

Lafayette Chapter News

Established April 1960

Lafayette Chapter, Kentucky Society Sons of the American Revolution



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Officers

President:
Jim Strohmeier

Vice President:
Del White

Secretary:
Don Adams

Treasurer:
Stephen Skinner

Registrar:
Al Coleman

Historian:
James Evans

Chaplain:
Andy Alexander

Old Fort Harrod Meeting



David Coleman, Park Manager

The August 28 quarterly meeting at Fort Harrod State Park was held inside the fort's compound, a stark visual reminder of how demanding everyday life was during the settling of Kentucky.

Not only did frontiersmen have to deal with the harsh realities of every day life in becoming completely self-reliant, they acted as militia, on call to action at a minute's notice, to deal with the threat of

Native American and British soldiers during the Revolutionary War.

Upon our arrival, Compatriots and guests from the Lafayette Chapter were greeted by park manager, David Coleman and historic interpreters Mary Barlow, Marilyn Allen and Patty Hall dressed in period attire.

Our business meeting was held in Ann McGinty's ordinary. Ratification of three constitutional changes was discussed then adopted. One increases annual chapter dues to \$15 effective with 2011 invoices.

After our business was concluded, we listened while Coleman reminded us of those sacrifices with stories of life at the fort. Ms. Barlow, Ms. Allen and Ms. Hall then served an era-appropriate meal of honeyed venison, corn gravy, boiled potatoes, green beans, and corn cakes. The meal was topped off with apple dumplings for dessert. Ms. Barlow said, "This meal was similar to what inhabitants relied on for their daily sustenance."

Harrodsburg grew out of the original fort complex built in 1774, becoming the first permanent settlement west of the Alleghenies. Many of our patriot ancestors traveled through there.

Membership

President Jim Strohmeier presented a SAR Rosette to new member Ben Mann at the August meeting at Fort Harrod. We have several prospective members with applications in process or under consideration by National.

The Lafayette Chapter, at 76 members, will be Kentucky's third largest chapter behind the 77-member John Manire Chapter. Kentucky's largest chapter is the Louisville-Thruston Chapter, with 336 members.

Annual Meeting at Duncan Tavern



Pictured above are some of the 2009 guests

The Duncan Tavern Historic Center in Paris, Kentucky is again the site of our December annual meeting. Our wonderful experience there in 2009 led us to request the use of the tavern again this year.

The orders of the day will be to elect officers for the upcoming two-year cycle. The chapter constitution dictates officers of our chapter serve two year terms beginning at the January or February meeting. A Compatriot holding the office of president cannot succeed himself and must sit out two years before being eligible for re-election to that position. Other officers are not so barred.

Duncan Tavern is currently the home of the Kentucky DAR and the John Fox Jr. Genealogical Library.

Our meeting is scheduled for 11 A.M. Saturday, December 11. Arrangements for our catered meal have not yet been finalized. Please check our website at <http://www.lafayettekyssar.org/events.htm> for up-to-date details, menu and program.

Reservations only, please. Seating is limited to 40, so send your check for \$30 per person to Treasurer, 1112 Aderly Ln, Frankfort, Ky. 40330 by December 2 to reserve your space.

Who Am I?

I am the son of THOMAS and RACHEL (HOWARD) HINTON born in November 1737 in Anne Arundel, Maryland. I married Margaret Howard and we bore seven children in Maryland and five in the part of Virginia that would eventually become Kentucky. I served in Ensign William Colvin's Company of Virginia Rangers during Colonel Henry Bouquet's campaign. I was eventually stationed at Fort Redstone overlooking the eastern shore of the Monongahela, appearing on the muster roll there on January 17, 1778.

Redstone was a frequent point of embarkation for travelers who had crossed the Alleghenies or were

heading westward via the Monogahela and Ohio rivers. A group under the command of James Harrod left the fort on May 25, 1774 to go down river to settle land in Kentucky but returned to the fort due to the threat of Shawnee.

I served at Redstone until I was legally discharged. I then returned to Mason County, Kentucky, before 1793. I lost my wife in Kentucky but married Nancy Roy on November 20, 1796. I fathered 13 children in my lifetime and died on our 95-acre farm on the Waters of Fleming in Fleming County, Ky. My will was probated July 4, 1825. I am Vachel Hinton, patriot ancestor of Don Adams.

Upcoming Events

October 21: Special Called Membership Meeting. 7 - 8 p.m. Location: Beaumont Branch - Lexington Public Library to name an officer nominating committee & discuss year end reports and submissions.

Continued on Page 3

Events cont'd

November 4: Quarterly Membership Meeting. 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Location: Lexington Country Club, 2250 Paris Pike, Lexington. Our chapter and the Lexington, Hart and Transylvania Chapters DAR will co-host a Salute to Veterans. Keynote speaker Jim Wallace, retired from the Kentucky Historical Society, will speak on the topic "The Military Band". The Lafayette Chapter will post and retire the colors. Send your \$20 check payable to KSDAR, writing SAR in the memo line to: Lexie Hammer, 1912 Baltimore Road., Lexington, Ky. 40502-9529 by October 26 for reservation.

December 11: Annual Meeting. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Location: Duncan Tavern, Paris, KY. Please make checks payable to Lafayette SAR Chapter and mail to Treasurer, 1112 Aderly Lane., Frankfort, Ky. 40601-8474 to arrive by December 2.

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

From Point Pleasant to Blue Licks by John Burch



John Burch

Despite today's common assertion that the Battle of Blue Licks was the last battle of the American Revolution, contemporary Virginians were under no such illusion. Following that debacle, parties of Northwest Indians and their allied British Regulars and Rangers were raiding at will throughout western Virginia. In response, Gen. George Rogers Clark sold 3,500 acres of land to

personally finance an army of some 1,100 mounted riflemen. On November 4, 1782, the Virginians crossed the Ohio and torched the empty Shawnee Towns in revenge for Blue Licks. The Shawnee had melted away, refusing to fight such a superior force of the Shemanese, the "Long Knives." All knew they would return.

In a similar vein, few Virginians believed that Cornwallis' surrender had ended anything. As Gov. Benjamin Harrison wrote to Gen. Clark on Jan 13, 1783, "The British had called in all their scalping parties, and intended no more to carry out that kind of war against our back settlements. Whether they really mean as they say, time will discover. It has ever been my opinion that attacking them in their own country was the only way to keep them quiet and save expense."

His suspicions regarding British intentions and those of the Northwestern Tribes were justified. Even after the

signing of the Treaty of Paris on September 3, 1783, the British maintained major posts at Niagra and Detroit and a string of forts stretching from the St. Lawrence Valley to the Great Lakes to the Upper Mississippi. Indian villages were associated with all.

Nine years later, those installations and villages were still there, and Indians were still raiding into Kentucky. Regular Army numbers in the west had dwindled to 750 officers and men. To raise, equip, train and pay a new U.S. Army of 5,000 regulars, Congress appropriated \$1,026,477.05. To command this new army, President George Washington appointed a Revolutionary War hero, "Mad Anthony" Wayne, promoting him to major general on June 14, 1792, Wayne established his headquarters at Ft. Pitt to develop and deploy a 2,500-man force to eliminate the Northwestern Indian threat once and for all.

Two years later, on July 28, 1794, Wayne was ready, marching out of Greenville with an army of 2,200 regulars and 2,400 Kentuckians under the command of Gen. Charles Scott. Near the British Fort Miamis, on the Maumee River, was a wilderness area known as Fallen Timbers. Here, on August 17, 1794, the Indian force of about 2,000 chose to make its stand. The battle lasted about 15 minutes. The Indians fled to Fort Maimis and begged for help from the British Regulars inside. The gate remained closed. The last battle of the American Revolution was over, and the Long Knives had won it. Wayne imposed upon the 12 decisively defeated tribes of the Northwest Territory the Treaty of Greenville, which confined them to the northern half of Ohio, ending for good the Indian threat to Kentucky.

Color Guard

The Lafayette Chapter Color Guard participated in its second public event in as many weeks at 10 a.m. July 3, 2010, when it marched in the City of Wilmore's Independence Day Parade.

"The Color Guard was originally envisioned as an internal support group providing the service of posting the colors at chapter meetings," said Color Guard Commander Greg Hodge. He went on to say, "But our recent appearances have given me a greater appreciation for the value of a public presence for our chapter."

Compatriots Don Adams, Del White and state and chapter President Jim Strohmeier echoed Hodge's sentiment adding how rewarding it was to see young children and adults alike come to attention when the American flag passes in review.

It has become clear that public appearances enhance SAR's chance of survival in the future and are a perfect mechanism for recruitment for our chapter. It also addresses a core value of SAR by remembering the sacrifices and hardships of our patriot ancestors. It has become equally apparent that a core group of five or six is not a large enough group to make many appearances.

This is a call to Lafayette Chapter members to consider joining our ranks. If we have a larger group to call upon, demands on any one individual will be minimized.

The annual memorial of the Battle of Blue Licks, sponsored by the Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter KYSSAR, was held August 21, 2010, at the Blue Licks State Resort Park. A luncheon was held at the Worthington Lodge during which the Rev. Forrest B. Chilton received volunteer of the year from the David Cartmill representing the Blue Licks Commemorative Commission, a non-

profit organization dedicated to the advancement of the history and heritage of the battlefield.

Afterwards, Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter members were joined by compatriots from the Simon Kenton, William Arnold and Lafayette Chapters KYSSAR to commemorate the battle and honor those who lost their lives that day by laying wreaths at the base of the monument located near the battlefield.

Also presenting wreaths were The Kentucky Society Children of the American Revolution, the Limestone Society CAR, and the Phillip Hammond Chapter CAR.

Dignitaries in attendance included NSSAR Vice President Paul Wilke, Tennessee Society SAR President Rick D. Hollis, West Virginia Society SAR President Lance Carter and Kentucky Society SAR President Jim Strohmeier.

KYSSAR past presidents David Cartmill and Preston T. Higgins, II. also participated with their respective chapters.

Color Guard members Don Adams, Del White and Color Guard Commander Greg Hodge represented the LaFayette Chapter at the event. Hodge and his two sons lent a hand and presented the Phillip Hammond Chapter CAR wreath.

August 27, 2010, color guard member Del White joined members of the GIS and John Manire chapters to honor patriots Alexander Scott Bullitt and William Christian at a grave-marking ceremony held in their honor in Louisville.

September 17, 2010 color guard members White and Strohmeier attended a wreath laying ceremony for Tennessee's first Governor John Sevier in Knoxville and "The Gathering at Sycamore Shoals" the next day.



Don Adams, Del White, Jim Strohmeier and Greg Hodge. Front row: Boy Scouts Hunter Manton and Logan Rasnick. Photo Courtesy of Holly Hodge



White, Adams & Hodge at Blue Licks Photo courtesy of Jim Strohmeier

Chapter Objectives: An Editorial

In 1960 the founding fathers of the LaFayette Chapter spent considerable hours authoring our chapter constitution, the foundation of our existence. Not only did the constitution elaborate on the when and how of the chapter, but enumerated ten reasons why our chapter should be in existence. The ten reasons to exist held high importance, as evidenced by their prominence as the first section in the constitution.

Today we may call such a list “goals and objectives” but in 1960 they simply called them “Objects”. They are just as appropriate today as when they were written, and it would serve us well to refer to them often. Our chapter recently has dusted off our constitution, making several needed changes and intends to use it as the roadmap for our future. So, the question begs to be asked: How are we doing? Would our chapter’s charter members cheer “well done”? It looks like the subject of a series of articles on that subject is born. Let us start at the beginning with item one and conclude when all ten Objects have been covered.

The first object states, *“To perpetuate the memory of the men and women who, by their services and sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution achieved the independence of the United States.”*

On the surface this seems a simple task but when you realize the effort required to research and document that story it becomes evident that the truth is quite to the contrary. It also becomes equally evident that such a daunting task, once completed, should not be filed away or placed on a dusty shelf never to be heard of again.

Succinctly put, this is a core belief and the very reason potential members of the SAR go through the time consuming process of establishing their lineage as a prerequisite for acceptance into our society. Once you are aware of your patriot ancestor’s story, it is your duty to retell it, and retell it often. This publication continues to publish an article titled “Who Am I” as a way of retelling the sometimes forgotten stories of a compatriots patriot ancestor. This is just one small way we, as members, and collectively as a chapter, strive to meet this first object. I invite you to participate by sending information on your patriot ancestor to be included in this publication. Don’t know the whole story? Send what you know. I guarantee it will make interesting reading. Who knows, another member may be able to fill in some of the blanks.

During recent conversations with members of other Kentucky chapters, I have come to realize that there is more than one story to tell for each compatriot. I have spoken to several who have made the connection to more than 20 patriots. With little effort, I have identified five potential ancestors that also served our country during the time of the Revolution. Some, like my original patriot ancestor, performed public service, some donated supplies, some fought in local militia and some have been documented serving in the Continental Line.

I intend to go through the process to research each currently identified as a potential supplemental patriot ancestor: Not because each will entitle me to a star on my SAR insignia ribbon, but because it will help me better understand from whom I came. If that were not enough motivation, documenting additional ancestor information might open the door for others to join. I encourage you to do the same.

To be continued next month.

“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.

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

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We're on the Web!

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<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."

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

