourage you to spend some time in your museum and view our collections, the always changing exhibits and displays featured throughout our galleries.

As always, we thank you for being a member and building the legacy of the *Kentucky Gateway Museum Center*. From our five core Museum service

areas of *History, Research Library, KSB Miniatures Collection, Old Pogue Experience* to our *Education program*, the state of the Association is strong and we are looking forward to new horizons in 2021. We hope to see you very soon at the oldest Chartered Museum in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and celebrate our history and visions for the future.

C.J. Hunter IV,
Executive Director



Education Escapades: The Sweeter Side of Prohibition

BY TANDY NASH

The museum has opened its newest exhibit, *Spirited: Prohibition in America* rented from the *National Endowments for the Humanities*, and topped off with in-house artifacts and a lovely loan of beautiful '20s era purses from Suzanne Weaver. This is a great time to visit KYGMC!

In 1919, the Prohibition Enforcement Act, later called the "*Volstead Act*", passes the House, and on January 17, 1920 prohibition began. That same year, women won the right to vote in state and federal elections and they began to work outside the home, filling roles beyond classrooms and hospitals, stepping into the nation's offices, and entering into some professions traditionally held only by men. "*In 1921, President Warren G. Harding even appointed Mabel Walker Willebrandt as U.S. Assistant Attorney General in charge of Prohibition enforcement.*"

The United States became a nation on the move. Millions of soldiers were coming home from WWI. The country's civic and political positions moved, too. Six constitutional amendments were enacted in the span of twenty years during the tumultuous teens and Roaring Twenties. It is important to consider just how astounding this is: "*only twenty-seven amendments have been ratified in the entire history of the nation, and nearly a quarter of them were enacted in that short period.*" These amendments brought about change in American law, politics, and culture by authorizing the federal income tax and direct, public election of U.S. senators. The inauguration date for president, vice president and the new congressional term was advanced to January from March, Woman's Suffrage was approved and prohibition was enacted and then repealed.

"This was the era of Speakeasies and Soda Fountains, racy automobiles, newfangled devices, fluctuating economic conditions, and -for those who dined, and drank, on the right side of the law-innovative beverages and exciting ice cream flavors, sundaes varieties, and novelties, along with tasty luncheonette delights." Closed up saloons made way for bright, glass-windowed soda parlors. "*During 1920, the second year of prohibition in Ohio, which had "gone dry" in May 1919, the city of Cleveland reported that no less than 1,000 new [soda] fountains had been installed in almost as many new places. The sweeping changes happened all across the nation, as the saloon no longer offered an attractive place in which a few minutes or hours could be whiled away, and the soda fountain had succeeded in filling this role."* Thousands of specialty ice cream dishes were developed. I am sure different demographics demonstrated different preferences, but it was noted in one source that "*men ask for fresh lime freezes, frozen mint juleps, orangeades and phosphates. Women are prone to order chocolate sundaes, fancy sundaes and the host of fancy, fluffy, creamy fountain specials. Old people usually take a dish of plain ice cream. The flappers like fancy sundaes especially fresh fruit frappes."*

Tools of the saloon could easily be adapted for the soda fountain. One half and one-ounce jiggers could be used to dispense the new flavored syrups, drink shakers could easily mix drinks made from milk, syrups, crushed ice, and ice cream and the strainers could be used as well. Thousands of specialty ice cream dishes were developed; Some with fanciful names like 'Merry Widow',

'Orphan's Delight', Banana Royal' and 'Chop Suey'. Sherbet originated in Persia in the late 1500's but made a comeback at that time. (Sherbet, pronounced "sher-but" is the usual word for the frozen sweet desert made from fruit or fruit juices. Sherbert, with an additional "r" in the second syllable and pronounced "sher-ber" is less commonly used. In Britain, sherbert is a sweet powder used to make a drink bubbly or eaten by itself.) Grapes were also a prohibition popularity. With the passage of the Volstead Act, it was feared by the grape growers that grapes would not find a ready market for the volume use that had been in alcoholic beverages. To their great surprise, it was found that people still like grape, unfermented, as well as fermented.

By 1925, the soda fountain trade had grown to an astonishing total of \$497,500,000. "*Over forty thousand fountains- nearly half of the total- were in confectionery and soda shops; 38,503 were in the drug stores; over 7,000 in department, general and five and ten cent stores"* all distributed throughout the entire country pretty much in proportion to the population.

The education staff at KYGMC is providing a delicious selection of recipes from the sweeter side of Prohibition that can be picked up for free at the museum's front desk. We are also in the process of making a "Sweeter Side of Prohibition" Museum Medley Box for teachers to use in their classrooms to teach history, math and family living skills. Two of these recipes can be found on page 7 of this issue.



If there are lessons or educational standards that you would like KYGMC to address in order to enhance your units of study, please email education@kygmc.org or call Tandy Nash at 606-564-5865. You will be surprised at the activities and artifacts we can provide!

Portraits of Our

Past

By Marla Toncray

The latest exhibit to open in the Wormald Building's Art Gallery, *Portraits of Our Past*, features 20 portraits of individuals with ties to Mason County.

These beautiful pieces of art have a permanent home in the KYGMC Research Library and therefore, aren't seen by most visitors, even though you don't have to be conducting research to take a look at the collection of early Kentucky maps and portraits lining the library walls.

One of the most significant paintings is that of Mary Randolph Keith Marshall, the mother of United States Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall. Born in 1737 in Virginia, Mary Keith Marshall died in 1809 in Mason County at her son Thomas's home, Federal Hill.

Most of you have driven by this home in Washington, which stands in a field by itself on Green Street. While you may be familiar with the house, I am guessing you may not be familiar with the Marshall family's connection to our nation's earliest founding fathers.

The two-story Federal-style brick home has ties to two significant events and two persons in early American History: the Revolutionary War and the Battle of Brandywine; George Washington and John Marshall.



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You see, Mary was the wife of Colonel Thomas Marshall, a friend and confidant of George Washington. He wintered with Washington at Valley Forge and fought at Brandywine. For his service at Brandywine, he was presented a sword and scabbard by Washington. That sword is also on display in this exhibit.

Mary and Thomas's son, John would become the fourth chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, and remains the longest serving chief justice: his term was from Feb. 4, 1801 to July 6, 1835, on which day he died at the age of 79 in Philadelphia, PA. It is a famous saying the Liberty Bell was rung following his death and the story claims this was when the bell cracked, never to be rung again.

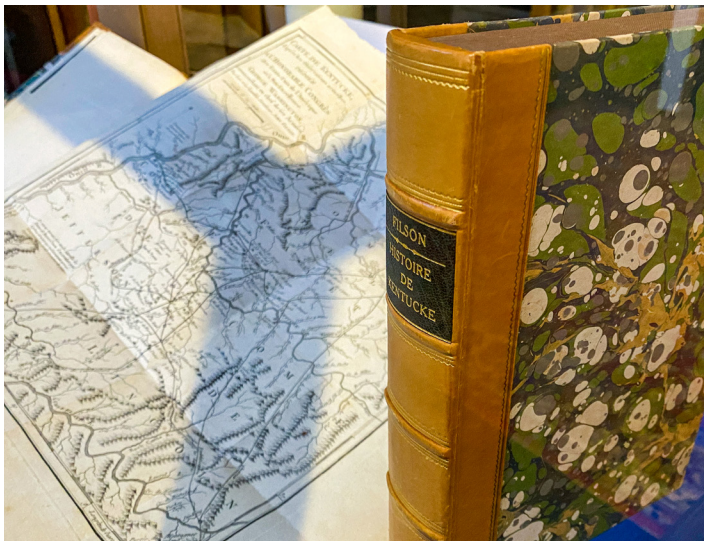
Born Sept. 24, 1755, Chief Justice John Marshall is credited by historians for his interpretation of the Constitution and establishing the power of the court. According to the website History.com:

“During Marshall’s thirty-four years as chief justice, he gave content to the Constitution’s omissions, clarified its ambiguities, and added breathtaking sweep to the powers it conferred. He set the Court on a course for ‘ages to come’

that would make the U.S. government supreme in the federal system and the Court the Constitution’s expositor.”

This is just one of the stories connected to the portraits now on display. You can learn more about President Andrew Jackson and his military role in the War of 1812, Thomas Beale, Maysville photographer William Brosee, Judge A.M.J. Cochran and his wife, Lucy McElroy Cochran, and Daniel Norris, who had connections to the Germantown Fair in its earliest days. In addition to the portraits, visitors can view original letters written by Jackson; see an authentic drum used in the War of 1812; and enjoy memorabilia from the Germantown Fair.

We hope you will visit us soon!



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Miniature of the Month

By Kaye Browning

Music has always been an important part of my life and my love for it is reflected in the collection through the many examples of instruments in 1/12th scale, such as these beautiful string instruments by late Canadian miniaturist Ken Manning.

I imagine the IGMA Fellow in his garage-turned-workshop carving tiny pieces of cedar, mahogany, maple, spruce and rosewood which would become perfect examples of lutes, violins, ukuleles, guitars, harps and an array of other instruments—some exotic, some ancient. He preferred using historically accurate materials, save for ivory tuning pegs, for which he substituted bone. Fine fishing line for strings. It's been noted that he could spend as much as 40 hours creating a single lute. He spent 100 hours replicating an Italian mandora. And even the most seasoned miniaturist would be daunted by the number of coats of lacquer he applied to each wooden wonder before polishing.

It's no surprise that his personal history includes both woodworking (starting out as a whittler) and music (he played guitar, harmonica and accordion). In fact, his miniaturist career began after his son asked him to make a reproduction of an Ovation guitar. In a 1984 interview, writer Judi Lees witnessed him strumming “a reasonable rendition of *Home Sweet Home*” on one. I have her and journalist Mariam Mesbah to thank for background information on Ken, who passed in 2009.

Collectors far and wide have long admired Ken's work which includes 25 different string instruments. Several examples have been displayed in international museums. In addition to details such as using the same type woods that would have been used in crafting the full-size instruments, he tediously designed and strung the instruments as the real ones would have been. For example, he dyed the strings on his harps red and blue just as the originals. It would take him an entire workday to string a concert harp with its 46 strings. You can see wonderful examples of Ken's harps in our *Clermont Manor* and *Harrietta Plantation* room boxes by William Bowen.

Like me, Ken's love of music was and is reflected in art and life. He regularly listened to Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby and Perry Como while he worked. Not a bad playlist and one you very well could hear me humming as I admire his work.

Ken Manning's instruments can be seen throughout the gallery and in the Wm. R. Robertson Fine Arts Rotunda.

Captions:

- First* - The banjo is one of Ken's more contemporary instruments.
- Second* - Ken's working guitars included styles from acoustic to electric.
- Third & Fourth* - Mandolin and Lute.
- Fifth* - Acoustic guitar.

Celebrating 25 Years at KYGMC!



SUE ELLEN GRANNIS, CURATOR



MYRA HARDY, RESEARCH LIBRARIAN

You have both been an essential part of KYGMC's journey and success. We are so grateful for the dedication and passion you have shown over the years.
Congratulations and thank you for being with us!

PROHIBITION INSPIRED SODA FOUNTAIN RECIPES



St. Patrick's Day Soda Fountain Delight

- 2 OUNCES CRÈME DE MENTHE SYRUP
- ½ OUNCE SWEET CREAM
- 1 LARGE SCOOP VANILLA ICE CREAM
- CARBONATED WATER, 6 OZ., APPROXIMATELY
- WHIPPED CREAM FOR TOPPING
- MINT SPRINGS OR CRUSHED GREEN MARASCHINO CHERRIES

In a soda glass, combine the syrup and cream. Drop in the ice cream, and pour in the carbonated water slowly down the side so the soda will foam at the top. Garnish with whipped cream and sprigs of mint or crushed minted cherries.



Root Beer Float

- 1 CAN OR BOTTLE OF ROOT BEER
- 2-3 SCOOPS OF VANILLA ICE CREAM

To make the mugs or steins extra frosty, chill them in the freezer for 10-20 minutes. Scoop the vanilla ice cream into a mug or beer stein. Firmly press it down. Gently pour the root beer over the ice cream. You'll notice that, after just a few minutes or after a good stir, the ice cream will start to float- hence the name of this glorious drinkable treat!

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To:

or Current Resident

PLEASE NOTE

In an effort to keep our staff and guests safe and healthy during this time,
masks and temperature checks are required while visiting the museum.

Thank you for your understanding.



Spirited
PROHIBITION IN AMERICA

ON DISPLAY JANUARY 28TH - MARCH 13TH

Logos: Mid-America Arts Alliance, National Endowment for the Humanities, NEH On the Road



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