

# Lafayette Chapter News

Established April 1960

Lafayette Chapter, Kentucky Society Sons of the American Revolution



## What's Inside

Next Meeting	2
Who am I?	2
Events	3
Editorial	3
Color Guard	4
ROTC Awards	5
About Us	6

## Officers

President:  
Jim Strohmeier

Vice President:  
Del White

Secretary:  
Don Adams

Treasurer:  
Stephen Skinner

Registrar:  
Al Coleman

Historian:  
James Evans

Chaplain:  
Andy Alexander

## Remembering Blue Licks



Travis Wheeler as Jacob Stevens

Lafayette Chapter members were entertained by re-enactor Travis Wheeler at the May meeting held at Waveland Historic Site in Lexington. Wheeler was in character as Jacob Stevens, a participant at the Battle of Blue Licks. Stevens, and several others from the fort, went north to join forces with other frontiersmen to confront the Shawnee and British forces that had been raiding settlements in what was to become the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

He provided personal insight into events leading up to the battle then gave a description of the events as they unfolded. He also described the hasty retreat, the aftermath, and toll of the day.

Wheeler's presentation reminded us of the many sacrifices and hardships endured by our ancestors in the making of our free nation.

Wheeler, who has a degree in historical interpretation and outdoor education from Western Kentucky University, has worked in outdoor interpretations in Kentucky and Tennessee and has acted as consultant on period attire for movies, outdoor

interpretations, and other dramatic productions.

He has participated in re-enactments throughout the south but prefers the venue at Blue Licks. His preference is to portray a frontiersman but he occasionally slips into the roll of a British soldier when needed. Wheeler lives in Harrodsburg.

## Membership

Please, welcome new member Benjamin Johnson Mann who was approved effective May 26, 2010.

Also, John G., Charles O., and James R. Landon have submitted papers to

transfer from the Monmouth Chapter of the New Jersey Society to our chapter.

The Lafayette Chapter, at 75 members, will be Kentucky's third largest chapter behind the John Manire Chapter with 76 members.

## August Meeting

Kentucky's first settlement, Old Fort Harrod in Harrodsburg, has been chosen as our next meeting location. We will meet Saturday, August 28, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Ann McGinty Ordinary inside the fort. We have been granted the honor of meeting inside the exhibit at the ordinary on period benches and tables. We will be treated to wild boar stew and corn cakes or other period fare if the weather is unbearably hot. Cost is \$12 (includes fort admission and lunch).

From Lexington take the Bluegrass Parkway East to US 127 and turn south toward Harrodsburg & Danville and go about 15 miles. The fort is located at the corner of US 68 & 127 downtown. Turn right into the parking lot and walk up the steps into the fort. Tell the admissions clerk you are with SAR. After entering the fort, then turn left going past the schoolhouse to the far left corner, the site of the ordinary.



Old Fort Harrod

Preserving Kentucky's pioneer history, the fort has been reconstructed near the site of the original. Heavy timbers from stockade walls enclose the cabins and blockhouses. Interpreters in period-correct

clothing perform pioneer tasks such as woodworking, weaving, broom making, and blacksmithing and tend farm animals and gardens. Park Manager David Coleman, will appear in period attire just prior to the meal to tell stories of the hardships of frontier life.

## Who Am I?

I was born in Ireland on 01 Feb 1758 and immigrated to the Salisbury District of North Carolina as a young man. In July 1780 I enlisted at Rowan County, North Carolina, in Peter O'Neal's company, in the fight for independence from Great Britain.

When my enlistment was over, I re-enlisted on 01 Jan 1781 for twelve months as a Private in Captain William Cole's Company, North Carolina Line, commanded by Colonels Matthew Lock and William Lofton. I saw action in the Battles of Cowen's Ford, Camden, Guilford Court House, Eutaw Spring, and Hughanne, where I was wounded.

I received a pension for my military service under claim S32259.

I married Elizabeth "Betty" Trambel of North Carolina in 1784. We moved to the western part of Virginia, which was to later to become Pike County, Kentucky, settling on Johns Creek. There we began

raising a large family. Later, my wife Betty and I and the smaller children moved to Edgar County, Illinois, which is located just west of the Wabash River. We lived there the remainder of our lives. We are buried in the Old Baptist Cemetery there, and my grave is marked with a DAR Plaque honoring me as a Revolutionary War Patriot.

One of our sons became judge of Pike County, Kentucky, during the era of the War Between the States.

Many of our descendants still live in Pike County, Kentucky, as well as Edgar County, Illinois.

I am William Gannon, patriot ancestor of Colonel Albert Coleman.

**Tell your patriot ancestor's story here in our next edition. Send your story to [dbwhite3@mac.com](mailto:dbwhite3@mac.com) today.**

## Upcoming Events

Please make checks payable to Lafayette SAR Chapter and mail to TREASURER, 1112 Aderly Ln., Frankfort, KY 40601-8474 to arrive by the August 23 registration deadline.

**July 3: Independence Day Parade, Wilmore, KY (a day early)** Color guard and members to march in parade.

**July 19: Board of Managers Meeting. 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.** Location: Lexington Public Library Beaumont Branch, Fieldstone Way Topic: Planning meeting for 2011, Consider changes to constitution, nominate officers, discuss recent survey.

**August 28: Quarterly Membership Meeting. 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Location: Ann McGinty's Ordinary, Old Fort Harrod State Park. Wild Boar stew and corn cakes for lunch \$ 12 (includes fort admission) Reservation required by Tuesday, August 23.

Check our website regularly! Regional and statewide events, last minute updates and special activities will be posted at <http://www.lafayettekyssar.org/events.htm> or <http://www.lafayettekyssar.org/SAR2010N.pdf> for our year at a glance calendar.

## From Point Pleasant to Blue Licks by John Burch



John Burch

An old mountain ballad told a stirring story of the first battle of the American Revolution:

*Brave Lewis our Colonel,  
an officer bold,  
At the mouth of the  
Kanawah did the  
Shawnees behold  
On the tenth of October,  
at the rising sun,  
The armies did meet and  
the battle begun.*

Today, the claim of Revolutionary primacy for the 1774 Battle of Point Pleasant is greeted with, at best, smiling condescension, but what truly mattered, at the time, were the perceptions of the participants.

John Murray, Lord Dunmore, the royal governor of Virginia, ordered General Andrew Lewis to lead a column of some 1,100 Virginia militiamen from Camp Union (now Lewisburg, West Virginia) over the mountains and down the Kanawha River to rendezvous with Dunmore's own force of some 1,500 men wending their way from Fort Pitt (now Pittsburgh) down the Ohio River to the confluence of the two rivers at Point Pleasant.

Through the early morning mists, the Shawnee army of the great war chief Cornstalk struck the Virginians in a desperate, hand-to-hand struggle killing 75 and wounding

140, nearly a fifth of the Virginian's fighting force. Nevertheless, by the end of the day, the colonials owned the field. The Shawnee's much-depleted army fled northward, up the Scioto Valley to surrender to Lord Dunmore, rather than face Lewis' vengeful Virginians at Point Pleasant.

The governor, personally, intercepted the general's pursuit of the Shawnee, and ordered him to return to Point Pleasant. Dunmore's surrender terms to the Shawnee were most generous, leading Col. John Stuart, who served under Gen. Lewis, to opine that "Dunmore acted as a party to British politicians who wished to incite an Indian war which might prevent or distract the Virginia colony from growing grievances with England." Lewis himself came to believe that Lord Dunmore had conspired with the Shawnees in an effort to destroy Virginia's Over-Mountain Militia prior to the impending conflict with Great Britain, thereby explaining the relish with which he drove Dunmore from Virginia. The general himself, fired the first cannon in the Battle of Gwynn's Island, in Chesapeake Bay, on 9 of July, 1776. So devastating was the destruction meted out to the British fleet, fortifications, and forces by the Virginia Militia, their last royal governor was compelled to set sail for England, never to return.

We might safely conclude, at that point in time, that General Lewis, Colonel Stewart, and Governor Dunmore viewed the battle of Point Pleasant to have been the first battle of the American Revolution

## Color Guard

The Lafayette Chapter Color Guard participated in its first official public event at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 27, 2010 when it assisted the Jemima Johnson Chapter NSDAR by posting the colors at a ceremony placing a historical marker for Revolutionary War Soldier Lt. Joseph Pugh, Virginia Militia, and his wife, Elizabeth Hunt Pugh. Compatriots Wayne Bussell, Don Adams, Del White and Color Guard Commander Greg Hodge presented the colors at the grave in the Joseph Pugh - Samuel Ewalt Cemetery on the family farm located on US 27 in Paris, Ky.

After the Lafayette Chapter Color Guard posted The Colors, Jemima Johnson Chapter Regent, Carolyn Ratliff Krist lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and delivered her opening remarks.



**Sharon Mayne Withers,  
Ky State Regent DAR**

Next, Sharon Maine Withers, Kentucky state regent, followed with a welcome from the Kentucky DAR.

Kay Kuster Thomas, Jemima Johnson Chapter chaplain, provided the invocation. Elizabeth S. Johnson, chapter historian, told the story of those honored.

During the ceremony, Krist said, "We the members of the Jemima Johnson Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, now dedicate these markers in grateful

recognition of the service of Lt. Joseph Pugh, a patriot of the American Revolution and his wife Elizabeth." Krist concluded by stating, "In honoring Lt. Joseph Pugh and Elizabeth, we also pay tribute to all men and women who have served our country with integrity and devotion. We dedicate ourselves anew to a faithful stewardship of the blessings we enjoy today".

Living descendants of Joseph and Elizabeth Pugh include Mary Perkins Bishop, Clint Hamm, Tom Hamm, Barbara Kerns, Dewey Kuster III, Judy Kuster, Sug Kuster, Walter



**Carolyn Ratliff Krist, regent, and Kay Kuster Thomas, chaplain, of  
the Jemima Johnson Chapter DAR**

Thomas Perkins, Chad Ashley Price, Lewis Price, Adrian Pugh, Adair Wolfinbarger, Duff E. Wolfinbarger, Bruce Wornall, Hume Wornall, Hume Payton Warnall, Parker Wornall, Dr. Perry Wornall, Sam Wornall, Steve Wornall and Tom Wornall,

Ms. Thomas, chapter chaplain, then unveiled the marker as Don Kerby played Taps.

Color Guard Commander Greg Hodge said, "The LaFayette Chapter Color Guard was honored to have the opportunity to support the DAR in this important event." Hodge also said, "We look forward to participating in more events such as this in the future."

*Photos for event courtesy of Holly Hodge.*



**Elizabeth S. Johnson, historian  
Jemima Johnson Chapter DAR**

## ROTC Awards



Compatriot John Burch and AFROTC Cadet Troy Menlow

Each year, numerous awards are given in the name of the Lafayette Chapter KYSSAR that go unnoticed by most of our member compatriots.

The essay and oration contests get much deserved time and attention as they are held in front of an audience at the February chapter meeting.

However, ROTC awards are presented at ceremonies in the Cadet's own school, during school hours, and simply fall under the radar for most of us.

This article attempts to recognize 2010 award winners and spotlight the

tireless, behind the scenes effort of Compatriot John Birch. As ROTC / JROTC Chairman, he has awarded four silver and nine bronze metals so far this year.

John has presented certificates and medals to high school and college level cadets. He has traveled as far away as Morehead and as close as Madison Central in his home town of Richmond. Burch was present at all but one of the events listed below:

- March 30, Madison Central HS: bronze to JROTC Cadet Jordan Phelps
- March 30, Madison Central HS: Bronze to Cadet Jaliqua Vandiver
- April 17, Montgomery County HS: Bronze to JROTC Cadet Branden Moyer.
- April 22, University of Kentucky, Silver to UK AFROTC Cadet Troy Menlow.
- April 23, Harrison County High School, Bronze to JROTC Cadet Tara Markland.
- April 27, Henry Clay HS, Lexington, Bronze to JROTC Cadet Shane Riley.
- April 28, University of Kentucky, Silver to ROTC Cadet Mark McCormick.
- April 29, Eastern Kentucky University: Silver to ROTC Cadet Luke Bourland.
- April 30, Morehead State University: Silver to ROTC Cadet Matthew Doyle.
- May 4, Scott County HS: Bronze to AFJROTC Cadet Samuel Reihmer.
- May 13, Madison Southern HS: Bronze to AFJROTC Cadet Brandon Isaacs.
- May 13, George Rogers Clark HS: Bronze to JROTC Cadet Tristan Shuler.
- May 14, Bryan Station HS: Bronze to AFJROTC Cadet Zacchary Workman

“Respect for our national symbol, the American Flag” and our ancestors who served and struggled during the fight for independence is a cornerstone of SAR.

### Some Regional Dar Contacts:

Sharon M. Withers, Regent  
Kentucky State DAR

Patricia Kimbrell  
Capt. John McKinley Chapter

Sarah Hamilton, Regent  
Lexington Chapter  
hsarahf625@aol.com

Donna Hughes  
Transylvania Chapter

Anne Scott, Regent  
Capt John Walker Chapter  
annescott@insightbb.com

Anne Scott  
Capt. John Waller Chapter

Donna T. Durbin  
Bryan Station Chapter

Ann Fuller  
Jemima Johnson Chapter

Mary Margaret Gridley  
Trabu Chapter

Missy Wood  
Gen. Marquis Calmes Chapter

Leslie Miller  
Hart Chapter

Kathryn Cosby  
Boonesboro Chapter

Nancy Peel, Regent  
Jemima Boone Chapter

Fielda Looney  
Jane McAfee Chapter

Ann Jester Pennington  
St. Asaph Chapter

For a complete list with contact information visit:  
<http://www.kentuckydar.org/>

**National Society  
Sons of the  
American Revolution**

100 South Fourth St.  
Louisville, KY 40203  
(502)-589-1776

<http://www.sar.org>

Lafayette Chapter News  
is Published Quarterly

Del White, Editor  
875 Cornishville Rd  
Harrodsburg, KY 40330

TOLL FREE:  
(888)716-4396

E-MAIL:  
[dbwhite3@mac.com](mailto:dbwhite3@mac.com)

**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

<http://www.lafayettekysar.org>

## About our Organization

The Sons of the American Revolution is the leading male lineage society that perpetuates the ideals of the war for independence.

As a historical, educational, and patriotic non-profit corporation, we seek to maintain and expand the meaning of patriotism, respect for our national symbols, the value of American citizenship, and the unifying force of "e pluribus unum" that was created from the people of many nations -- one nation and one people.

You must first be accepted into the National Society proving lineage to a patriot before joining state and local chapters. Please, contact us if you are interested in joining our organization.

*SAR Pledge: "We the descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principals of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe."*

875 Cornishville Road  
Harrodsburg, KY 40330  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

