

# BLACKACRE'S

## Spring & Summer Programs

Note- \* denotes programs that are fun for children and teens

### Art Exhibit Opening:

*Sunday, March 16, 2-4 pm*

Meet Aline Barker, a painter who incorporates both traditional and experimental techniques in her water-based media. For more than 20 years, Aline shared her expertise as a watercolor instructor at the Louisville Visual Art Association and she has exhibited her work across the country. Blackacre is pleased to be showing her paintings through the summer in the Visitors Center. Complimentary food and beverages will be served.

**Meet in the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*Wildflower Walk:

*Saturday, March 22, 10 am*

Join renowned botanist, Patricia Haragan, as she leads visitors through Blackacre's woodland and meadow trails to see the early spring ephemerals and winter annuals. You'll learn to spot these early signs of spring and identify them in their native habitat. Appropriate for all ages.

**Meet in front of the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### Evening Lecture: Sparking Creativity with Sculpture

*Thursday, March 27, 6 pm*

Sculptor Dave Caudill will spark your creativity with a hands-on illustration of his approach to sculpture. He'll bring examples of his stainless steel and bronze work and will share others through a series of slides. He will also speak about his efforts to promote the innovative capacity of those he meets through a Kentucky Arts Council project. Complimentary food and beverages will be served at 6pm. Lecture begins at 6:30.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Visitors Center. \$15 per person.**

### \*Owl Prowl

*Friday, March 28, 7 pm*

As the sun goes down, we'll learn about Kentucky's owls, their habitat, and their nocturnal lives. Then, we'll head to the preserve for a night hike where we'll watch and listen for these predatory birds. All ages welcome!

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Schick Nature Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### What's New In Plants for 2008

*Saturday, April 5, Two sessions: 11 am AND 2 pm*

It's a gardener's favorite time of year – new plant time! Join Jeff Wallitsch, retail manager for Wallitsch Nursery and Garden Center, as he introduces new varieties of annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees. Jeff will bring samples for 'show and sale', so you can take some home for your garden!

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

## \*Bluebirds at Blackacre

*Sunday, April 6, 2 pm*

Join us in discovering one of Kentucky's most colorful native birds! Volunteer Larry Calton, who created our trail of bluebird nesting boxes, will show a short film about the birds and then lead a hike to look at the nesting pairs around the preserve. All ages welcome!

**Meet in the Schick Nature Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

## Choice Natives for Home Landscaping

*Sunday, April 13, 2 pm*

The use of natives is one of the hottest topics to excite gardeners in recent years. Natalie George, manager of native plant production and propagation for Shooting Star Nursery in Georgetown, Kentucky, will describe and show examples of some of the best natives to use in home landscapes. Shooting Star Nursery specializes in container-grown native plants – they do not carry plants dug from the wild. An assortment of Shooting Star native plants will be available for sale.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

## \*Full Moon Hikes

*Saturday, April 19, 9 pm AND Saturday, July 19, 9 pm*

Explore Blackacre by the light of the full moon with volunteer Hal Taylor who will take you on a tour of Blackacre's meadows and trails for this family-friendly hike. Dress for weather. This hike is appropriate for all ages.

**Meet in front of the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

## \*Raising Chickens 101

*Sunday, April 20, 2 pm*

Learn everything you need to know about raising chickens in your own backyard. You'll discover the fun of collecting (and eating) eggs your hens have laid, plus you'll have a source of fertilizer for your garden! Claude Stephens will discuss coop design, flock selection, maintenance, and the benefits to your garden soil. All ages welcome!

**Meet in the Schick Nature Center Picnic Tables. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

## Evening Lecture: Blacksmiths in Early America

*Thursday, April 24, 6 pm*

History comes alive as Wendell Hurt, a wonderful storyteller and a descendent of four generations of blacksmiths, discusses the important role blacksmiths played in the lives of early settlers. You'll be encouraged to guess the use of various historic tools and implements he'll bring with him. Complimentary food and beverages will be served at 6pm. Lecture begins at 6:30.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Visitors Center. \$15 per person.**

## \*Get Art-y at the Homestead!

*Saturday, April 26, 10:30 am*

Join fellow painters, sketchers, and photographers for a day of fun unleashing your creativity on subjects found outside and around our historic homestead! Bring artist materials, chairs, blankets, lunch – whatever

you need to be artistic and enjoy yourself. Multi-media artist Aline Barker will be on hand to offer tips and share techniques. Appropriate for all ages.

**Meet at the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*Tree ID Hike

*Sunday, April 27, 2 pm*

Ever wonder what tree you're seeing as you walk through the woods? Join naturalist Alan Nations for a forest hike to learn how to identify trees using leaves, twigs, bark, and habitat as your guide. This hike is appropriate for all ages.

**Meet in front of the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### Heirlooms & Herbs

*Tuesday, May 6, 6:30 pm*

Yummy! For the tastiest veggies, try heirloom varieties grown from seeds saved for generations. Thieneman Greenhouse has long been a perfect place for gardeners to find unique varieties of heirloom vegetable plants and for an excellent assortment of herb plants. Join owner Peggy Thieneman as she discusses some of the herbs and heirloom vegetables, such as tomatoes and eggplant, available at Thieneman's. Plants will be available for purchase.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*Visual Journaling

*Saturday, May 10, 1 pm*

Visual journaling is a creative and fun way to use the techniques of multi-media collage to keep a journal or diary. Each page of your journal becomes its own artistic expression recording your feelings, thoughts, and remembrances. Anyone can make a visual journal – artistic talent is welcome but not required! Mixed media artist Ilse Mitchell will show examples of her journals and guide you to express your inner artist using a variety of media – ripped pictures from magazines, doodles, crayons, markers, paint, etc. Bring a journal; some art materials (markers, paints, etc) will be available- feel free to bring your own. Appropriate for all ages.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*Native Ornamental Grasses for Home Landscapes

*Sunday, May 11, 1 pm*

Grab your gardening gloves and join us for a fun and informative workshop describing native ornamental grasses and techniques for planting native perennials, shrubs and trees. Connie May, a landscape designer specializing in native plants, and Natalie George, manager of native plant production and propagation for Shooting Star Nursery in Georgetown, Kentucky, will show varieties of the best native grasses for use in home gardens and give tips on choosing other natives for various landscaping needs. At the same time, you can help us plant a new border featuring native grasses, perennials and shrubs near the homestead. Make a difference and learn at the same time! Volunteers will take home a free native plant. Appropriate for all ages.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet at the Barn. No charge- donations appreciated.**

### \*OPEN HOUSE:

*Sunday, May 18, 1-5 pm*

Drop by and share in the fun of Blackacre's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual open house! Families can enjoy horse & buggy rides, hayrides, bluegrass music, tours through the homestead, a climb in the hayloft, and visiting with Blackacre's farm animals. BBQ and other refreshments available for purchase.

**No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*Go Container Crazy!

*Saturday, May 24, Two sessions: 10 am AND 2 pm*

Gardeners - get ready to fill, spill and thrill! Jeff Wallitsch, container designer with Wallitsch Nursery and Garden Center, has designed dazzling container arrangements for clients such as Louisville Metro Government and the Summit. Join Jeff for pointers on how to create one-of-a-kind combinations using annuals, perennials, dwarf shrubs, and succulents. Bring your own pots and plants, or purchase from Jeff onsite. Appropriate for all ages.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet at the Schick Nature Center picnic tables. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*Owls with Raptor Rehab

*Sunday, May 25, 2 pm*

Back by popular demand! Raptor Rehab will be bringing a variety of native owls including a barn owl, screech owl, great horned owls and others. See them up close and personal. Be sure not to miss it! All ages welcome!

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Schick Nature Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*Birding at Blackacre

*Saturday, May 31, 8:30-noon*

Eddie Huber of the Beckham Bird Club will lead a bird-watching hike at Blackacre. Beginners and experienced birders are welcome to come and see how many of the forty-six species of birds that have been identified here will reveal themselves. Bring binoculars, hiking shoes, and a desire to learn about birds. All ages welcome!

**Meet in the school bus parking lot. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*PIONEER DAY!

*Sunday, June 1, 12-7 pm*

Back by popular demand! Celebrate Kentucky's pioneer history with a day of pioneer traditions including interactive presentations in making butter, wooden bowls, corn-husk dolls, candle-making, leather-working, blacksmithing, working with sheep wool and so much more. Enjoy traditional bluegrass and dulcimer music, hayrides, horse & buggy rides, hikes and interpretive tours, stories from Abe Lincoln, and even rafting on Blackacre's Dragonfly Pond. There will be old-time games for children and a pioneer encampment filled with pioneers! You don't want to miss it! Refreshments available for purchase.

**\$10 for adults; \$5 for children 5- 12; children under 5 are free.**

### \*Garden Insects: A look at what's going on in your own backyard

*Thursday, June 5, 1:00-4:30 pm*

Children and adults alike are invited to attend this workshop with Chris Korrow, a teacher, filmmaker, and organic gardener. The workshop will start with a showing of “Garden Insects,” Chris’ award-winning film which premiered nationwide on PBS. The film features colorful close-up photography combined with little-known facts about insect habitats and life cycles. During the workshop, we’ll take a look at insects in a terrarium before heading outside to learn more. In addition, Chris will demonstrate how he gets a ‘bug’s eye’ view of the world using his camera. Chris’ teaching style is informative and appealing to a broad audience and this is a perfect opportunity for anyone in love with their garden ecosystem. Ages 7 and up.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Schick Nature Center. \$15 for adults; \$10 for children and teens 7- 16.**

### \*Horses, Cows and Goats: Oh My!

*Saturdays: June 7 & July 5 & Aug 2, 10-11:30 am*

Throughout most of Blackacre’s history, residents farmed the land and kept farm animals for various uses. During this program, Carol Farmer, a former owner of Appaloosa horses, and Larry Sorrell, Blackacre’s “Mr. Farmer”, will introduce you to Blackacre’s horses, cows and goats. You’ll learn how to care for farm animals and you’ll find out about the role animals played during Blackacre’s past. Appropriate for all ages.

**Meet at the Barn. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### Herbs for Medicinal and Culinary Uses

*Sunday, June 8, 2 pm*

Herbalist Katie Clark, with Shooting Star native plant nursery in Georgetown, Kentucky, and owner of Porch Time Herbs, will lead a fascinating discussion about herb gardens and historical uses of herbs for medicine, cooking, and dyes. Katie will also show how to prepare herbs for storage and describe how to make teas, poultices, salves, and tinctures. Katie has taken medicinal herbal courses through Sage Mountain in Vermont, Sacred Traditions in Virginia and other herbal seminar courses given by leading herbalists.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*Composting – Easy as Dirt!

*Saturday, June 14, 11 am*

Master gardener and composter Stan Mudd will discuss everything you need to know to recycle vegetable, fruit, yard and garden waste to produce compost for your landscape or vegetable plot. Topics covered will include proper materials to include in your compost pile, the decomposition process, types of compost bins and how to know when your compost is ‘cooked’ and ready to use. Appropriate for all ages.

**Meet at the Barn. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

### \*Snap A Beauty – Photography Workshop For Kids & Teens!

*Saturdays: June 21 & July 19, 10-noon*

Budding photographers, grab your cameras and head to Blackacre! Matthew Sandercock, a talented photographer who specializes in photography for its artistic value, will show some of his work, give pointers for how to take a technically and artistically good photo, and offer suggestions as he leads you around the homestead to take your own pictures. All you need to bring is a camera – a disposable one is fine. Exhibit your best photos at Blackacre! Appropriate for ages 6 – 18.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet at the Schick Nature Center picnic tables. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

## \*Worms That Work

*Saturday, June 21, 1 pm*

Vermi-composting is a no-mess, no-odor way to recycle kitchen waste in your home or garage. Master gardener Louise Shawkat will explain the process of using worms to produce garden-friendly compost and show what's needed to get started. Every effort to recycle – regardless how small – helps protect the environment. Bring a bag and take home some worms! Appropriate for all ages.

**Meet at the Schick Nature Center picnic tables. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

## \*Summer Art Camp

*June 23-27, 9:15-2:15*

Middle school-aged children are invited to sign up for the Kentucky Museum of Arts and Crafts' annual summer art camp at Blackacre. During this weeklong camp, students will carve stone sun dials, decorate bird houses, create multi-media landscapes and make a nature drawing. For more information or to register, contact Dane Waters at KMAC: 589-0155 ext. 208.

**\$135 without transportation/ \$150 with transportation.**

## \*Butterfly Walk

*Sunday, June 29, 2 pm*

Blackacre's native wildflowers, woodlands, and abundant water sources provide excellent habitat for a variety of Kentucky's butterflies. Join naturalist Alan Nations on an interpretive walk where you'll see many beautiful butterflies, learn about their life cycle, and discover what the presence of butterflies tells us about our environment. You'll also find out how to increase the number of butterflies visiting your own backyard. This hike is appropriate for all ages.

**Meet in front of the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

## \*CRUISE-IN to BLUEGRASS!

*Saturday, July 12: Car and tractor show opens at 1:00; Concert starts at 5:00*

Our 4<sup>th</sup> annual "Bluegrass at Blackacre" concert brings much more than the high-energy bluegrass music of fan-favorite **Hog Operation** to the stage this summer. Bring the family out for Blackacre's first **antique car and tractor show**, which will be combined with horse & buggy rides, and hayrides before the music kicks off at 5:00 in the shade of the 1844 Presley Tyler Visitors Center. The concert will start with the **Louisville Mandolin Orchestra**, an acoustic ensemble performing instrumental music and continue with the Hog Operation's supercharged bluegrass accompanied by smooth three-part harmony vocals. It's a sound you won't want to miss!

**Activities will take place at the homestead. \$10 for adults; \$5 for children 5- 12; children under 5 are free.**

## \*Spooky Spirits of Summer: Ghost Stories in the Barn

*Saturday, July 26, 8 pm*

Master storyteller Thomas Freese will tell some not-too spooky tales in Blackacre's historic barn. There's no better place to get your imagination excited about eerie spirits! This is an event you won't want to miss!

Appropriate for ages 5 and up.

**Meet in the barn. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

## Drought-Tolerant Natives

*Sunday, August 10, 2 pm*

Around since before the first settlers arrived, native plants have adapted themselves to survive dry summer conditions and even drought. Natalie George, manager of native plant production and propagation for Shooting Star Nursery in Georgetown, Kentucky, will describe and show examples of some of the most drought tolerant native perennials, shrubs and trees. An assortment of Shooting Star native plants will be available for sale.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet in the Visitors Center. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**

**\*Create Fun Bird Feeders and Birdbaths!**

*Saturday, August 16, 10-noon*

Attracting a variety of wild birds to your yard is easy when you provide food and water for them. Come to Blackacre for a fun afternoon and make a unique bird feeder or birdbath. We'll use recycled materials such as plastic soda bottles and milk cartons, as well as natural materials like pine cones and vines. Have fun and produce helpful things for your soon-to-be feathered friends. Appropriate for all ages.

**RSVP required – call 266-9802. Meet at the Schick Nature Center picnic tables. No Charge- Donations Appreciated.**