

VOLUME XXVI • ISSUE VIII

Messenger



KENTUCKY
GATEWAY
MUSEUM
CENTER

KYGMC

HOME OF THE KSB MINIATURES COLLECTION
& THE OLD POGUE EXPERIENCE

MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY

WINTER/DECEMBER 2021



'Tis the Season to be Jolly!

THE VIEW FROM SECOND AND SUTTON



It's Winter in Downtown Maysville and we are ready for a wonderful Christmas and New Year 2022 at the Museum Center.

Our Galleries are beautiful with holiday decorations, exciting exhibits and a gathering place for family, friends and new visitors to our community during this special season. It's a great time to visit the Museum Center!

Our KYGMC Museum staff, volunteers and patrons have created unique exhibit settings for the 2021 Christmas season including, *Nativities from Near and Far*, *KSB Miniatures Encore! Exhibit*, *Christmas Trains and Legos*, *The Joy of Christmas* in the *KSB Miniatures Gallery*, with the Bourbon History Gallery at the *Old Pogue Experience* in the Limestone Building.

We have great plans for the new year, including opening a KYGMC produced exhibit on Browning Manufacturing featuring the story of their workers and products. *Browning Manufacturing, America's Pulley Maker* opens in the Calvert Gallery on January 25th.

The exhibit features examples of Browning products, pictures of the staff along with period advertising. It will be a great way to share this Maysville tradition with the younger generation and celebrate the history of this company.

A Museum Membership makes a great Christmas gift and can be purchased at the Museum's Atrium Gift Shop. Our membership program allows entry in the Museum any day for a year. The membership cost remains the same as in past years at \$30.00 for individuals, \$60.00 for family

membership, \$20.00 for educators. There is also the option for Wormald NARM Membership (North American Reciprocal Museum Agreement) which allows for admission in over 2,000 Museums in North America. The cost of NARM membership is \$100.00 in addition to the regular membership cost.

Thank you for your support during 2021. It has been a great year and we continue to operate and grow our many museum programs, services and exhibit offerings during the international pandemic. We are currently involved in the **Annual Sustaining Fund Drive** which provides the financial foundation for the *Kentucky Gateway Museum Center*. From new virtual services to our exhibits and outreach activities we continue to tell the story of Maysville and our surrounding area. It's your donations that provide the needed funds for our operational expenses and provides a secure level of funding for our programs. Please consider making a donation to the Sustaining Fund which will allow KYGMC to be a constant resource for our community.

Donations for the 2022 Sustaining Fund can be mailed to the KYGMC at 215 Sutton Street, Maysville, Kentucky 41056.

Thank you for being a blessing to the Museum Center and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2022.

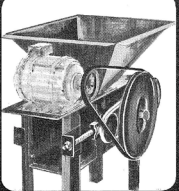
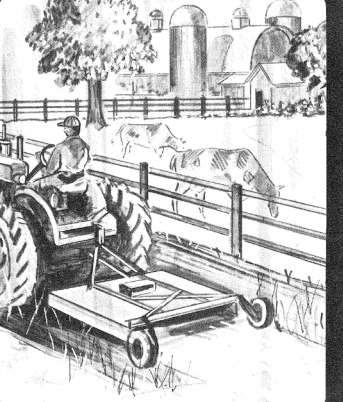
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Miniature of the Month

BY KAYE BROWNING



***Savage & Sons* by Mulvany & Rogers with Lori Ann Potts**

Imagine Christmas shopping in London. The city's Mayfair district is filled with delightful shops reminiscent of England's Georgian Era.

Those quaint boutiques were the inspiration for *Savage & Sons* jewelry shop by Kevin Mulvany and Susie Rogers commissioned in 2006 for the KSB Miniatures Collection.

The British artisans specialize in creating historically significant architecture and interiors. Their impressive list of twelfth-scale reproductions includes Hampton Court, Versailles, Buckingham Palace, Fontainebleau and the collection's signature structure *Spencer House*, the ancestral home of Princess Diana. Mulvany & Rogers based their design on an existing Georgian shop in York working from drawings, plans and photos taken from a book found in an antiquarian bookshop.

To achieve the rich Georgian-era feel, they handcrafted limewood and birch for the structure's exterior and used mahogany for the interior before adding the realistic and historically accurate finishes for which they are so well known. "The soft sheen of the exterior paint finish replicates the effect of the highly leaded paints of the 18th century," explained Susie. The project, which took more than 600 hours to complete, included making the internal fittings and the shop sign—both hand gilded in 23.5 carat gold leaf. The interior cabinetry includes a large counter which at the time was used to show goods and possible commissions to customers who would have been seated. No monies were exchanged during the transactions as customers of the exclusive

shops made purchases by way of good will accounts.

Mulvany & Rogers' attention to detail creates a beautiful backdrop for the shelves of period-style jewelry created by Canadian miniaturist Lori Ann Potts and supplemented with items by Lynn O'Shaughnessy and Andrew Chambers. Lori Ann made approximately 200 individual pieces in the shop which included rings, brooches, strands of pearls, earrings and bracelets.

Lori Ann, who used genuine karat gold, freshwater pearls, gemstones, diamonds and vintage Swarovski crystal rhinestones in the jewelry for *Savage & Sons*, had no formal art training until she began creating fine scale miniatures some thirty-five years ago. In fact, when she first began traveling to shows, she had no idea what she would create with the tiny jewels, but bought them anyway out of sheer fascination. Now an IGMA Fellow, she is known worldwide for her clothing, hats, perfumery and jewelry—items that would have been sought after in the luxury goods shops of 18th century England—and which are prized today in fine scale if they are accompanied by her name.

CAPTION

This time of year, the *Savage & Sons* room box is also filled with holiday touches, including treats and beverages for Christmas clients.



NATIVITY SCENES

— FROM NEAR AND FAR —

FROM THE COLLECTION OF BARB CLARKE



THE ATRIUM
GIFT SHOP

MAYSVILLE STONWARE, OLD POGUE TSHIRTS, BLENKO GLASS & MANY MORE MAYSVILLE INSPIRED GIFTS!
TUESDAY-SATURDAY, 10AM-4PM

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Murano glass from Italy decorates this nativity.



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A Plastic dish set made by J.M. Soria from Jerez, New Mexico



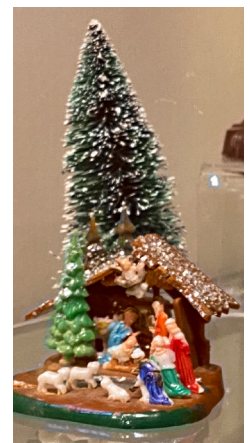
This set was made from straw in Catalonia

*Oh, dearest Jesus,
 Holy Child
 Make thee a bed,
 soft, undefiled
 To rest within this
 heart of mine
 And make it ever
 wholly thine.*

MARTIN LUTHER, 1535



These porcelain figures are sculpted to resemble origami (the Japanese art of folding paper) nativity characters



THE 2021 EXHIBIT IS DEDICATED TO BRIAN "BUTCH" SCHLIFKE

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MARLA'S MUSINGS: NEW YEAR, NEW EXHIBITS

By Marla Toncray



Well folks, the holiday season is here and another year is winding down. We hope you will take time to visit us and enjoy Barb and Tom Clarke's *Nativity Scenes From Near and Far* exhibit in the Wormald Gallery. This year's exhibit is dedicated to Barb's brother, Butch Schlifke, who died in June 2021.

Just like how quickly the year has passed, things at KYGMC also seemed to have moved at lightning speed.

One minute we were preparing the *Spirited: Prohibition in America* exhibit in January and the next thing you know, we are in the planning and implementation stages of our new exhibits opening in January 2022.

We have had some outstanding exhibits in 2021, including our in-house curated exhibits *World War II and Holocaust* exhibit; *Scaled to Perfection: Encore!*; *Summer Fun*; *Tea Cups and Tools*; and *Russian Art*. We hope you have enjoyed our team's efforts and will continue to visit us next year.

Speaking of next year, here is a sneak peak at what will be happening.

Kicking off the new year in the Jean Weis Calvert Gallery will be our exhibit highlighting *Browning Manufacturing*. We have many artifacts, photographs and stories highlighting how this Maysville industry impacted our community, the industrial world, and the employees and families who worked there for more than 100 years.

One highlight of this exhibit will be our "Wall of Innovation" which recognizes local citizens that were granted U.S. Patents during their employment with *Browning*.

Also in January, the Wormald Gallery will be home to two exhibits: *School Days* and *Maysville's Musical Connections*.

School Days takes us back to a time when there were multiple school districts in Mason County: Orangeburg, Rectorville, May's Lick Negro School, Fee High, etc. We will feature letter jackets from Minerva High School; a girls basketball uniform from May's Lick High School dating in the 1930s; St. Patrick letter jackets and photos; Maysville High School and Mason County High School cheerleading uniforms and more.

We are also working with the Mason County School District to have several trophies on display to showcase our area's achievements in sports.

Maysville's Musical Connections will highlight Rosemary Clooney's singing career; the Maysville Boys Band; the achievements of local school districts' orchestra, band and chorale performances; and the *Maysville Players*.

Later in 2022, we will host a wedding exhibit highlighting local wedding fashions and trends.

There is always lots going on at KYGMC, which wouldn't be possible without your continued support of our mission. We invite you to visit often to check out what's new and what is coming up next.



Education Escapades: Animals of the Nativity

BY TANDY FLOYD



The first animal rights activist, and in fact, the Patron Saint of animals was St. Francis of Assisi. He tried to persuade the emperor “to put laws of the land that men of means should provide for the poor and animals at Christmastime since they were the first ones to see the blessed child and witness the miracle of his birth.”

Staging the first re-enactment of the nativity, St. Francis started a tradition of live nativities that spread throughout Europe during the Middle Ages. Eventually, statues replaced human and animal participants. “Charles III, King of the Two Sicilies, collected such elaborate scenes, and his enthusiasm encouraged others to do the same thing.”



In some countries such as Italy and Malta, and many South American countries, the crib is the most important Christmas decoration. Naples is home to the world’s largest nativity crib scene (shown above). This scene is in the ‘Museo Nazionale di S. Martino’ and has over 160 people, 80 animals, angels, and about 450 other smaller objects. There is a special society in Malta that keeps the tradition alive.

What animals were actually there is unclear. “Pope Benedict XVI writes, *‘In the gospels there is no mention of animals at the Holy Birth’*. He contends that the references to the ox and the donkey in other parts of the Bible may lead Christians to include them.” In most scenes, you will see the ox and donkey

close to the manger. “Legend tells us they kept the baby Jesus warm with their breath.” The donkey, prized for its strength, endurance and sure-footedness, bore the pregnant Mary across the rocky terrain from Galilee into Jerusalem. Some historians argue that Mary and Joseph may have traveled in a caravan, which was seen as much safer than traveling alone. “Mary may have ridden in a basket secured to a camel.” “The ox is a symbol of patience and strength. It was one of the most important animals in the development of civilizations, providing great strength for agriculture and clearing forests as well as moving people and supplies.” Cattle became firmly associated with modern nativity after “the publication in the late 19th Century of the beloved Christmas Carol, *Away in a Manger*, and its phrase, “the cattle were lowing.”

During the Renaissance, influenced by myths and legends, “artists took license with symbols, which opened the way for more creative approaches to erecting the nativity.” You will see sheep in many crèches. “Sheep were the most pervasive animals in the Middle East. A man’s wealth was measured by the size of his flocks. Judaic Law declares they are ‘clean animals’...sheep represent the natural life that flows into man’s consciousness from spirit, guileless and pure.” Goats in biblical times had a mixed reputation. “As a group they represented sinners but...a white mountain goat came to represent Jesus in search of the Church. Legend has it that the goat was placed in the nativity scene because of the early Jewish practice during Yom Kippur when rabbis symbolically placed the sins of the people on a goat and drove him into the wilderness.” (Hence- the Scapegoat!) The camels were transportation of the wise men from the East who brought the newborn baby gifts of frankincense, gold and myrrh. They also “symbolize that Jesus’s message would be carried far into many lands.” You may also see a dove which represents purity and peace and “the human soul or the Holy Ghost”.



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PLEASE NOTE

Following CDC COVID-19 and Commonwealth of Kentucky Regulations:
It is recommended all individuals wear a mask indoors. Unvaccinated
individuals should remain masked at all times while in the Museum Center,
or follow current CDC regulations and recommendations. Thank you!



KENTUCKY GATEWAY MUSEUM CENTER PRESENTS

NATIVITY SCENES

FROM NEAR AND FAR

FROM THE COLLECTION OF BARB CLARKE

ON DISPLAY THRU DECEMBER 31, 2021

TUESDAY-SATURDAY, 10AM-4PM, WORMALD GALLERY
ADULTS: \$10 PER PERSON STUDENTS: \$2 PER PERSON
COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSION FOR KYGMC MEMBERS



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