

KYGMC

Home of the KSB Miniatures Collection
and Old Pogue Experience

Window to the past.

Bridge to the future.



KENTUCKY
GATEWAY
MUSEUM
CENTER

Messenger

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JANUARY OUTING IN MAY

KYGMC Research Library Fundraiser

May 18, 2019, please RSVP by Friday May 10, 2019 - limited space available



THE VIEW FROM SECOND AND SUTTON

May means our Sutton Street Museum yard is in full bloom with bulbs, azaleas and dogwood trees. Our Galleries are full of exciting exhibits, art work and displays highlighting our collections and history of our region. We continue to welcome visitors, friends and members from across our country visiting the Museum Galleries and Old Pogue Experience. It's great to see old friends, former students and residents of our area return to Maysville and enjoy our Museum. May is a month of family gatherings ranging from graduations to the start of the summer season of family reunions and vacation trips for many – make the Museum a stop on your schedule and coming summer season.

May welcomes the completion of our new atrium area that has been under construction during the past month. We invite you to view the welcoming and education area leading into the *KSB Miniatures Gallery*. This new area of the Museum allows our visitors to understand *what miniature art is* and also view featured items of the **KSB Miniatures Collection**. We are excited to welcome miniature artisans to the Museum Center on April 30, May 1 and 2 for the *KSB Miniatures Scaled to Perfection Gala*.

May is a month of some great Museum highlights – take a moment and mark your calendars for the exciting special

events and receptions at the Museum Center. **Sunday May 12** we celebrate Mother's Day with our annual complimentary opening for our mothers and their families from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Thursday May 23**, *WFTM* will host a special retirement reception for longtime Maysville radio voice Danny Weddle from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., in the *Wormald Gallery*. **Memorial Day, Monday May 27** the *Galleries* and *Old Pogue Experience* will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

We are in the final weeks of the exhibit, **KSB Miniatures Scaled to Perfection Collection of New Miniatures** which will close at the end of May. The *Wormald Gallery* features the exhibit **Corsets, Croquet and Crusades: The Fashion and Fight for Women's Rights**. This special KYGMC produced exhibit celebrates the 100th year anniversary of women's right to vote in the United States.

The exhibit features many beautiful dresses and accessories along with writings of the period and will close on Saturday May 18.

The *May Museum Seminar* will present the **January Outing in May** on Saturday May 18. This benefit event will include tours of the *January-Cochran House* on West Third Street, *Museum Galleries*, *Presbyterian Church*, *the Old Court House* along with lunch and tour stops to related historical sites. Proceeds from the afternoon outing will benefit the **Research Library**. Special thank you to Cay Chamness, one of our Research Librarians for coordinating this special event for our community. Reservations are required and tickets

for the *January Outing in May* are available at the Atrium Desk or by calling the Museum at 606.5865. Join us on May 18 for a special day of learning, discussing and supporting the Library!

The Old Pogue Experience continues to welcome visitors on the **B-Line** to Maysville with the *Old Pogue* and *Maysville Bourbon Story*. Both the **Atrium Gift Shop** and the **Still Room Bourbon Emporium** in the *Limestone Building* have added new summer and gift merchandise ... check out our shops before your next gift purchase with the proceeds supporting your Museum.

Enjoy the May events at your Museum Center. Thank you for being a member!

C.J. Hunter IV
Executive Director



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SCALED TO PERFECTION:
A GALLERY OF NEW
MINIATURES

Open through the
end of May.

Compliments of John Sims, Jr.
70th Legislative District



john.sims@lrc.ky.gov

A MINIATURE PERSPECTIVE

By Lou Browning

One of the first settlers of Kentucky, in 1773, Captain John Cowan, of frontier prominence, in 1796 commissioned this important Chippendale desk and bookcase that remained in his family for two hundred years. It is the only Kentucky-made case piece of its kind that has



Pictured: Angela DeHart

yet been identified, one of a mere handful of extant works from the years following Kentucky's statehood in 1792. It stands as proof that even at this early date, sophisticated furniture was being made in the Commonwealth. "...made by a "traveling cabinet maker," it remained in the family until 1996.

As explained in detail in the footnoted auction link, the original piece sold for just under \$500,000.00, setting a record for Kentucky-made furniture.

Upon learning of the piece, Kaye Brown-

ing suggested to master miniaturist Mark Murphy that he might recreate the original as a 1/12 scale miniature replica for the KSB Miniatures Collection. Murphy accepted the commission; the completed piece arrived in Maysville in early April. It is featured in the revamped entrance to the KSB Miniatures Gallery at KYGMC.

Unusually for frontier furniture of this period, the original is constructed entirely of walnut, both primary and secondary woods. The replica, however, due to the differences in wood grains, is made of cherry throughout.

Murphy's piece has to be considered a superb *tour-de-force* because he worked solely from photographs found on the Cowan auction link. He has never seen the original, nor did he have an opportunity to measure it, or look at its sharply carved details.

Murphy describes himself as "not a wood



carver." Viewers of the details of his shell carved into the small door might not agree.

Mark made the major pieces of furniture in *The Whittier*, an Arts and Crafts Style California Mission House shown in "Scaled To Perfection."

tion."

Murphy's secretary joins other miniatures of fine Kentucky furniture, including Harry Smith's creation of the Reiser Mason



County chest, also on display upon its original. Being able to offer visitors the opportunity to see such fine Kentucky early furniture in miniature is one of Kaye's greatest pleasures.

Both the 1796 secretary and c.1810 chest miniatures will be exhibited at KYGMC in the revamped entrance to the KSB Miniatures Gallery.

For additional information, with thanks, see <https://www.cowanauctions.com/lot/the-captain-john-cowan-1748-1823-kentucky-secretary-desk-and-bookcase-3079226>. Also June 1955, issue of *The Magazine Antiques*



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Kathleen Savage Browning

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Congratulations

to KYGMC Student Docent Garrett Appelman who was recognized as Outstanding Senior - Graduating with honors and highest GPA. Garrett has also received a UK History Fellowship.

JANUARY OUTING IN MAY

May 18, 2019



Outing includes lunch, the history and tour of the 1838 January-Cochran House (pictured above), The First Presbyterian Church, and a tour of the Courthouse. Additional history and a drive-by tour of related locations will follow.

For reservations call 606-564-5865



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KYGMC HOURS

Sun. & Mon.
Tues. - Sat.

CLOSED
10am-4pm

KYGMC LIMESTONE BUILDING

Sun. & Mon.
Tues. - Sat.

CLOSED
11am-3pm



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