

VOLUME XXVII • ISSUE III



KENTUCKY  
GATEWAY  
MUSEUM  
CENTER

# Messenger

**KYGMC**

HOME OF THE KSB MINIATURES COLLECTION  
& THE OLD POGUE EXPERIENCE

MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY

SUMMER/JUNE & JULY 2022



## The Browning Building

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS OF THE BROWNING BUILDING CONSTRUCTION INSIDE!

# THE VIEW FROM SECOND AND SUTTON



Summer is here and it is a great time to celebrate the many traditions of the Museum. It's a time for exhibits for children,

families, and friends, with time to do research into family histories and stories of the past. The Gateway Museum offers an exciting schedule of exhibits for the summer and one of the highlights is this year's summer exhibit: **Water's Extreme Journey** by *Minotaur Mazes* in the Calvert Gallery. It's also a time to celebrate our historic tradition as a Museum Association as we recognize the many contributions of the Browning family to the *Maysville and Mason County Library, Historical and Scientific Association*.

From our earliest beginning in 1878 located in only the historic Wormald Building to now include our five core Museum service areas: *Regional History, Research Library, KSB Miniatures Collection, Old Pogue Experience and Education*, our goal continues to be one of service to our community. It's the donation of time, funds and items that allows our museum to grow and expand services to the community.

Since 1903 beginning with Samuel Pierce Browning, a member of Maysville's Browning family has served on our Museum's Board of Trustees. The Association's Board of Trustees passed a resolution in the fall of 2021 to name the 2007 Building in honor and memory of the members of the Browning Family that have served as trustees. **The Naming Ceremony for the Browning Building will be held on Saturday, June 11, at 4:00 p.m.** The Naming Ceremony will be held in the historic Wormald Building which all members of our trustees both past and present have found to be the heart of our historic preservation efforts and center of so many of our library and museum events since 1878.

Members of the Browning family that have served as trustees for the Association include: **Samuel Pierce Browning, Laurance Browning, Louis M. Browning, Dawn Browning and Kaye**

**Savage Browning.** Currently, Kaye Savage Browning serves as a member of the board with Louis M. Browning serving as a trustee emeritus since 1997. We have been honored with the Browning's family service to our museum for nearly 120 years. The newly named *Browning Building* was opened in 2007 and currently houses the Calvert Gallery, the Research Library, Education Classroom, Archives and Collections, Gift Shop, offices, and the KSB Miniatures Gallery.

The Browning family's contributions to our Museum Association have and continue to be a significant reason for the Museum's growth and stability as a historical, educational and artistic organization. One of the most recent gifts by Louis and Kaye Browning to the Museum and our community is the new historical marker in place at the Limestone Landing commemorating the early ship building makers in Limestone/Maysville in the early 1800's. The historical marker and Steve White's painting of the ship *Maysville* is a significant chapter of the history of our region.

As always, we thank you for being a member and for helping build the legacy of the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center as we look forward to seeing you!

**C.J. Hunter IV,**  
**Executive Director**





## Miniature of the Month

BY KAYE BROWNING



### Kentucky Derby Rose Garland by Linda Young

The Derby may be over but it certainly hasn't lessened our guests' interest in the 1/12th-scale Derby items included with our *Kentucky Horse Farm Library* room box. Every year they stand in awe while examining the tiny trophy, mint julep cups and exact reproduction of the rose garland which drapes the winning horse after the race. The garland was created by former KSB Miniatures Collection staff member Linda Young who herself is a Kentucky Derby fan.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think that one day I would be commissioned to fabricate the famous rose garland in miniature," explains the Florida artisan. She was thrilled to take on the project, which actually happened quite by accident in 2010 when the Kentucky Horse Park was chosen to host the World Equestrian Games. State tourism officials knew that the KSB Miniatures Collection had a room box depicting a Kentucky horse farm library and asked if they could display it at the games. After determining a half million people would be visiting the event, the decision was made to embellish the scene with items specific to the Derby leading to the commissions of the garland, trophy and mint julep cups.

In her research, Linda consulted with the floral designers who craft the real-size rose blanket and found that 564 roses of a specific color were used to create it along with a very precise type of greenery and ribbon. After buying herself a dozen Freedom roses, the variety used for the Derby garland, she matched color and spent three months perfecting her technique.

"My biggest challenge in designing this garland was to be able to make a rose the perfect size so that when 564 roses were adhered to my fabric, along with the outline of greenery, the finished product would measure a little less than 2 inches wide and 11 inches long," she says. It took her three tries of petal sizes and "a lot of experimenting" on how tightly to wrap the roses before she found the perfect procedure.

The ribbon would pose another challenge for Linda, but not one that couldn't be solved with a road trip. The fabric used for the garland has a faint diamond design that had to be in scale, so Linda turned to fellow miniaturist Alice Zinn. "I jumped in my motor-home and drove across Florida to Alice's and we got to work printing that diamond pattern on silk until we got the right color and the right size." All the experimenting, hard work and driving miles paid off as the finished product was quite the hit at the World Equestrian Games featured in the room box with Pete Acquisto's replica of the gold trophy and tiny mint julep cups, the Derby's signature drink.

Like the Derby, the *Kentucky Horse Farm Library* room box is a favorite of guests visiting the KSB Miniatures Collection whether they are race fans, Kentuckians, horse lovers or miniaturists. It's a stunning tribute to not only the commonwealth's most famous event, but a tribute to the artform of miniatures and to the artisans who dedicate so much of themselves to it. Here's cheering you all with a frosty cold mint julep!

### CAPTIONS

Top: These four items are synonymous with the Kentucky Derby. The garland of roses by Linda Young, Derby trophy by Pete Acquisto who also made the mint julep cups and hat by unknown maker.

Bottom: *The Kentucky Horse Farm Library* was originally a study created by Ray Whiteledge. It was embellished to reflect a Derby winner's library. The rose garland lies in front of the room box.



# Congrats to our 2022 Graduates!

**SAMANTHA WHITE, MCHS CLASS OF '22**  
**KYGMC DOCENT**

I'm attending EKU next year and majoring in Environmental Science and Data Statistics.

**JACOB BROWN, MCHS CLASS OF '22**  
**KYGMC DOCENT**

I plan to attend the University of Louisville and major in Sustainability.

**MAKENNA HAMPTON, MCHS CLASS OF '22**  
**KYGMC GUEST RELATIONS**

I plan on attending the University of Kentucky to major in Arts Administration.

**WYATT MCELFRISH, MCHS CLASS OF '22**  
**KYGMC DOCENT**

I'm planning on attending Eastern Kentucky University to major in Professional Flight.

**HALEY MAY, WKU CLASS OF '22**  
**KYGMC GUEST RELATIONS**

I'm working at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in their Events Department. I graduated with 2 degrees, one in Broadcast Journalism and the other in Management with a Business Administration concentration.

*We wish you the best  
of luck in your future  
endeavors!*



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119 Sutton St., Maysville, KY 41056  
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*Maysville and Mason County Library, Historical & Scientific Association*

Chartered March 1, 1878

The Association's Board of Trustees passed a resolution in the fall of 2021 to name the Museum's 2007 Building in honor and memory of the members of the Browning family who served as Trustees.

SAMUEL PEARCE BROWNING, Trustee: 1903-1944

LAURANCE LEWRIGHT BROWNING, Trustee: 1944-1964

LOUIS NULTON BROWNING, Trustee: 1964-1997

Administrator: 1975-1997

Trustee Emeritus: 1997 to Present

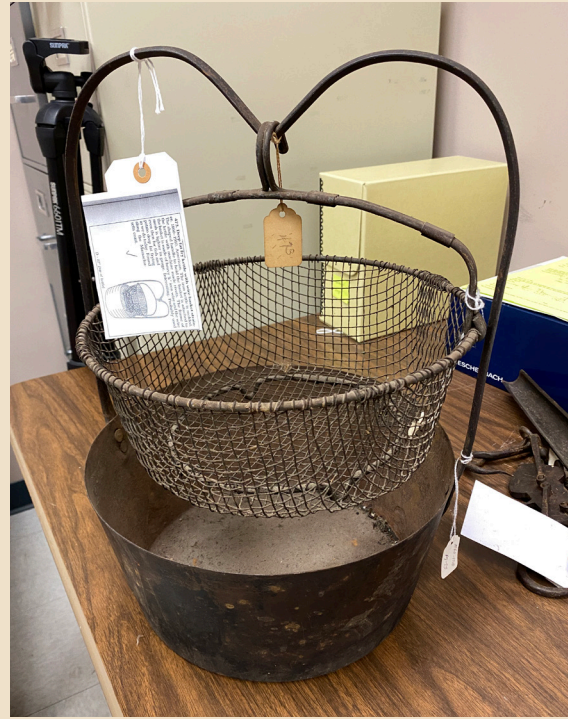
LAURA BROWNING VAN METER, Trustee: 1971-1993

DAWN CHEW BROWNING, Trustee: 1998

Director and Ex-Officio Trustee 1999-2012

KATHLEEN SAVAGE BROWNING, Trustee: 2009 to Present

Curator of the *KSB Miniatures Collection*



## KYGMC ACQUISITIONS:

### Various Iron Tools and Devices from *Fort Boonesborough Foundation*

Earlier this year, the *Fort Boonesborough Foundation* reached out to museums and historical sites in Kentucky with a list of iron pieces they were hoping to donate. Most of these pieces did not fit into the time period or geographical location of *Fort Boonesborough State Park*, so it made more sense that they be displayed elsewhere.

An example of the pieces KYGMC acquired from FBF is the **Deep Fat Fry Kettle and Wire Basket Strainer** shown above. A description of the kettle is as follows: "1860-1910. American. The iron kettle is molded. The shaped handle to hold the basket is attached to the kettle with machine made rivets. The frame of the basket is made of heavy 1/8" iron wire and the wire mesh is lighter in gauge. Interesting. Probably used even then for fish and potato deep fat frying as we do today. Found along the Massachusetts coast."

Some other pieces that were acquired from FBF can be seen in our Whaling exhibit built from KYGMC collections as an extension of *Water's Extreme Journey* by *Minotaur Mazes*.

**R. Fred Keith**

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# MARLA'S MUSINGS: AN UNEXPECTED TRIP

By Marla Toncray



In early April, Associate Director and Education Curator Tandy Floyd and I traveled to Fort Boonesborough State Park on what turned out to be a very interesting scavenger hunt.

What, you may be thinking, what would they be looking for at Fort Boonesborough that would be applicable to our local history and the KYGMC collection?

The answer, as it turned out, was quite a lot of interesting iron pieces, which date from 1660 to 1860.

In mid-March, the Fort Boonesborough Foundation sent letters to historical sites and museums in Kentucky, with the offer of gifting

these iron items to those institution's collections for historical and programming purposes.

The collection was curated by a gentleman named Frank T. Barnes, who gifted his collection of more than 1,300 items to Fort Boonesborough in 2013. Within the letter, Elizabeth Chalfant, Fort Boonesborough Foundation committee chair, stated "Bill Farmer, long time fort manager, chose items period correct for our site and they are on display for the public to enjoy. There are more items than we need, many out of our time period, and some completely out of our geographical area, such as whaling items."

I can understand that comment about the whaling items – it's not like there was a big whaling industry in landlocked Kentucky or along the Ohio River Valley.

However, the surprise of the day came when Tandy hunted down and secured the whaling items in the collection for her education programs. You see, the *KSB Miniatures Collection* has added a room box centered around whaling and the iron items put into perspective the scale of the real items compared to a miniature.

A double bonus to securing the whaling items is the fact we are using them in our latest exhibit "*Water's Extreme Journey*". Against one wall of the Calvert Gallery, there are three large banners depicting whales swimming in the ocean. We took advantage of having to store the shipping crates in the gallery by covering them with fabric and then displaying the whaling items on top. It has proven to be an interesting and unique exhibit and we hope you will come down and see it.

In addition to the whaling items, we also secured tools used in the barrel making industry and a tavern sign, which partners perfectly with our *Old Pogue Bourbon* exhibit. Those items are being inventoried now and will soon be added to the exhibit.

We greatly appreciate the offer from the Fort Boonesborough Foundation and encourage you to visit the park. If you've never been, it is an interesting and informative site and takes one back to our state's earliest founding.



*Help Support Your Museum Center*

**Become a Member at the Wormald Patron Level by Making a Financial Donation**

**Send Your Gifts by Mail to:**

**215 Sutton Street, Maysville, KY 41056**

**Or Call 606-564-5865 for Wormald Member Information**

**Thank You for Your Support**

# Education Escapades: The Power of Poetry

BY TANDY FLOYD



Literacy and developing a love for reading has always been important to KYGMC. For years, starting with Doc Shires, the museum has held an Adult Literacy Campaign in October. We continue this next year with another fantastic book I think everyone will love. Most literacy programs center on school age children, particularly elementary. And, that is important, but many groups and agencies take care of those children's programs. Perhaps it is time that we see the importance at the total beginning of the spectrum – birth to pre-K. That is why *Kaye Savage Browning Miniatures* is giving every baby born in Meadowview Hospital their first book. KYGMC is known worldwide for their 1/12 scale miniatures in the KSB Miniatures Gallery. Featured in that gallery are beautifully handcrafted miniatures of Mother Goose and her beloved rhymes. Mother Goose has delighted young children for centuries and KSB Miniatures wants each baby to receive *“The Real Mother Goose”*.

Rhymes and songs introduce infants to language, rhythm, music and encourage bonding between the caregiver and child. “Because they are silly, funny, repetitive, and rich in vocabulary, nursery rhymes are a natural vehicle for stimulating early literacy.” Nursery rhymes are important for language acquisition and help with speech development. It not only exposes the baby to the sound of your voice, which is soothing for him, but being read to helps children see and hear what is around them and respond in kind. The spoken word conveys the idea that words have meaning and certain sounds mean certain things. While your newborn doesn't understand what you're saying, he can

still pick up the rhythm, tones, and inflections of your voice. Research also shows that the more words a baby is exposed to, the better prepared he is to eventually start reading on his own. Nursery Rhymes help children develop auditory skills such as discriminating between sounds. Rhymes, like Mother Goose, help kids articulate words, modulate voice pitch, volume and inflection and help them enunciate clearly by saying them over and over without fear of criticism. The mouth and tongue muscles are developed as children say these rhymes.

It is never too early to start enjoying books with your little one. Listening comprehension is a foundational skill that is often skipped, but nursery rhymes can help ensure this crucial ability, which precedes reading comprehension, is covered. “Studies show that children who were read to as newborns have a larger vocabulary as well as mathematical skills.”

The colorful pictures in the book make an enchanting introduction for the very young. “Contrasting colors send the strongest signals to a baby's brain to help stimulate brain growth and aid in visual development.” By three months, a baby starts to see color and the addition of brighter, primary colors become important for their development.

KYGMC and KSB Miniatures is also including two complimentary tickets to the museum and the KSB Miniatures Gallery. The best way to take care of your family is to make sure you're taking time to take care of yourself. If mommy and daddy need a break, it is a wonderful opportunity for grandparents to spend quality time with their new heirs.



Babies make connections from the minute they are born. Bringing your baby to the KSB Miniatures Gallery to see the nursery rhymes you've been reading, allows them to connect and develop an understanding of similarities, differences, relationships and unusual connections, giving babies an early introduction to essential life skills every child needs. It is also a basis for creative thinking at a very early age.

Meadowview delivers 400-500 babies a year. We feel that giving parents a way to recharge their batteries and helping their newborn develop an ear for the music of words and stimulate intellectual growth is a wonderful way to help our community.

The gift shop at KYGMC has other wonderful children's books for all ages. Come in and take a look at all we have to offer your children and grandchildren.

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](mailto:education@kygmc.org) or call Tandy Floyd at 606-564-5865. You will be surprised at the activities and artifacts we can provide!

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