



2015
No. 1

Kentucky Weaver

THE LITTLE LOOM HOUSE & LOU TATE FOUNDATION

THE LOU TATE FOUNDATION, INC.

PO Box 9124
Louisville, KY 40209
(502) 367-4792
www.littleloomhouse.org
Visit us on Facebook

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leslie Clements, *President*
Sara Reyna-Byler, *Vice President & Membership Chair*
Kathy Buskill, *Secretary*
Wakeley Purple, *Treasurer*
Stephanie Brown, *Education Coordinator*
Barbara Terranova, *Archivist*
Melissa Amos-Jones
Sylvia Arnold-Kinsfather
Ruth Bennett
Stefanie Buzan
Mona Cattam
Mary Anne Elliot
Bruce Howard
Barbara Nichols
Amanda Schriber
Mary-Stuart Reichard

EDITORIAL STAFF

Melissa Amos-Jones
Stefanie Buzan
Kathy Buskill
Stephanie Brown
Leslie Clements
Kelly Waterman

HOURS

Monby appt.
Tue - Fri..... 10:00 - 3:30
Sat 10:00 - 3:30
Sun.Closed

PLEASE NOTE

Because we are operated by a volunteer staff, we ask that you contact us in advance to ensure that someone is there to greet you.

KENTUCKY COLONELS PRESENT LOU TATE FOUNDATION WITH GRANT



HOKC Trustee Barbara Dutschke makes a check presentation to Leslie Clements, president of the Lou Tate Foundation Board of Directors.

On September 11, 2014, Lou Tate Foundation Board President, Leslie Clements and board member Rosemary McCandless attended the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels Grant Party at the Kentucky Derby Museum. The Colonels awarded The Little Loomhouse with a grant to purchase a new alarm system for all three Little Loomhouse cabins. The alarm system provides security, fire, and environmental protection. The system was a priority recommendation by the historic architect that performed a Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) evaluation on the Little Loomhouse property in 2013. The CAP evaluation was funded by another grant awarded to the Lou Tate Foundation from Heritage Preservation.

The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels trustees reviewed over 300 funding requests this year from non-profit agencies seeking assistance through its Good Works Program.

"It was literally hundreds of hours that our board members and staff invested into due diligence to make sure we are wise stewards of these funds," said Paul Schulte, National Commanding General of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.

The Loomhouse's new security system, along with new outdoor security lights, were installed in the cabins in October 2014, by local business Electronic Security Systems, Inc.

The security system for the cabins is just one of the important Little Loomhouse preservation projects that has been funded in recent years through the generosity of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels. In 2011, the organization approved funding for the Little Loomhouse to purchase a new computer and software to begin digitally preserving its archives; in 2012 funding was approved to purchase new heating and air conditioning units for all three cabins; and in 2013, funding was received for the removal of some old growth oak trees that were threatening the integrity of the cabins.

In addition to the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, The Little Loomhouse would also like to thank board members Stefanie Buzan, Rosemary McCandless, Leslie Clements, and Sara Reyna-Byler for their work on the successful grant application.

LOOMHOUSE CELEBRATES IT'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

In November of 2014, The Little Loomhouse, as part of its 75th Anniversary celebration, held a fashion show that showcased costumes depicting important Loomhouse characters from its history.

Volunteers and supporters of The Little Loomhouse went all out for this important occasion. The driveway was transformed into a runway with visitors lining both sides from Top House cabin to the Esta cabin parking lot.

The fashion show was directed by Melissa Amos-Jones and written and co-directed by Stefanie Buzan. Ethan Buckler and Michelle Amos coordinated the music. Michelle Amos was also the show's emcee.

Historic Loomhouse guests and supporters represented in the show included: The Hill sisters, First Lady Lou Henry Hoover, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, Frank Lloyd Wright, the Hast sisters,

The Hill sisters – Mildred and Patty, wrote the song the world knows today as “Happy Birthday to You.”

A SPECIAL THANKS

to all volunteers who participated in the show: Ally Scarbrough, Sandy Ferguson, Sonya Linde Kruer, Kimberly Atkins, Mandy Moss, Toni Woodard, Alex Meehan, Leslie Clements, Sara Reyna-Byler, Stephanie Clark, Robbie Merrick, Bruce Howard, Tara Buckler-Believe, Sally Moss, Mona Cattan, Ethan Buckler, Michael Jones, Chris Kincaid, Michelle Amos, Stefanie Buzan, and Melissa Amos-Jones.

First Lady Lou Henry Hoover

Wife of President Herbert Hoover. Mrs. Hoover gave Louisa Tate Bousman the name “Lou Tate.” She also approached Lou Tate to develop a weaving project suitable for Girl Scouts. Lou Tate’s contact with Mrs. Hoover led to the development of

the Lou Tate Table Loom or “Little Loom” as it is known today.

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt

Wife of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Mrs. Roosevelt commissioned Lou Tate to weave linens for the White House. Collaboration between Roosevelt and Tate resulted in Lou Tate’s “Little Loom” becoming part of a rehabilitation program for hospitalized servicemen and women.

Frank Lloyd Wright

American Architect. While attending a convention in Louisville, Mr. Wright visited The Little Loomhouse. He described it as “Three board and batten cabins set in the dignity of nature under the mighty oaks of Kenwood Hill.”

The Hast sisters

Etta Hast was the owner of The Loomhouse property in the late 1800s. Etta invited neighbors on Kenwood Hill to attend her sister Lisette’s birthday party.



Models depicting historic figures are first row, left to right: Melissa Amos-Jones (Director), Kimberly Atkins (Etta Hast), Tara Buckler-Believe (Volunteer from 1939), Sonya Linde (Lisette Hast) and Toni Woodward (Mary Wulff). Second row, left to right: Sandy Ferguson (Patty Hill), Ally Scarbrough (Mildred Hill), Sally Moss (As herself), Leslie Clements (Lou Henry Hoover), Alex Meehan (Mabel Palmer Waitman), Robbie Merrick (Lee Ebner), Stefanie Buzan (Ghost of Lou Tate and co-director), Michelle Amos (Emcee), Mona Cattan (Rose Perot) and Sara Renya-Byler (Eleanor Roosevelt). Not Pictured: Stefanie Clark (Frank Lloyd Wright).

Among the guests were Mildred and Patty Hill. It is thought that this was the occasion when the “Happy Birthday” song was first sung. Etta Hast started the tradition of using the Esta cabin as a cultural hub in Southern Jefferson County. She also created the Strawberry Festival on Kenwood Hill.

Mary Wulff

Artist and Author of *The Scarlet Thread* purchased the three cabins in 1907. She gave the Esta cabin its name, which is said to be an old Norse saying meaning “May God’s presence be in this dwelling.” Mary Wulff held special gatherings to which she invited Kentucky artists, poets and writers as well as neighboring residents. It was at one of these gatherings that Lou Tate first came to The Little Loomhouse.

Mable Palmour Waitman

A lifelong friend of Lou Tate, Mable traveled with Lou Tate collecting and preserving old coverlets and coverlet drafts throughout Kentucky. In 1939 Mable started designing her wedding dress. Loomhouse weavers and visitors wove a couple of rows on the dress. Tradition says if you are weaving a wedding dress, everyone had to weave in a thread or two for good luck. Mable wore her dress and carried a silk fan that had been in Lou Tate’s family for a long time. It was said the wedding fan that brought good luck to the marriage. The wedding dress and the fan have been worn by generations of women in in Mabel’s family.

Rose Pero

A 1956 recipient of the University of the Loomhouse Loomatic Graduate School diploma. Rose accompanied Lou Tate on her travels outside of Kentucky to bring attention to Loomhouse programs. Rose also compiled Lou Tate’s extensive address lists of Kentucky Weaver recipients.

Sally Moss

Sally first came to visit Lou Tate in 1968. She learned how to weave, taught children’s groups and helped organize Loomhouse events. After Lou’s passing, Sally became part of the Lou Tate Foundation Board of Directors and served as president and executive direc-

SECOND ANNUAL HOLIDAY IN THE WOODS



The second annual Holiday in the Woods was held November 1, 2014 immediately following the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Loomhouse. The evening started with a special greeting by Cindy Venture from the Beechmont Bombshells. In addition, local artists, authors and vendors displayed their artwork and merchandise which included: woodworking, wire basket weaving, fiber art, fairy houses, leather work, beaded work, glass art, print work, and hat making.

This year, a cake was donated by Wal-Mart (New Cut Rd. and the Outerloop) in honor of the Loomhouse and its 775th Anniversary Celebration. Food was provided by Long Shot Lobsta, refreshments by Louisville Meade Co, and Tony Buzan provided DJ music. In spite of the cold weather, the Holiday spirit was definitely present and fun was had by all!

tor. She was instrumental in the preservation of the Tophouse Cabin where she continues teaching and volunteering.

Lee Ebner

Lee represents a distinguished group of dedicated volunteers to Lou Tate and the Little Loomhouse. He moved to the Kenwood area in the late 1950s and began attending art exhibits at The Little Loomhouse. Lee was part of a small group of frequent guests invited to Lou’s home for her famous chili. He joined the Lou Tate Foundation Board of Directors. Lee recalled, “It was nine women and me. The women elected me as president.”

Hal and Kitty Tenny

Around 1958, Hal and Kitty read an article in the *Courier-Journal* about a woman that taught weaving out on Kenwood Hill – Lou Tate. Hal and Kitty took their daughter, Ellen, out to

The Little Loomhouse and she began taking lessons from Lou Tate. Later that year, the Tenny’s purchased a cabin and became Lou’s neighbors. The cabin was called Hill House because it was once the home of Mildred and Patty Hill, the sisters that wrote “Happy Birthday to You.” Hal and Kitty developed a family like relationship with Lou. The Tennys shared Lou’s passion for the arts and together they worked on many art and music festivals on Kenwood Hill. They started a Mid Summer Festival that included art, live music and Lou would hold a weaving workshop. By the fourth year, musicians were coming from as far as Huntsville, Alabama to play at the festival. They would start playing at 1:00 p.m. and continue until 3:00 a.m. The Tenny’s remained friends with Lou until her death. Hal was one of the last people to visit Lou in the hospital before she died.

LOOMHOUSE HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING AND OPEN HOUSE

On Saturday, October 18, 2014, the Little Loomhouse held its Annual Meeting and Open House. Members of the Lou Tate Foundation Board of Directors as well as members of the community attended the annual event.

Board members were confirmed in addition to the election of two new board members: Mary Anne Elliott and Amanda Schriber.

Rosemary McCandless transitioned off the Lou Tate Foundation Board of Directors. The board honored her with a certificate for her years of devoted service. Rosemary will continue her dedicated support for the Loomhouse as an active volunteer.



Board member, Rosemary McCandless, holds the certificate presented by the Lou Tate Foundation Board of Directors for her years of service to the board.



LITTLE LOOMHOUSE 2014 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The following is a list of the top five key accomplishments that were facilitated in 2014 by the many dedicated people who are enabling the Lou Tate Foundation to fulfill its mission. Thank you for being a part of this organization and for making this all possible.

- Held the second annual fun and successful Holiday in the Woods celebration and celebrated 75 years of Little Loomhouse history with a beautiful and unique tribute to the individuals who have established and maintained Lou Tate's legacy.
- Hosted yet another successful and continuously growing Spin-a-Yarn Storytelling Festival (the longest continuously running storytelling festival in the region!).
- The Little Loomhouse was featured in meaningful and well-publicized community outreach museum exhibits with the Local Speed and the Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft and began planning a scalable coverlet exhibit tour to begin at Berea next year.
- Directly furthered our mission to educate people of all ages about fiber and textile art through several initiatives including the successful pilot of new curriculum developed by our Artists in Residency and hosting several field trips, summer camps, tours, and workshops with both new and existing facilitators for students of all ages.

Launched our monthly Featured Artist Reception. Check out our Facebook page for 2015's Featured Artists.



THE KENTUCKY MUSEUM OF ART AND CRAFT AND THE LITTLE LOOMHOUSE WORK ON COMMUNITY COLLABORATION PROJECT

The Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft (KMAC), in partnership with The Little Loomhouse, presented Weaving A Community With Our Stories, an interactive weaving project designed to initiate the discovery of personal stories that bind us together in hope and healing as a community. This project was in conjunction with The New Art of the Loom: Contemporary International Tapestry exhibition.



Admiring the loom built by Youth-Build Louisville for the "Weaving A Community With Our Stories" project, are Left to Right: Mary Anne Elliott, Karen Davis, Stephanie Brown, Tara Reminton and Mona Cattann.

KMAC contacted local community organizations and asked the people they serve to create story cloths to be used as the warp or first layer of the community tapestry. Participants received hand-dyed blank story cloths upon which they wrote their personal stories through prose, poetry or drawings. The warp consists of 100 story cloths that are interwoven on a large standing loom built by YouthBuild Louisville and were installed in the second floor gallery of the KMAC Museum. Nearly 600 people participated in the two-month collaborative project.



LOU TATE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS BOARD RETREAT

In mid-January, the Lou Tate Foundation Board met at the Horine Conference Center, in Jefferson Memorial Forest, to discuss the future of The Little Loomhouse. Board members participated in the retreat with the goal to develop a strong strategic plan while also revising its Vision and Mission statements. Mary-Stuart Reichard, board member, long-time Loomhouse volunteer and supporter said, “The Little Loomhouse is such a unique treasure not just in Louisville and Kentucky but in our Country. I am delighted to be able to serve with the next generation board and watch each one come to love and understand that there is true value in preserving and teaching the history of Lou Tate’s Little Loomhouse, textiles and weaving.”

Board members worked together for most of the day cultivating a plan, developing a vision for The Little Loomhouse, fine-tuning its Mission and learning the responsibilities of board membership with the help of Consultant Marla McKenzie.

Below are the Vision and Mission statements approved by the Lou Tate Foundation Board:

- **Vision:** For the Lou Tate Foundation to be the National leader of introducing weaving, textile arts and their history from The Little Loomhouse landmark cabins.
- **Mission:** To continue the legacy of founder Lou Tate, Master Weaver, by ensuring the preservation of The Little Loomhouse landmark cabins and by educating students of all ages about the history of weaving and textile arts through diverse programs, residencies and community partnerships.

At the end of the retreat, board members built what they felt was a solid plan that met the new Vision and Mission of the Lou Tate Foundation plus the present and future growth of The Little Loomhouse. “We’re excited about all of the energy that’s happening at the Little Loomhouse – we have a very engaged board, staff, and group of volunteers who are really motivated to identify new ways to continue Lou Tate’s legacy. Re-articulating our Vision and Mission is a way for us to focus our energy and communicate our commitment clearly with our membership and community partners,” said Leslie Clements, board president.



FEATURED ARTIST OF THE MONTH AND SPECIAL EVENTS FOR 2015

APRIL

Kelly McCarthy,
Paintings
Birth/renewal,
birthday cake, community based project
on spring (planting a pansy of your choice
in the Esta garden)

MAY

Sean Garrison,
Paintings (former
lead singer of
King Horse)

JUNE

Spin-A-Yarn
6/6/2015

JULY

TBD

AUGUST

Michelle Amos,
Fiber sculptures

SEPTEMBER

Mona Cattan
and Sylvia Arnold-Kinsfather,
Wearable fiber
work including
hats, shawls,
scarf and wraps

OCTOBER

Mary Yates,
Print/photography
Tarot readings and
ghost stories
Annual Meeting and
Open House
Lou Tate Appalachian Coverlet
exhibit, Berea, KY

NOVEMBER

Holiday in the
Woods

DECEMBER

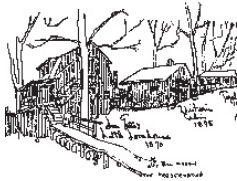
TDB

For more
information about
a Featured Artist
or Special Event
call 502-367-4792

LITTLE LOOMHOUSE
KENTUCKY WEAVER
Lou Tate Foundation Inc.
328 Kenwood Hill Road
P.O. Box 9124
Louisville KY 40209-0124

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Louisville, KY
Permit Number 1488

DATED MATERIALS
Return Service Requested



Support Weaving History
Join the Little Loomhouse/Lou Tate Foundation
328 Kenwood Hill Road, P.O. Box 9124
Louisville, KY 40209-0124
(502) 367-4792

*Your support will preserve the
cabins and weaving archives.*

Please complete this form and return to the Little Loomhouse/Lou Tate Foundation. Thank you for your support.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Cell _____

Email _____

_____ Individual \$35

_____ Family \$50

_____ Business \$100

_____ Sponsor \$250

_____ Patron \$500

_____ Benefactor \$1000
and up

Please let us know your interests.
Circle all that apply.

Weaving Spinning

Historic Preservation

Working with Children

Working with Adults

Other