

VOLUME XXVI • ISSUE IV



KENTUCKY
GATEWAY
MUSEUM
CENTER

Messenger

KYGMC

HOME OF THE KSB MINIATURES COLLECTION
& THE OLD POGUE EXPERIENCE

MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY

SPRING/MAY 2021



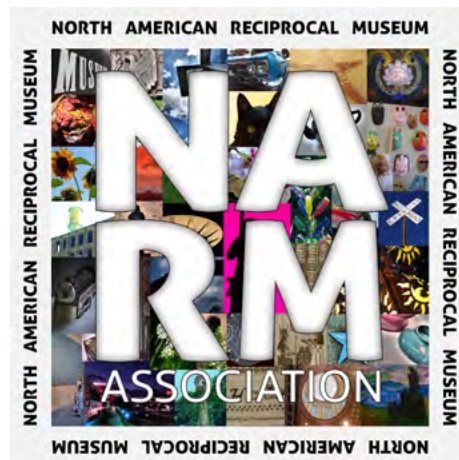
THE VIEW FROM SECOND AND SUTTON

May is the time for graduations, spring flowers and blooming azaleas and trees in our Museum year. We continue to welcome visitors, friends and members from across our country to visit 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 exhibits. It is the start of the summer season of family reunions and vacation trips for many – don't forget to make the Museum a stop with your family and friends during this coming summer season.

The *Calvert Gallery* is open with a very special exhibit of many of the treasures of The *KSB Miniatures Collection*. This spectacular exhibit titled ***Scaled to Perfection: Encore!*** features items from every miniature category including textiles, buildings, fine art reproductions, room boxes, porcelain and precious metals. This special showing of new miniatures and many of the treasures of the *KSB Miniatures Collection* are rarely on display. The *KSB Miniatures* staff under the leadership of Kaye Browning spent months of planning and over three weeks in the curation and set-up of this expanded miniatures presentation.

We appreciate your support of the Museum during this pandemic period of limited services and are thankful for the many ways our membership and patrons have assisted the Museum. Your financial support and regular attendance in the Museum are also

an encouragement to our staff and trustees. We have been blessed with growing attendance numbers this spring even with the COVID-19 concerns and restrictions. We have been able to return our Museum Seminar program and had numerous Charter Celebration events during the spring following our safe Museum procedures. We are excited to once again welcome in small student groups to our history galleries and small group bourbon tours to the *Old Pogue Experience*.



The Museum is again excited to partner with the ***North American Reciprocal Museum Association*** to expand your membership benefit to a network of over 1,162 museums, galleries, botanical gardens, children's museums, zoos and more across North America. Your ***KYGMC Wormald Membership*** includes the ***NARM*** benefit. The cost of the *Wormald Membership* is a regular membership plus \$100.00. Check at the Atrium desk with our staff for additional information. If you are traveling this summer pack your bag and your ***KYGMC Wormald Membership Card!*** It's a great

benefit for our members and a wonderful way to support your museum.

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 including a wide range of greeting cards and books ... check out our shops before your next gift purchase with the proceeds supporting your Museum.

Hope to see you soon in the Museum Thank you for being a member!

C.J. Hunter IV,
Executive Director



Education Escapades: All About FOSSILS

BY TANDY NASH

Fossils aren't just for Paleontologists (scientists who study geologic history). Scientists from many different fields scour the Earth for these preserved pieces of ancient history. **EVERY CHILD IS A NATURAL SCIENTIST!** The *Kentucky Gateway Museum Center* would like you to put on your Scientist hat and get ready for discovery. Today, we will become Paleontologists.

Fossils are the remains of ancient organisms that have been preserved in the earth and have hardened and turned into rock over time. We estimate that the Earth is about 4 ½ billion years old. The preserved remains do not become fossils until they have been around for 10,000 years or more. So, fossils have been on Earth for nearly 3 billion years. There are about 1,300 extinct plants and animals found in fossils. Everything from tiny bacteria observed only with a microscope to parts of extinct animals and plants like dinosaurs and sea lilies like the crinoid. Scientists have recently made a major discovery in Ganzhou City, China. They've found remains of a dinosaur sitting on its nest of fossilized eggs. The dinosaur is an oviraptorosaur (oviraptor) which belongs to a group of bird-like theropod dinosaurs which peaked during the Cretaceous Period (145 to 66 million years ago). "The fossil of the adult oviraptor and the eggs with the embryo have been dated to roughly 70 million years ago." It's the first time researchers have found a non-avian dinosaur sitting on a nest of eggs which have been fossilized, so they still contain the babies inside!

Not all organisms become fossils. Remains of plants and animals are destroyed in many ways; Crushing or eating by other animals, air and bacteria help rot remains, weathering and wave action can destroy remains, soft parts of plants and animals like skin and muscle are rare to find as fossils because they rot away quickly. Usually, fossils are made from hard parts like teeth, bones, wood and shell. Most fossils are found in Shale or Limestone.

Our area is rich in fossils because of the limestone. Most fossils are found in sedimentary rocks. You can find fossil:

Molds - sediment hardens around and after a while the animal or plant rots away. (Same size and same shape, space left is a "mold".)

Casts - sometimes material fills a mold. The hardened material formed by a mold is a cast.

Prints - animals walk or lay down on soft mud, mud later hardens. (You can tell how animals walked or how big it was through some prints.)

Changed Hard Parts - real, preserved remains of animals or plants.

Actual Remains - Special conditions preserve actual remains:

Extreme Cold – Woolly Mammoths have been found frozen in glaciers.

Extreme Dryness – Mummies, for example.

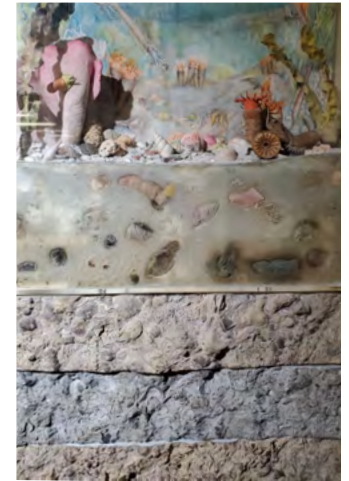
Amber – Insects have been trapped in the ancient sap of trees.

Tar – The La Brea Tar pits in California have whole remains of saber-toothed tigers trapped in them.

Absolute dating gives an age in actual number of years. For example: 3 years old, 1,000 years old, 2 million years old. We can tell how old the ages of rocks and fossils are by using special instruments like a Geiger Counter to measure radioactivity. Certain elements are radioactive. This means that they slowly wear down ... they change to simpler substances. Scientists know how long it takes for these elements to wear down. Radioactive elements are found in many rocks and fossils, and

you can find their ages by measuring how much these elements have worn down. Most absolute dating is done by measuring radioactive carbon-14 and uranium-238. Carbon-14 dates fossils of plants and animals that lived less than 50,000 years ago. Uranium-238 dates rocks older than 50,000 years old (a fossil is the same age as the rock it is found in).

Relative dating does not give us an exact age. It just compares the ages of different things. In relative dating, you just say which is older and which is younger. For example, you are older than a baby, but younger than your parents. Relative dating uses a simple law of science. It says that younger rocks are found on top of older rocks.



The *Kentucky Gateway Museum's Wormald Gallery* has a wonderful diorama of what prehistoric life was like here in our own area when it was covered by an ancient sea. It includes what **trilobites** looked like, which are Ohio's state fossil, and **brachiopods**, which are Kentucky's state fossil. There is also an example of the rock strata that fossils are found in and a wonderful manipulative to show how the strata was formed. To top it off, KYGMC has a Woolly Mammoth tusk (10,000-12,000 years old) in the Wormald! This animal lived during the Cenozoic Era. "About 1.8 million years ago the warm climate of the Cenozoic Era cooled sufficiently for large continental glaciers to begin accumulating in northern latitudes." A large ice age lake formed in the valleys of southern Ohio and adjacent Kentucky and West Virginia. This particular prehistoric beast was adapted to the cold environment during the last ice age with short ears and tail to minimize frostbite. We believe our specimen to be from a female because the tusk is straight while males are more curved. She was found among debris from glacial outwash ½ mile east of Higginsport, Ohio off US 52 in a sand and gravel open-pit mining operation (1981-82). The Woolly mammoth co-existed with early humans, who used its bones and tusks for making art, tools and dwellings.

Fossils help lift the veil about mysterious organisms that were on earth long before you or I. They are intricate and unique and help enhance our understanding of the history of our planet. Who says we don't have dinosaurs at KYGMC! We hope you'll visit to see these wondrous artifacts.

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!

Tea Cups & Tools

Everyday Life in America

By Marla Toncray

I had no sooner finished setting up the *Hats, Purses and Parasols* exhibit in December 2019 on the second floor of the Wormald Gallery, than my mind was already racing as to what would go in there next.

Of course, none of us could have known that all of our time frames for life would be interrupted in early March 2020 with the COVID-19 virus and all of our best laid plans would be put on hold.

Once we were able to come back to work in late April 2020, we laid out the exhibit schedule for the second floor of the Wormald for the remainder of the year. The *Hats* exhibit would stay up until the *Nativity Scenes From Near and Far* went up in November, with an ending date of Dec. 31. So I had time to think about what would work best in those cases along the northern wall of the second floor.

Something that would once again tap into our vast collection of items here at KYGMC was my goal, so I began searching our *Past Perfect* software to get an idea of what we have and what could be used.



With space limitations (due to the depth of the cases), the items had to be of a certain size and weight. The search was on not only for a theme but also for a catchy name for the exhibit.

For whatever reason, one day the title "*Tea Cups and Tools*" popped into my head and from there, I had a concept to build upon: the everyday tools women and men used every day around the house, the farm, and in the work environment.

First, I knew that in 2018 we received a large collection of antique farm and blacksmithing tools from a donor. That took care of the "tool" side of things.

Then I searched our collection for tea cups and saucers. I was surprised that we were only in possession of approximately 6 sets, so I had to think of a way to fill in that gap. Then I remembered that my daughter, Tara, has her grandmother Machamer's collection of 18 sets of tea cups and saucers, so I brought those in with her permission to add to the exhibit.


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Next, I had to fill in the gap with other items to fill six cases. That's a lot of space, and I ended up with a total of 164 items. Included in this total are several photographs to coordinate the item to a trade, event, or business. The variety of photos is fun to look at.

One photo is of *Mastin's Blacksmith Shop* in Sardis, dated between 1900 – 1915. This was owned by Elijah and Grover Mastin.

Another is of a mother/daughter tea party in the 1960's, attended by Barb Schlifke Clarke, Evelyn Schlifke, and Tyra and Dorothy Hellard.

There is a photo of ladies in Easter bonnets coordinated to a hat pin collection and another of a dressmaker's shop, once located at 214 Sutton Street. This photo is coordinated to sewing items, which includes a working Singer sewing machine, designed specifically for girls, to learn the art of making clothes for their dolls, which would help them make their own clothes in the future.

The interior of *Taylor's Grocery Store* in Washington is shown in one, along with six photos of the interior of *Merz Brother's Department Store* dated 1915. The photo of Merz Brother's is accompanied by a brass money changer from the store. Remember those? You paid your bill with the cashier and she sent the changer up a tube to the offices for your change.

One case is dedicated to medical equipment and household medicines of the era. There is an 1850s surgical kit (which includes an amputation saw); Trachaeome Aspirator & Trocar instruments dating to 1875; and get this – a glass breast pump dating to the 1850s, early 1860s.

Another case has a complete chamber set and shaving tools, complete with "King Gillette" razor blades. There is also an Apothecary collection, donated to KYGMC by *Greenwell's Pharmacy*.

The array of items is so eclectic you really must come and see this exhibit for yourself. It is diverse in its range of ordinary people, their day-to-day lives, and the "tools" they used on a regular basis to set the tone of their day from the period of 1850 to 1920.

And this exhibit isn't just for the ladies! The collection of tools, from a drawing knife to a set of ice tongs, adds further insight into how men lived and worked prior to our lifestyles of today.

Oh, I almost forgot! There is a beautiful Virginia Tea Table, set with a silver tea service and of course, two lovely tea cups and saucers decorated with violets, and linen napkins, all of which are an elegant reminder of days and rituals gone before us.

Tea Cups and Tools will be on display through Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021.



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Miniature of the Month

By Kaye Browning

Rembrandt's Travel Sketchbook by Tine Krijnen

Rembrandt van Rijn may very well be one of the most famous artists in history. Known for creating in various media on diverse subject matter ranging from compositions, landscapes, figures, human expressions and gestures, he produced thousands of pieces during his 17th century career. It was the Dutch master's silverpoint sketches, however, that inspired a miniaturist from his homeland to create them in 1/12th scale.

"As a person coming from the Netherlands I am really interested in paintings by Rembrandt," explains Tine Krijnen, who is a master in her own right in the field of miniature bookmaking. When she read an article on five rare silver pen sketches by the Dutch artist, she formed the idea to re-create the pieces in notebook form after one she had seen in the West Fries Museum in Hoorn. "I was fascinated by this notebook with ground parchment pages bound in leather. It closed by eyelids attached to its silver mounting and had an attached drawing stift," she describes. Since the article suggested Rembrandt's sketches may have once been part of a travel sketchbook, the concept to create the notebook became even more appealing to her.

"I read that those five sketches were the only surviving sketches and that they all were drawn in the summer of 1633," says Tine—the same time Rembrandt traveled to Friesland for his engagement to Saskia. The silverpoint sketch of his 21-year-old fiancé is one of his most noted drawings with an inscription denoting the occasion and date. In analyzing the five silverpoint drawings, Tine also found out they had the very same measurements, which further led to her decision to present them in a sketchbook.

In her research, she located two of the sketches at Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen in Rotterdam, Netherlands. The other three she viewed online from Berlin's Kupferstichkabinett (Museum of Prints and Drawings). It was on those sketches that she discovered tiny holes within equidistance of each other along



the top side of the landscape sketch. The holes looked to Tine to be sewing holes, which she then discussed with the conservator at the German museum. He agreed with Tine's assessment regarding a possible notebook, adding that no travel sketchbook of Rembrandt's had survived intact, but did say all five drawings were officially recognized as coming from Rembrandt's hand at that time.

After receiving permission from both museums to replicate the five sketches in 1/12th scale, she proceeded



in what would become a four-year project producing a limited five copies of the travel sketchbook with drawings created by Canadian miniaturist Johannes Landman, who Tine credits as "the only artist who can sketch in Rembrandt's style in miniature."

Johannes created 22 total sketches for each of the five notebooks which included the five distinguished silverpoint drawings and pre-studies of details and parts of later larger paintings. Johannes actually used a miniature silver stift to create all the drawings of the five silverpoint reproductions in the original style in which they were created. Silverpoint drawing, an ancient technique usually accomplished by dragging a silver rod or wire across a surface prepared with gesso, is unforgiving to say the least, as it is almost impossible to "erase." Known as an incredibly sensitive and delicate medium, one can only imagine creating these fine reproductions in miniature.

In creating the notebook, Tine first sewed the parchment pages onto ropes to form the book block. The ropes/cords were then laced through the wooden board and tightened so that the wood was firmly secured against the book block. She used leather that was "thin as silk" to tautly wrap the book covers and added a silver centerpiece etched with "R" and "S" for Rembrandt and Saskia and the year 1633 on the cover. The centerpiece, mountings and eyelids were all created with silver by Netherlandish jewelry artisan Martin Niemeijer, who also crafted the attached silver stift.

All in all, the collaboration covered four years, included artisans from three different countries and history and art experts who communicated in several languages. All revelled in the purpose of presenting one of the most acclaimed artists in history in miniature for art lovers of all scales to admire.

*Rembrandt's Travel Sketchbook premieres in the KSB Miniatures Collection's newest exhibition **Scaled to Perfection: Encore!** running thru December 31st, 2021.*

CAPTIONS

Left: Rembrandt's Travel Sketchbook by Tine Krijnen with 22 silver point sketches by Johannes Landman. Silver stift, mountings and snakewood stand by Martin Niemeijer. Case by Paul Briggs.

Above: The 1/12th-scale silverpoint sketches include five rare works by Rembrandt created in the summer of 1633.

◆ Congratulations ◆ Carson, Hayden & Tim!

WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE GRADUATION OF THREE OF OUR STUDENT INTERNS/DOCENTS IN THE COMING MONTHS!



Carson Rolph - Graduating from MCHS

PARENTS: KIRK & KIRSTEN ROLPH

I HAVE BEEN WORKING AT THE MUSEUM CENTER FOR ALMOST A YEAR, SINCE LATE APRIL OF 2020. I PLAN ON ATTENDING NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY AND PURSUING A MAJOR IN COMPUTER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, WITH A FOCUS ON CYBER SECURITY.

Hayden Faris - Graduating from MCHS

PARENTS: KELLEY & RENEE FARIS

HAYDEN HAS BEEN WORKING AT KYGMC FOR THE PAST YEAR. SHE PLANS TO ATTEND EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY AND PURSUE A CAREER IN HISTORY EDUCATION.



Timothy Douglas - Graduating from Morehead State

PARENTS: TIMOTHY RAY & TRACEY DOUGLAS

TIM HAS WORKED AT THE MUSEUM SINCE AUGUST OF 2016 AND WILL GRADUATE FROM MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY ON MAY 8, 2021 WITH A BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HISTORY WITH A FRENCH MINOR. HE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF PHI SIGMA PI AND THE HERRON LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATION AT MSU. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE AT THE MUSEUM FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT AND FRIENDSHIP ALL THESE YEARS! ONCE AN EAGLE, ALWAYS AN EAGLE!



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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.



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