Annual Membership Meeting 2022
The Blue Grass Trust is a nonprofit that strives to protect, revitalize, and promote the special historic places of Central Kentucky to enhance the quality of life for future generations. The Trust is guided by three tenets: education, service, and advocacy.

**Board of Directors**

Janie Fergus  
President  
Mike Meuser  
Vice President  
Maureen Peters  
Secretary  
Matthew Brooks  
Treasurer  
Kathy Chopra  
Geneva Donaldson  
Steve Gardner  
John Hackworth  
Wanda Jaquith

Lucy Jones  
Lindy Karns  
Teri Kelly  
Debbie Long  
Carol Martin  
Brenna Pye  
Rick Queen  
Richard Schein  
Dan Vivian  
Megan Winfield  
Eugene Young

**Advisory Board**

John Hackworth, Chair  
Clyde Carpenter  
Gay Darsie  
Janie Fergus  
Barbara Hulette  
Nancy Iliff  
Bill Johnston  
Zee Faulkner  
Kurfees  
Gloria Martin  
Mike Meuser  
Tom Moore  
Maureen Peters  
Craig Potts, SHPO  
W. Gay Reading  
Sharon Reed  
Daniel Rowland
Goals and Objectives

Fiscal Year July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023
1. INCREASE ADVOCACY FOR PRESERVATION
2. INCREASE PRESERVATION EDUCATION
3. ACTIVELY FIGHT RACISM AND DIVERSIFY TRUST INVOLVEMENT
4. INCREASE MEMBERSHIP
5. INCREASE INCOME

Solidarity Statement

As a preservation-focused organization that seeks to protect the special historic places around us, the Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation acknowledges the pivotal role the Black community has played in the creation of our cherished buildings. Just as we seek to protect and support African-American history and spaces, the board and staff of the Blue Grass Trust stands with the Black community in the call for justice and racial equality.

Without action, talk is hollow. Here are specific ways we plan to move forward, honoring our mission to protect, revitalize, and promote the special historic places in our community, and to enhance the quality of life for ALL future generations:

- We commit to tell the stories of our historic structures with a wider lens and ensure the recorded history of our properties is not whitewashed.
- We will highlight with sensitivity the stories we tell and the viewpoints we use to include Black voices connected to historic properties. As we continue the restoration of Pope Villa, we pledge to research and include stories of the enslaved workers to both focus on their humanity and to celebrate their profound contribution.
- We will expand our efforts to protect properties, such as the Palmer Pharmacy, that are part of the built and cultural legacy of the Black community.
- We vow to listen to Black voices and be receptive to suggestions on how we can do and be better. We are stronger when we work together and consider viewpoints other than our own.
have made special provisions in their will, a life insurance policy, real estate, or some other financial conveyance to include the BGT in their estate planning. If you would like more information, contact the BGT at (859) 233-0362 or info@bluegrasstrust.org.
Greetings
Blue Grass Trust
Members and Friends,

As we wrap up the fiscal year of the Trust, it's fun to look back on the many accomplishments and with appreciation and satisfaction for a job well done by the many volunteers, staff, and donors.

We are proud that the Kentucky Historical Society awarded BGT the General Award for Education for the "Tour the Historic Bluegrass" walking tour program introduced in 2020. The program is an easily accessible walking tour addressing an important part of BGT's mission by providing an educational, fun, and COVID-safe alternative for families, friends, and visitors to experience central Kentucky's history and culture. The initial tours are "Lexington's East End" and "Adaptive Reuse in Lexington's Urban Core". If you have not yet tried the tour, I hope you will.

Other miscellaneous activities included advocacy and service as the organization worked hard to protect, revitalize, and promote the special historic places in our community. Many of the year's highlights are found in the provided committee reports. Efforts also focused on the work to further the preservation of the Palmer Pharmacy and the Senator's Paepke Villa, East, but not least, this year's Blue Grass Trust Antiques & Garden Show was a huge success with a full roster of curated exhibits presenting beautiful displays of antiques, gardens, art, design, interesting speakers, and the largest number of sponsors and visitors ever attending for another year for the Trust to share its mission.

As my tenure as President of the Trust's board wraps up, I want to thank each of you for your gifts of time, resources, and advocacy you share with the Trust. BGT supporters are amazing, and there are many active and dedicated volunteers working on a full range of Trust activities. It is an enriching experience to work with you and to learn from you as we move forward with initiatives supporting the Trust's mission.

It has been an honor to serve as President, as well as a fun and gratifying experience. I am excited to be part of the Trust as it moves into the coming year with a renewed focus on the missions and values of helping ensure Central Kentucky is the best it can be for generations to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Ferguson, Board President

Greetings
Blue Grass Trust
Members and Friends,

It is a pleasure to address you for the last time in my role as Executive Director. What an honor it is to work alongside so many Kentuckians dedicated to revitalizing, protecting, and preserving the special historic places of Central Kentucky.

As you read our 2022 Annual Report, I know you will be as inspired as I am by the mission-focused work the Trust has accomplished over the past twelve months. Our efforts reached milestones both in person and virtually, sites that exemplify a diverse and host family businesses, while honoring buildings—and the stories those buildings represent—no longer stand. Senator's Paepke Villa continued its legacy as a preservation learning lab, inviting students of all ages to think not only about buildings and structures but to more carefully consider the hands that made those bricks and stones. Heritage and our facilities team have ensured we exceed our responsibilities as good stewards and tellers of our historic properties. And through our Community Preservation and Education and Preservation Committees, we have made our elected officials, our supporters, and the wider public aware of the immense contributions preservation provides to Central Kentucky.

And the important preservation work you support has been noticed, both nationally and locally. In September, the Trust was awarded $200,000 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to fund our ongoing investment in Palmer Pharmacy. Just earlier this month, the Kentucky Historical Society presented the Trust with a Kentucky History Award in recognition of its vision for "Lexington's East End" and "Adaptive Reuse in Lexington's Urban Core." We are so honored to be recognized alongside many other deserving organizations and individuals who share our love for saving Kentucky's treasures.

While we continue to build on our successes, we must also contemplate how we build to last. In March, the Board of Directors voted to invest in a comprehensive strategic plan, piloting the course of the Trust for the next three years. With a strategic plan in place, the Trust can remain a vital voice in the protection and promotion of historic properties, ensuring the future of Central Kentucky's architectural heritage.

We look forward to the next chapter at the Trust, please know how grateful I am for your support, which—guided by our vision of education, service, and advocacy—makes a direct impact for preservation in our Kentucky community. Thank you.

In gratitude,

Jonathan Coleman, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Members of this year's Ad Hoc Nominating Committee are: John Colesman, Janie Fergus, John Hockworth, Lucy Jones, Mike Meuser, Maureen Peters, Rich Schein, and Dan Vivian. Thanks very much to these good people for their suggestions, time, and efforts to fill these critically important positions.

The 2022-23 slate of BOT Officers presented to you for your consideration and approval are:

President – Mike Meuser
Vice President – Dan Vivian
Secretary – Maureen Peters
Treasurer – Eugene Young

There are three current board members – Janie Fergus, John Hockworth, and Allegan Winfield – who are retiring off the board. All of us on the Trust are deeply appreciative and indebted to these individuals for their dedicated service on the board.

The Nominating Committee proposes the following three new board members. A brief bio of each is provided for your consideration.

Janie Rice Brother
Janie Rice Brother is a historic preservation consultant with more than 20 years of experience conducting historic resource surveys, preparing National Register nominations, and coordinating historic tax credit applications for projects throughout the eastern United States. A graduate of Centre College, she earned a Master of Historic Preservation at the University of Kentucky and has held positions at the Bluegrass Trust for Historic Preservation, the Kentucky Heritage Council, and the Kentucky Archaeological Survey. Ms. Brother is currently employed at Palter Engineering, a mid-sized engineering firm based in Winchester, Kentucky. She is the author of numerous National Register nominations, several historic context studies, and the book Kentucky Bluffs: Agricultural Heritage of the Bluegrass in collaboration with photographer Carol Judah published by Quay Books in 2015. She is also the author and webmaster of the popular Governor's Gravel blog, an inclusive source of information about Kentucky architecture and landscapes that frequently features commentary about preservation issues in central Kentucky. Ms. Brother lives in Mt. Sterling with her husband and two children.

Dr. Deidra Dennis
Dr. Deidra Dennis’s professional career spans approximately 25 years. She has held a variety of professional positions including executive director of Alternative Action, a diversity and inclusion practitioner, human resources leader, chief diversity officer and social justice warrior. Dr. Dennis’s commitment to diversity, inclusion and equity is rooted in social justice and equity, using these tools to dismantle oppressive systems and transform organizations. Dr. Dennis is employed at Transylvania University as the Vice President of Diversity & Inclusion. Deidra holds a doctorate in public administration from Walden University and is a certified Change Management Practitioner and a licensed facilitator for Franklin Covey in Unconscious Bias. Dr. Dennis loves community service and works with various regional and local boards. Additionally, she serves on the Affordable Housing Commission of Lexington and leadership at the University of Kentucky’s Associate in Partnerships in Equity (NLPPE). She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Beta Gamma Omega Chapter.

Deidra is married to Anthony Dennis, has two grown sons, Deon Turner and Noah Tamer, and is married to the lovely Taylor Colette Turner, and they have a son, James.

Dave Elbon
Dave Elbon is a retired computer programmer with a degree in geography from the University of Kentucky. Lexington resident since 1974, Elbon is a long-time member and supporter of the Trust, with a long-standing interest in historical preservation. Experenced in nonprofit volunteer leadership, he currently serves on the boards of the Washington Savings Bank, Tower Branch Tract, Inc., and the Columbia Music Festival of Lexington. Elbon is also a member of the Bluegrass Cycling Club and has long been involved with advocating for and promoting bicycle facilities for transportation and recreation. He also volunteers at the Kentucky Library Association, setting up local, picking, and binding books. A fan of local music, Elbon plays for a local English country dance group.
LATROBE’S POPE VILLA COMMITTEE REPORT

One topic that we are eager to address with these digital technologies was the focus of work led by University of Kentucky Professor and award-winning historian Amy Murrill Taylor who led a course researching a group of people with connections to Pope Villa. Her Spring 2022 course had opened a vast and unexplored field of research.

The class’s efforts were compiled into an extensive report edited by Phil Taylor. The report and its full complement of research notes have been made available to the committee and will, no doubt, seed much future scholarship. All of the students in the class have continued on the need for further research on their subtopics and the availability of further sources for that research. In total, the class identified the names of thirty-nine enslaved persons with connections to Latrobe’s Pope Villa that were recently discovered through the scholarship of Amy Murrill Taylor’s University of Kentucky undergraduate course.

On May 1st, 2022, nearly 150 members of the public joined the Latrobe’s Pope Villa Committee in its annual celebration of the birthday (25th in 2022) of the home’s architect, Benjamin Henry Latrobe.

Respectfully submitted,

Mila Mauer and Dan Howard, Co-chairs

---

ANTIQUE AND GARDEN SHOW COMMITTEE REPORT

The 39th Annual Antiques & Garden Show presented by Christopher Michael, Lisa Barnard, and Central Bank., March 4-6, was a fun and successful event in every way. A fundraiser for BGT’s preservation work in Central Kentucky, this three-day show has become a regional draw. We were honored thousands of guests to the 2023 show at the Kentucky Horse Park’s Alltech Arena, which hosted BGT’s quality exhibits from around the country. We were thrilled to have Matt Carter & Brett Barter serve as our 2022 honorary co-chairs, and pleased to have BGT board members Gini Donaldson and Maureen Peters serve again as the 2023 BGT Committee co-chairs. They did an outstanding job.

The event started with the Gala Preview Cocktail Party sponsored by Sydney’s & 94th and Mrs. Elgin Donaldson. It was a high note of the 2022 show was our stellar keynote speaker – Christopher Silverman, with his new book, A Year at the Clove Brook Farm - Gardening, Tending Flocks, Keeping Bees, Collecting Antiques, and Entertaining Friends. The keynote presentation was sponsored by Benjamin Doxsin Interior Design, making sure for the first time in AGS history.

Returning again in 2022, and a big draw, were two Cocktails & Gardening Seminars, hosted by Lance Carter Lenzy, Publisher of Voice Louisville and Alex Nimocks, The Mitchell Maker, and Jackson Osborne of the

RG. We hosted a delicious and different lineup each day, of multiple ten-minute talks from top experts on exciting subjects.

Adding to the beauty of the show were designer vignettes by Isabel Zelzak, Thoroughbred Antique Gallery Design, Normand Furniture & Design by G&S Interiors, Sydney bowing, 94th Interiors, Jeff and Sarah Marks Interiors, and bringing that touch of ‘spring in the air’ with garden exhibits Pemberton’s Greenhouse and Blooms. We also large masons to both Hordata, BGT booth and BGT committee member, we had a great lineup of complimentary daily lectures sponsored by Blue & Co., which included Sarah Marks; Sarah Marks Interiors, Kevin Norcross; Garden Photos & Files; Bill Meng; Everything Tastes Better on Silver; And Evan Evans: A Peak at The Art of Entertaining with Confidence.

Another highlight of the Show was the revamped BGT Bazaar featuring vendors of everything small including Ben Deveron Home, CC Pearl, Designer Baskets by Derek; Double Barrel Bourbon Honey, Henry Day Goods, KY Paper On Stone, and Lexington Silver.

Respectfully submitted,

Gini Donaldson and Maureen Peters

Antiques and Garden Show Co-chairs
For the last fiscal year, the Facilities Committee has met regularly on the third Tuesday of each month to discuss the well-being and upkeep of the Trust properties: Hampton, Dr. Thomas Hunt Morgan House, Lutables’ Pope Villa, and Endicott House. Below are the highlights of each property throughout the year.

Dr. Thomas Hunt Morgan House is the location of the offices of BGT staff. Since the last Annual Meeting, significant updates to the house have continued such as securing the second floor space by creating a workspace for Lutables’ Pope Villa project manager Hawkland Argo. This was done by clearing out and removing a storage closet that was being used for miscellaneous office supplies and BGT files, which have been appropriately organized and placed elsewhere in the building. The green room, used by renters of the house for their events, had its walls and ceiling repainted and was redesigned to create a more inviting atmosphere for our guests to enjoy while using the space. Finally, our Executive Director’s office was refinished and painted just in time to welcome Dr. Jonathan Coleman as President Director.

Hampton, which operates as a house museum for the BGT, received much-needed new chimney caps thanks to a grant from the Arley Foundation. It also had new shutters added to the garden side of its roof and will soon have them added on the Mill Street side. The committee oversees some necessary exterior plumbing work that required digging up the courtyard bricks. Fortunately, all was resolved before our house museum tours resumed at the beginning of April.

Lutables’ Pope Villa, under the direction of Project Manager Hawkland Argo, was thoroughly cleaned by Trust volunteers and employees to prepare for the Final Pope Villa open house since 2009. This is an event that celebrates Benjamin Lutables’ birthday on May 1st and kicks off Historic Preservation Month. Also, a workspace in one of the Final Pope Villa’s rooms has been organized by Mr. Argo so he can better perform his duties for the property. In addition, the Endicott House new door to the Pope Villa will now be leased by Mr. Argo, allowing him to keep a close eye on the place while moving towards the house’s future.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackson Osborne
Preservation Outreach Coordinator
As the flagship of the Blue Grass Trust, Hopemont continues to thrive as an historic 208-year-old building under the watchful eye of the Trust. The Hopemont Committee, as well as the Facilities Committee, are vigilant in caring for the property, which was acquired by the Trust in 1935. Maintenance is an ongoing consideration, which is constantly monitored.

Hopemont as a house museum has experienced visitation reflective of the Covid pandemic, which has been manifested in somewhat inconsistent visitor attendance. While house visits have improved this year, they still are not back to pre-Covid levels. The BGT staff, the docents, and the Hopemont Committee are evaluating the visit experience to see if there are ways it can be improved, including building a new mini-exhibit and developing new print advertising.

The ever-faithful Hopemont docents ensure the house is open for tours Wednesday through Sunday, April through October, and they enjoy guiding visitors who come from all across the country.

The Town and Country Garden Club members are also an integral part of the Hopemont equation as they keep the garden looking inviting for weddings and other special occasions. Their hard work and dedication have resulted in the garden’s continuously improving appearance over the past several years.

2021/2022 provided another year of challenges as the director committee tried to stay nimble in the face of fluctuating Covid members. While we felt fairly safe in providing traditional in-person tours with proper precautions during certain months, we reverted to a virtual format when the weather was colder and numbers were lower. Since June of 2021, we have hosted 7 in-person deTours and released 5 virtual deTours. We continue to be grateful to the Women’s Club of Central Kentucky for sponsoring these virtual events and to Media Collaborative for producing such beautifully crafted videos at a fraction of their normal non-profit rate.

A large theme of our 2021/2022 programming was adaptive reuse as a tool for historic preservation. We explored a former factory turned night club turned art gallery (Greyline Station), a bus station turned community marketplace (Greystone Station), a bread factory turned food center and brewery (The Bread Box), a bank turned hotel and distillery (The Wildflower), and a police department headquarters turned restaurant (Valleymade) just to name a few.

We also highlighted local family businesses that have used preservation as a restoration of their legacies. The Ruggles Sign Company has been in business for over 75 years and utilized the Brownfield Program to turn a mid-century factory in Yemalis into their current center of operation. They honor their past by restoring decommissioned signs and giving them a second life on their production floor which has become a destination venue. The Pioneer Playhouse in Danville just began their 73rd season. When Colonel Eisen Hensley built the playhouse, he utilized materials from dismantled buildings to realize his vision. On our walk through the Playhouse we saw everything from 200-year-old hand woven beams salvaged from a large stable to barbershop chairs from Daniel’s 1st African American barber shop.

In addition to exploring the benefits of preservation through adaptive reuse, we have explored ways to honor buildings that no longer exist but must not be forgotten. Our video deTour of the Huntsville Community Interpretive Park highlighted the citizen-led organization that works tirelessly to memorialize the once thriving African American community of Huntsville, founded by formerly enslaved Woodford County United States Colored Troops veteran Jerry Gaskin in 1871. Huntsville was a close-knit community until 1902 when the county purchased the land, relocated the residents, and ultimately razed the buildings. The Huntsville Community Interpretive Park seeks to honor these original structures with ghost buildings while telling the story of the community and providing green spaces.

While the deTours Committee is known for providing tours of buildings that are in need of continued protection and preservation, we must acknowledge that the historically narrow focus that determined which buildings were deemed “worthy” of preservation in America has allowed for the loss of countless culturally important structures. As we move forward in 2022 and beyond, we want to utilize our virtual capabilities to find ways to highlight these buildings, as well, including an upcoming memorial video deTour of the Chandler Normal School.
THE 2022 BLUE GRASS TRUST PRESERVATION AWARDS

Owen to a building industry craftsman who has exhibited a strong commitment to quality craftsmanship for historic buildings.

Adam Carmona, United Contracting

Adam Carmona of United Contracting in Lexington, Kentucky, is the recipient of this year’s Blue Grass Trust Preservation Craftsman Award. Adam is a masonry specialist who has worked on many historic homes throughout the Bluegrass Region, repairing stone and brick walls, foundations, chimneys, and patios. Adam was also a presenter for the Blue Grass Trust’s “Navigating Historic Home Rehabilitation,” where he generously shared his time to help current and future homeowners of historic properties learn skills to prevent and repair masonry damage to their homes.
Camp Nelson National Monument

Camp Nelson was established as a U.S. Army mustered-in, supply depot, and hospital. By 1863, Camp Nelson evolved into one of the country’s largest recruitment and training centers for African American soldiers during the Civil War, and served as a refugee camp for their wives and children. Thousands of enslaved African Americans fled their farms, escaping to the camp, located within the shackle-holding state of Kentucky, with the hope of securing their freedom and, ultimately, contributing to the destruction of slavery.

In 2019 Camp Nelson was designated as a National Monument by the Department of the Interior for its historical significance. The property is currently managed by the National Park Service who maintains the Oliver Perry House, reconstructed barns, and over five miles of hiking trails that allow visitors to experience firsthand the rolling pastoral landscape of Camp Nelson National Monument. This trail system and numerous interpretive markers provide an opportunity to explore earthworks and fortifications that protected Camp Nelson and allows visitors to walk in the footsteps of soldiers in order to gain an understanding of the site’s significant role during the Civil War.

PUBLIC SERVICE TO PRESERVATION AWARD

Given to a government agency or official for service to the preservation movement or to a specific project.

CLAY LANCASTER HERITAGE EDUCATION AWARD

Clay Lancaster Heritage Education Award. Open to an individual or group for service in researching and disseminating information about the Central Kentucky region.

Susan V. Miller and Bob Willcut for Waveland’s Treasures

Published in 2021, Waveland’s Treasures celebrates the state historic site’s 150th anniversary as a museum. Featuring over 200 photographs by photographer Bob Willcut alongside a detailed history of the site and museum by historical interpreter Susan V. Miller, the book explores two centuries of Kentucky history through the story of one home.

Dr. James Birdfield writes, “This important work is a beautifully accomplished pictorial and narrative record of one of the finest and best-preserved examples of domestic Greek Revival architecture in the Commonwealth.” Dr. Amy Taylor comments, “The space [the book] gives to the history of slavery at the house,” successfully resisting “the temptation to romanticize or gloss over the contributions of enslaved people to Waveland’s history.”

Bob Willcut arrived in Kentucky in 1956 and is the owner of Willcut Historic Antiques and Images. Willcut has published two other pictorial books on Kentucky subjects, including Fortiers of Fayette: Wild Birds of Lexington, Kentucky and Henry Clay’s Ashland: A Pictorial Tribute. The book’s author, Susan Miller, has served as an interpreter at Waveland since 2010, joining it after her retirement from the Girl Scouts of Kentucky’s Wilderness Road Council. She’s also a member of the Association of Lincoln Preservers and a trustee for the Camp Nelson Education and Preservation Foundation.
CLAY LANCASTER HERITAGE EDUCATION AWARD

Clay Lancaster Heritage Education Award: Given to an individual or group for service in researching and disseminating information about the Central Kentucky region.

Dr. Ron Pen

Dr. Pen is Emeritus Professor of Musicology and Ethnomusicology, and former Director of the John Jacob Niles Center for American Music. Ron Pen received his B.A. from Washington & Lee University, his M.A. from Tulane University (1982), and his Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky (1987), with a dissertation on the biography and works of American Balladist and composer, John Jacob Niles. His teaching at UK began in 1987, and he has continued his research in the area of American vernacular music with an emphasis on the music and culture of the Southern Appalachian region. Publications include book reviews, articles, forewords, book chapters, encyclopedias entries and documentary films focusing on and the preserving shape note hymnody, early folk music collections, fiddle tunes, traditional country and bluegrass musical styles.

As director of the John Jacob Niles Center for American Music Ron Pen hosted “Fridays at Five”, a series of performances of traditional music at the center, and continues on Monday evenings to participate in the Rock House Brewery’s Banjo. He has received both UK’s Great Teacher Award and The Record’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. He delivered the 2014 Chelser lecture for the Chelser Center for Undergraduate Excellence. His ongoing scholarship includes his biography of John Jacob Niles ‘Wanderer: The Life of John Jacob Niles’, published by the University Press of Kentucky in 2010, as well as research on the history of old time music and early folk music collections.

Ron Pen’s efforts at preservation extend beyond the musical and folklore. He spearheaded the placement of the historical marker in front of John and Essie Niles’ Stot Hill Home on the Athens-Boulevadia Road and Boone Creek in Clermont County, and has been an advocate for the preservation of their home on the property. He is also preserving a legacy, having donated in his mother’s family, a one hundred and eighty-page manuscript titled ‘A History of a People Called Morris, Especially Relating to the Morices of Clermont and Nelson County’. Ron Pen’s great-great-great-grandfather, William Barstow Allen, a lawyer, composed the record of romantic love, while serving as an executive officer in 1798. The King Library Press at UK is presently in the process of printing by hand copies this historically significant artifact.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AWARD

Community Preservation Award: Given to a non-governmental organization or individual for service to the preservation movement or to a specific project.

Bluegrass Heritage Museum

This year’s Community Preservation Award goes to the Bluegrass Heritage Museum in Winchester. The three-story museum, opened in 2004, is filled with rotating exhibits that tell the history of Clark County, its people and culture.

The Bluegrass Heritage Museum shares the history of Clark County through regularly changing exhibits in over 11 galleries. An award-winning Second Thursday Feature Series presents monthly talks on a variety of topics rich in area history. The three-story building was constructed in 1893 as a private residence. In 1927, the house was bought by Dr. E.P. Overton and served for many years as the Overton Memorial Clinic and Hospital. After the medical facility closed, the building sat vacant until it was given to the community by the Overton Memorial Association in 2000 for a museum, with the The Bluegrass Heritage Museum holding its grand opening just a few years later.
BARBARA HULETTE AWARD

For efforts in the preservation of Central Kentucky’s history, heritage, built environment, landscape, archaeological resources, sense of community, or significant endeavors.

Hunertown Community Interpretive Park

The Hunertown Community Interpretive Park in Woodford County celebrates the history and people of Hunertown, a once-thriving African American community settled by formerly enslaved people in the nineteenth century. The Park was officially dedicated on Hunertown’s 150th anniversary in August 2021 after almost twenty years of effort by a collective that includes former Hunertown residents and descendants. The group has partnered and collaborated with high school classes, scouts, local government, University of Kentucky students and faculty, local businesses, and others to develop and implement a 50-acre master plan commemorating the former community’s history, landscape, and vibrant community spirit. The passive park includes material reminders of the Community’s past as well as spaces for contemporary activities celebrating the spirit of Hunertown.

LUCY SHROPSHIRE CRUMP VOLUNTEER AWARD

Given to an individual or group that has provided exemplary service to the Blue Grass Trust throughout the year.

Jan Swauger

This year’s winner is Jan Swauger, immediate past president of the Town and Country Garden Club, a group that dedicates countless hours to beautifying the BGT Campus. Jan joined the Town and Country Garden Club in 2014, shortly after retiring from UK. She was happy to finally have the time to be in a garden club to share her love of plants with others. She served as Vice President for Fundraising and Chair of the 2016 Garden Party. She also served as program chair and recently stepped down as President after three years. She currently serves as the Garden Chair and looks forward to continuing the club’s mission of maintaining and beautifying the Hopeman Garden and the Dr. Thomas Herr Morgan House grounds for locals and visitors to enjoy.

Jan’s love of gardening and the outdoors began as a very young person. Her parents had a beautiful yard, and she learned how rewarding gardening could be. They lived on a corner lot like Jan and her husband, and folks walking by would always comment about her parents’ yard.
Given to an exemplary member of the Blue Grass Trust:

**Dr. Daniel Rowland**

Dan Rowland's involvement in historic preservation has been wide-ranging and hands-on since he moved to Lexington in 1974. An early project was organizing the Community Preservation Committee in 1990, at the request of Trust president Richard Warren, to work with the city in establishing Hi-1 districts. Dan received the John Wesley Hunt Award in 2005 for lifetime service to preservation in Central Kentucky, but his contributions were far from over. Mostly recently, Dan gave $150,000 in 2021 to the Pope Villa, designed by Benjamin Latrobe, an early British-American architect who designed the nation's Capitol. The Pope Villa, owned by the B&O, was badly damaged by fire in 1987 and has been vacant since that time. Dan's contribution is designated for a feasibility study to restore the Pope Villa and for the salary of a project manager for two years to oversee the work.

**DOT CRUTCHER AWARD**

Given to an individual or group for outstanding efforts towards the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of a building or buildings within Central Kentucky.

**Trackside Restaurant and Bourbon Bar at the Paris Train Depot**

The Paris Train Depot was built in 1882 by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. In its heyday the depot busied with passengers and commercial activity. Racehorses were shipped from local horse farms to tracks on the East Coast, cattle and logs were sent to meat-packing plants in Chicago. However, by the mid-20th century, railroads had declined in importance. In the early 1970's, CSX Railroad gave the depot to the city of Paris. In 2007, Darrall and Debbie Poynter purchased the depot from the city on the condition it be historically restored. They acquired the land it sat on from CSX, making the renovation possible. In 2018, Nae鲢 businesswoman Dottie Searles opened the Trackside Restaurant and Bourbon Bar that has become a popular dining destination.
This year’s winner is James Monley of Arborwise Tree and Landscape. James Monley was honored for his work on the Bodley-Bullock House garden in Gratz Park. Although James only began working with the Junior League in 2021, he quickly proved his value. In 2021, James identified a diseased ash tree on the Bodley-Bullock property and researched existing historic garden documents to guide his recommendation for a replacement tree. A yellowwood tree was chosen as Mrs. Minnie Bullock, the garden’s original designer and co-founder, intended to include one in the garden. Furthermore, James directed his time and effort to remove the ash and secure a yellowwood for planting. Also in 2021, James taught Junior League members how to plant annuals during a spring planting day and developed weekly seedlings to give League members for their personal yards. That fall, James donated over 500 tulip bulbs and his time planting them for the League who benefited from his generosity during their 2022 Easter activities.

James demonstrates initiative, working with a gate that sticks or a garage door needing repair without being asked or requesting additional payment. When James was hired, he met with the garden club leadership to hear their ideas and to pattern his work after the meticulous care taken of the garden by the Junior League’s first Garden Club in the 1980s and 1990s. When the existing garden club members planned one last meeting, post-COVID, James thoughtfully made a point of beautifying the garden by trimming and moving prior to their use of it.

The Bodley-Bullock House garden was designed and cultivated by avid gardener and Lexington Garden Club co-founder, Minnie Bullock, in the early 1900s. For years, the Lexington Garden Club sought to restore the garden to Minnie Bullock’s original master garden plan and enhance it with period-specific plant stock as needed. Most of its plant material and bedding were from the Bodley-Bullock House and the arboretum. Stone for the garden’s stone bench was taken from the old Bodley-Bullock House and redesigned into the bench visible today. The renovators of Hospersen used the bench as a pattern for Hospersen’s front steps.

Dr. and Mrs. Bullock purchased the Bodley-Bullock House in 1962. Both were avid naturalists and bird watchers and spent a great deal of time in the garden. Dr. Bullock also pursued his sculpting hobby in the garden. A bronze sculpture of Rosa Becker, created by Dr. Bullock, still graces the garden and overlooks a brick waterfowl and lily pond carefully maintained by James Monley on behalf of the Junior League.

Ms. Winters is a longtime member of the Blue Grass Trust. She has previously served on the Community Preservation and Education Committee and on our Board of Directors. Winters is the Managing Member of the Winters Law Group (www.winterslegroup.com) and has worked closely with the Trust in representing us before the courts and various local boards and agencies. She is known to take on difficult cases, give excellent advice, and is tenacious and thorough in her representation. Her work with the Trust as its legal representative alone justifies this award.

But her list of accomplishments is vast. A magna cum laude Journalism graduate of University of Kentucky, she received her law degree, summa cum laude, also from the University of Kentucky. She graduated 2nd in her class, was awarded the Faculty Cup (most outstanding student), admitted to the Order of the Coif, and served as Editor-in-Chief of the Kentucky Law Review.

Winters was admitted to the Kentucky Bar in 2004. In her law practice, she is “focused on keeping overhead low and passing on the savings” to her clients. She states her core values are “community investment and helping others” through her legal work. Not only has she represented the BOT, but she has also served as legal counsel for various downtown historic neighborhood associations and other non-profits.

In addition to her professional legal representation activities, she has served on various task forces and civic organizations, including several in the Kentucky and the Fayette County Bar Associations; the Kentucky Women Writers Conferences, the Central Kentucky Inn of Court; former Mayor Jim Gray’s Economic Development Task Force, and NOWL, which supports the legislation and regulation of cemeteries. In 2011, she co-founded PRHBN, a not-for-profit organization that has facilitated the installation of dozens of large-scale murals by world-renowned artists throughout Lexington.

While being all of the above, along with being personally very approachable, a wife, and a mother, Jessica Winters is definitely a Lexington treasure.
Willa Gentry grew up in New Zion in Scott County. Her family made the community their home after her grandfather moved to Kentucky from Georgia. She remembers the mechanic garage and its owner Mr. Cecil Coleman, the store owned by Mr. William Weaver, and the stories told by Mr. Zebdene Boler of his service with the Buffalo Soldiers.

Gentry, as most young people do, left her home to live and work in other states, and, in her case, work out of the country too. She is a veteran of the Gulf War and retired as a licensed practical nurse at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Lexington.

Ms. Gentry came back to New Zion to begin to tell the story of a distant community, founded in the late 1860s by formerly enslaved people. One of her first tasks was to clear and clean the cemetery that held the military markers of the men who fought during the Indian Wars. New Zion has a Kentucky Historic Marker. In 2020, Mr. Gentry’s work helped New Zion be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

These days, you can find her at the oldest cemetery in Scott County, where she has found white pioneers who came into Kentucky before statehood. The cemetery also holds the remains of United States Colored Troops of the Civil War. She has requested replacement markers for twenty-two veterans whose original headstones are damaged. She is also raising funds to have two Kentucky Historic Markers placed at the cemetery, one focused on the early settlers and one focused on the African Americans buried in the cemetery.

YVONNE GILES AWARD

Given to an individual, group, or project for contributing to research on African American or other culturally inclusive history, advocacy of the understanding of African American history, and education of the community regarding African American or other culturally inclusive history in the Bluegrass.

Willa Relford Gentry

Linda Buckheimer

Linda Buckheimer is a novelist, photographer, entrepreneur, and preservationist. For almost three decades, Linda Buckheimer has worked as an historic preservationist in Kentucky. Among many projects was preserving an 1838 house and barn in Nelson County and eight buildings in downtown Bloomfield.

Linda and her husband, Jerry Buckheimer, established the Buckheimer Kentucky Preservation Fund that makes historic preservation grants in the state. She has worked to save historic buildings not only in Kentucky, but Los Angeles and Caja, Cal. She serves on the board of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In 2017 she received the Memorial Award from the Old Lee Wills Memorial Foundation for her dedication to historic preservation in Kentucky.

For her many contributions to historic preservation, Blue Grass Trust is pleased to give Linda Buckheimer the John Wesley Hunt Award for lifetime service to preservation in Central Kentucky.
In Memoriam
Richard DeCamp
Executive Director Emeritus
December 5, 1931 - May 30, 2022
You can also access the 2022 Annual Report on our website!
www.bluegrasstrust.org/2022meeting