

# The Kentucky Pioneer

Volume 20, Issue 1



Spring 2024



## State Officers

Steve McCain  
President

Patrick Wesolosky  
President-Elect

Richard Quire  
Vice President

Steve Vest  
Secretary

Doug Collins  
Treasurer

Currently Vacant  
Recording Secretary

Del White  
Registrar

Steve Gahafer  
Genealogist

Joe Hendricks, Jr.  
Chancellor

Currently Vacant  
Historian

Tom Burchett, M.D.  
Surgeon

Rev. James Gearhart  
Chaplain

Dick Bierman  
Assistant Treasurer

Tim Brown  
National Trustee

Scott Giltner  
Alternate National Trustee

# THE PRESIDENT'S PARCHMENT

*Compatriots of the Kentucky Society,*

*It is my honor to accept the position of State President during the 2024/2025 term. In the time since I started as KYSSAR Vice President, I have worked with many of you. I have made many friends and expect to make many more. In case we have not met as yet, let me introduce myself.*



*I am a Christian, son, brother, husband, father and grandfather. I am currently a Project Manager for the Cummins Meritor Inc. where I just completed my 25th year with the company. My hobbies include wood working, painting and playing music.*

*I just had an inspiring trip to SAR Leadership on March 2nd. If you have not attended this event I highly recommend it. Some of the recent topics raised were: Student Video Contest being added to the youth contest, chapter tool kits on the national site and officer training now being developed*

*President Brown started training programs within our own Society this past year and this will continue in the coming year. We need to take advantage of this training. Taking a leadership position is challenging but I feel we only grow as a person if we push ourselves beyond what we think we can do. As we enter this term together, I ask that you look at what we can do together to make the KYSSAR the best it has ever been.*

*I am so impressed with my fellow state officers that are joining me on this mission. Each individual is working on ways to improve the KYSSAR. My dad always said, if you are given something to borrow, make sure you give it back in better condition than when you received it. We all want that, so we can have continuous improvement for years to come. The officers are just part of what will make our Society successful. The rest is up to you. So find a committee to join. WE NEED YOUR HELP!*

*I would like to thank President Tim Brown for his leadership over this past year and wish him success on his future endeavors.*

## The Kentucky Pioneer

Tommy Druen, Editor  
Steve McCain, Assistant Editor

THE KENTUCKY PIONEER is published quarterly (March, June, September, December) and copyrighted by the Kentucky Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, 500 Browns Lane, Louisville, KY 40207. Membership dues include The Kentucky Pioneer. Products and services advertised do not carry KSSAR endorsement. The Kentucky Society reserves the right to reject content of any copy.

# Editor's Note



As we all know, the United States may have officially begun with the Declaration of Independence, but there was much that led up to the point where our founders felt that document necessary. This next month marks the 250th anniversary of a pivotal chapter in our nation's narrative – the Intolerable Acts of 1774. These legislative measures, crafted in response to the Boston Tea Party, bear an enduring relevance, offering insights into the challenges that persist in our contemporary society.

The Intolerable Acts represent a manifestation of British authority seeking to suppress colonial dissent. Comprising the Boston Port Act, Massachusetts Government Act, Administration of Justice Act, and the Quartering Act, these measures were designed to quell growing unrest and assert imperial control.

Despite the apparent remoteness of the Intolerable Acts, their relevance persists in debates over the balance between individual liberties and governmental authority. Modern discussions on privacy, surveillance, and executive power reflect the concerns that fueled colonial resistance. The Intolerable Acts caution against democratic erosion in the face of overreach.

The economic implications of the Boston Port Act, shutting down the port until restitution for the destroyed tea was made, parallel contemporary economic policy discussions. Striving for equitable measures that mitigate disproportionate impacts on specific sectors or communities aligns with lessons from the Intolerable Acts.

Similarly, the Massachusetts Government Act's impact on local governance prompts reflection on the risks of centralized power. Our era grapples with questions of decentralization. The Intolerable Acts underscore the significance of fostering a system that accommodates local autonomy.

The Administration of Justice Act, allowing colonial officials to be tried in England for offenses committed in the colonies, underscores the need for a fair and impartial legal system. In the contemporary landscape, discussions on judicial independence and the equitable administration of justice persist. The Intolerable Acts remind us to uphold due process and the rule of law in the face of evolving challenges.

Lastly, the Quartering Act, mandating the colonies to provide for British troops, sparks contemplation on the appropriate limits of government. Modern-day questions about the government's role and its potential impact on civil liberties align with guidance from the Intolerable Acts.

The Intolerable Acts of 1774 invite us to glean timeless lessons from our forefathers' resistance. As stewards of the legacy of those who fought for liberty, let us remain vigilant in preserving the democratic ideals, justice, and individual freedoms that define our nation. Through steadfast commitment, we ensure a more promising future for generations to come.

*Tommy Druen*

# Member Profile

## Robert Silverthorn



**Major General Robert S. Silverthorn, Jr. of the Louisville Thruston Chapter**

On a cool December day in Oklahoma City, in the post-war year of 1948, a child named Robert Silverthorn, Jr. was born into a family deeply rooted in military history. The grandson of a career Marine Corps officer, Bob's journey to service was intricately woven into the fabric of his family's past, stretching back to the days of the American Revolution.

Like many Marine families, Bob's early years were marked by constant relocations—North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and Hawaii—all part of the nomadic lifestyle inherent in military service. The Silverthorn family had a legacy of military service dating back to the American

Revolutionary War, through the Civil War, with his great-grandfather fighting in the Army of the Potomac and his grandfather being highly decorated in the Marine Corps in World War I and for service in World War II and the Korean War..

Bob's life changed as his father, a veteran of the Korean War, made the pivotal decision to leave active duty. This choice shaped Bob's youth, leading him through various high schools in different states, culminating in his graduation from Mt. Lebanon High School in Pittsburgh, PA. It was during this time that he accepted Christ, which according to him was the most important decision in his life.

Embracing leadership and teamwork through Boy Scouts and sports, Bob navigated the challenges of being the new kid, forging connections in each new school. His experiences in scouting and athletics provided a foundation for camaraderie and leadership skills, proving invaluable in his future military career.

In 1966, armed with a solid education from Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA, where he majored in American Studies, Bob embarked on a dual path—law and military service. Joining Army ROTC on the persuasion of his fraternity big brother, his ROTC career was anything but conventional, showcasing his versatility from bass drummer to ROTC Battalion Commander.

Commissioned as a second lieutenant in Military Intelligence, Bob's path diverged from his initial plan to enter the Judge Advocate General Corps. The Army had different plans, deploying him to Vietnam. After his combat tour, Bob made the decision to leave active duty, transitioning to the Army Reserves while attending the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, where he graduated early and entered the legal profession.

Reflecting on his decision to join the U.S. Army, Bob emphasized the familial calling and the transformative era of the 1960s. While he didn't make the military a lifelong career, his commitment persisted through the Army Reserves, contributing to the rebuilding of the American Army over the next two decades.

# Member Profile

Bob's military journey spanned from the Cold War to Hot Wars, with roles commanding at various levels, including two Division commands. His reflections on the treatment of veterans highlighted the evolving societal attitudes and the challenges faced by those returning from Vietnam.

Post-retirement, Bob delved into law, serving as the Inspector General of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, showcasing his commitment to public service. Additionally, he chaired the Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs and the Kentucky Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, contributing to the veteran community.



**Major General Robert S. Silverthorn speaking at an event in Louisville to honor veterans.**

during parades and memorial events to participating in veterans' ceremonies, Bob has emphasized the importance of honoring the sacrifices made by both Revolutionary ancestors and contemporary service members.

Joining the Sons of the American Revolution in 2014, Bob found a new community connected by a shared commitment to the nation's history. His involvement in SAR activities, including leadership positions, reflected his dedication to preserving the legacy of the Revolutionary Era.

Looking forward, Bob has advocated for the SAR's continued efforts to honor veterans of all eras. From recognizing military service

Major General Robert Silverthorn's life journey is a testament to the enduring spirit of service and sacrifice. From his early years shaped by a military legacy to a career spanning over four decades, Bob's commitment to his country and its history remains unwavering. As he continues to contribute through legal practice and SAR involvement, Bob stands as a living embodiment of the principles of duty, honor, and country that have guided his remarkable life.

## Vietnam Veterans

The United States began its involvement in the Vietnam War Aug. 5, 1964. The era ended May 7, 1975, by order of President Gerald Ford. During the 11-year campaign, approximately 2.7 million American men and woman served; of those, 58,220 died and 153,000 were wounded. Today, there are fewer than 850,000 living Vietnam War veterans.

As of April 14, 2017, there are 1,611 Americans still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War across Vietnam (1,258), Laos(297), Cambodia(49), and China(7).



# State Society News



## New Members!



### Big Sandy Chapter

Lonnie Wayne Brooks  
Roger Dean Ford  
Edward Godsey

### Colonel James Harrod

Andrew McGrath Yocum  
Joseph Grant Yocum, III  
Seth Hartman Yocum

### Lt. Robert Moseley

Patrick John McClure

### Captain Charles Gatliff

Mitchell Brandon Anderson

### Governor Isaac Shelby

Timothy Edward Taylor

### Louisville Thruston

Kevin Dale Bratcher

### Colonel Daniel Boone

David Earl Fleenor

### Lafayette

Blaine Benjamin Adams  
Michael Davis Rankin



## Message from Immediate Past President Tim Brown

With the conclusion of the Kentucky Society of the Sons of the American Revolution's Annual Meeting in Burlington, Kentucky, I completed my year as the Society's State President. This past year has been one of the most rewarding times in my life, and I want to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have supported me and those in my administration.

It was my hope as president that the Society would become more inclusive, more active, and more transparent...and I am confident that 'together' we have accomplished those objectives. I know that the Society has been left in very capable hands, as the new administration is composed of the best the Society has to offer. I am so looking forward to all that they will accomplish, and I ask that each of you support President Steve McCain the way you have supported me. HUZDAH!

# State Society News



During the Kentucky Society's spring meeting held on March 8th, a pivotal agenda item took center stage, focusing on the essential task of electing officers.

These compatriots have demonstrated an unwavering commitment through their steadfast resolve, and exemplified a profound readiness to shoulder the mantle of leadership responsibilities. These individuals have, time and again, showcased not only their exceptional qualities but also their selfless dedication to advancing the noble goals and missions of the Sons of the American Revolution.



**Steve McCain**  
President



**Patrick Wesolosky**  
President Elect



**Richard Quire**  
Vice-President



**Steve Vest**  
Secretary



**Doug Collins**  
Treasurer



**Del White**  
Registrar



**Steve Gahafer**  
Genealogist



**Hon. Joe Hendricks**  
Chancellor



**Dr. Thomas Burchett**  
Surgeon



**Rev. James Gearhart**  
Chaplain



**Dick Bierman**  
Assistant Treasurer



**Tim Brown**  
Trustee



**Scott Giltner**  
Alternate Trustee

Note:  
The Trustee &  
Alternate  
Trustee positions  
are nominated,  
but elected at the  
2024 National  
Congress

Additionally,  
Immediate Past  
President Tim  
Brown was  
nominated as  
VPG for the  
Central District.

# State Society News



## 2024 YOUTH AWARDS

### Elementary Poster

1st - Wally L.

Mary Queen of Haven School  
Simon Kenton Chapter

2nd - Lucas L.

Mary Queen of Haven School  
Simon Kenton Chapter

3rd - Emmie B.

Mary Queen of Haven School  
Simon Kenton Chapter

### Knight Essay

1st - Lofton S.

Somerset High School  
Lafayette Chapter

2nd - Joelle M.

Murphy Home School  
Simon Kenton Chapter

3rd - Joshua M.

Bowling Green High School  
Col. Benjamin Logan Chapter

### Rumbaugh Oration

1st - Ariel F.

Ryle High School  
Simon Kenton Chapter

Note: Surnames  
are initialized for  
privacy reasons.



### Middle Brochure

1st - Cate S.

Blessed Sacrament School  
Simon Kenton Chapter

2nd - Maggie L.

Blessed Sacrament School  
Simon Kenton Chapter

3rd - Josie U.

Blessed Sacrament School  
Simon Kenton Chapter

### JROTC

1st - Jonathan Paul M.

Henry Clay High School  
Lafayette Chapter

2nd - Mackinzy M.

Harrison County High School  
Blue Licks Chapter

### Eagle Scout

1st - Patrick R.

Church of the Ascencion  
Col. Daniel Boone Chapter

# State Society News



## ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION



Gathering in the spirit of camaraderie and celebration, the Kentucky Society held its award ceremony, an event that marks the culmination of a year's worth of dedication and service, at the recent annual meeting. This special occasion provides a platform to honor and recognize the outstanding contributions of SAR members who have demonstrated unwavering commitment to the organization's mission and principles. We invite you to join us in applauding these individuals whose passion for preserving our nation's history resonates within every corner of our beloved Commonwealth.



**John Doss (center) receives his award from Steve McCain (left) and Tim Brown (right)**

### Patriot Medal

Steve McCain  
Patrick Wesolosky

### Silver Distinguished Service Medal

Richard Quire

### Silver Meritorious Medal

Tommy Druen  
Joe Hendricks  
Steve Vest

### Silver Roger Sherman Medal

Bill DeHaven  
John Doss  
Ed Keeton

### State Color Guardsman of the Year

John Doss

### Silver Henry Knox Medal

Patrick Berry  
Douglas Collins  
Scott Giltner  
Steve Mallory  
Del White

### Youth Education Medal

John Doss  
Scott Giltner  
Melvin Rowe  
Rod Smothers

# State Society News

## Knight Essay

GEORGE & STELLA  
KNIGHT



ESSAY CONTEST

This year's state winner of the George & Stella Knight Essay Contest is Mr. Lofton Spaw, a junior at Somerset High School.

Lofton's essay centered around the life of Major General Baron von Steuben. A copy of the essay is printed here below.

### **Baron von Steuben: The Personification of Mars**

In his inaugural address delivered on January 20, 1961, President John F. Kennedy urged Americans to "Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country." A short distance away in Lafayette Park stood the bronze statue of Baron Friedrich Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Augustin von Steuben, the very embodiment of service and American ideals. The Baron came to America seeking an opportunity to serve; he found it in his greatest achievement—helping America win the Revolutionary War and laying a foundation for the United States military for generations to come.

Given no guarantees coming to America, all Steuben had was his willingness to fight for the cause. He did not ask what his country could do for him but served the country he would help to establish. Without Steuben's sacrifice and service to securing American liberty, it is likely there never would have been a United States of America, a national capital named in honor of Washington, and perhaps no President Kennedy himself.

Under the command of Frederick the Great, Steuben served in the Prussian military as a second lieutenant at the start of the Seven Years' War, becoming a captain by the war's end. In 1777, Steuben set out for France where he met Benjamin Franklin, who believed America would benefit from the services of a strong military leader like Steuben. In a letter to Congress, Franklin embellished Steuben's record and introduced him as a higher-ranking officer in the Prussian army, "a Lieutenant General in the King of Prussia's Service." Franklin boasted that Steuben had "attended in all [the King's] Campaigns, being his Aide Camp, Quartermaster General." For his part, Steuben volunteered his services to General Washington and the American patriots. In a letter to Washington dated December 1777, Steuben wrote that his "greatest ambition" was to "render your Country all the Services in [his] Power, and to deserve the title of the Citizen of America by fighting for the Cause of your Liberty." Impressed, Congress and General Washington invited the Baron to Valley Forge.

When the Baron arrived at Valley Forge on the cold, dark, and dreary afternoon of February 23rd, he did so with the self-assured flamboyancy of a Prussian nobleman who was as colorful as the weather was dreary. As a show of respect, Washington rode out to meet the Baron, uncertain of what to expect. Washington encountered a paunchy, balding, middle-aged officer riding a sleigh sporting twenty-four jingle bells and pulled

**Continued on next page**

# State Society News

## Knight Essay

by a posse of strong, night-colored Percheron horses moving about in synchronized motion, almost as if they were waltzing. As the Baron introduced himself to General Washington, he patted his Italian greyhound, Azor. (Steuben lovingly referred to him as a “damned rascal.”)

One Continental private recounted that the Prussian entered Valley Forge as the very “personification of Mars.” It is unsaid what Washington thought about Steuben with his fur-trimmed silk robe, black beaver bicorne, and double-holstered belt encompassing two large horse pistols, but the Baron made a good enough impression on Washington that he asked for the Baron’s advice on the state of the army.

The conditions surrounding the army at Valley Forge left only four thousand of the nine thousand men enrolled fit for duty. Seeing the state of the army, Steuben wrote a letter in disbelief: “The men are literally naked, some of them in the fullest extent of the word... With regard to their military discipline, I may safely say no such thing exists.” Without adequate shelter, proper clothing, and suitable rations, many soldiers suffered. Several weeks after Steuben’s arrival, General Washington informed Steuben he would be acting as “Inspector General, but in an un-official capacity.” By granting this un-official title, Washington expected Steuben to act on his own advice. Not only did Steuben advise Washington on how to fix problems with the soldiers, but also Steuben personally trained them, applying his training prowess to “turn a collection of disparately trained units into a battle ready, well-disciplined army.”



**Logan Spaw delivering his 1st place essay at the spring meeting.**

Training thousands of soldiers seemed impossible, even for an experienced army officer, but the magnitude of the job did not deter the Baron. Steuben reorganized divisions and regiments, ordered all officers living in distant quarters to come back to camp, established rosters and reports, and even set up a sanitary system to prevent the spread of diseases. Steuben discovered a shortcut to train the entire army by late spring: he trained handpicked veterans who would learn his tactics and become drill instructors. Steuben wrote lesson plans in French that were later translated into English and comprised what Steuben called the “Blue Book,” a breakthrough in military training and “the basic drill manual for American forces until 1812 and beyond.” This contribution made Steuben an integral part of the cause, putting his training tactics to use and leading to America winning the war.

Charged with training an amateur army of farmers, blacksmiths, teachers, and woodsmen, Steuben showed

# State Society News

## Knight Essay

them how to load and fire a gun properly, leaving no shortage of personality as he did so, stepping high in his burnished boots as he modeled drills. Although Steuben judged the soldiers at every turn, it made him no less popular—they loved him. His frustrated outbursts never offended them; if he cursed at them in German or French, in a mix of the two, or in broken English, the soldiers would smile and eventually perform the movements or maneuvers perfectly.

In September of 1781, the Continental army set out to siege Yorktown, in what would be a perilous fight that lasted about a month. Despite the odds, Steuben's training of citizen soldiers from every state led to an immense victory against a professional British military that was outfought and outlasted. American troops aided by the French forced Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown. As the British surrendered, Commander Washington rode in followed by his Generals. Steuben rode in the back wearing a worn blue coat. He could not contain the happiness he felt as a smile rushed over his battle-hardened face, his heart overflowing with pride. Celebrating American soldiers declared "we believe that Baron Steuben has made us soldiers, and we believe in the Blue Book..."

Though Steuben retired from the military in 1784, he never "retired from service to his adopted country." "An American for life," Steuben presented to Congress a plan for the future defense of the United States, recommending a standing army and navy backed by good equipment, officers trained in military schools, and soldiers trained in their communities. Steuben helped put this plan into effect, leading to the establishment of West Point and the Naval Academy.

Steuben's impact on the American Revolution and his training of citizen soldiers toward victory can be remembered forever near the White House where his statue, erected in 1910, stands in his honor. On the pedestal, the American people give their thanks: "IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICES TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR LIBERTY." Fifty-one years later, Kennedy delivered his inaugural address, almost speaking alongside Steuben, encouraging fellow Americans to pledge their service to the United States of America as "one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all."

*Lofton Spaw is currently a junior at Somerset High School where he serves as the president of the school's chapter of the Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society. He will be participating in National History Day this year, researching a documentary about the Wright Brothers. Lofton has an unweighted GPA of 3.9 on a 4.0 scale, and he is a member of the National Honor Society. Additionally, he serves as the vice president of the Beta Club.*

*Lofton is a member of the academic team and has competed in the Southeastern Kentucky Academic League, and the Kentucky Governor's Cup. For the past two years, Lofton has also been a member of the Somerset High School baseball team, and he is a major supporter of all Briar Jumper athletics. In his spare time, Lofton enjoys spending time with his friends and family, playing the guitar, and reading.*

# State Society News



## **Battle of Blue Licks Weekend August 16-18, 2024**

**Friday Aug 16, 2024 – Night Before Blue Licks Dinner, Speaker, and Trivia – Kentucky Society SAR – Blue Licks Battlefield State Park**

**Saturday Aug 17, 2024 - Memorial Service for the 242nd Anniversary of the Battle of Blue Licks – Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter – KYSSAR – Blue Licks Battlefield State Park**

**Saturday Aug 17, 2024 – Kentucky Society Lunch – Kentucky Society SAR - Blue Licks Battlefield State Park**

**Saturday Aug 17, 2024 - Kentucky Society Summer Meeting – Kentucky Society SAR - Blue Licks Battlefield State Park**

**Sunday Aug 18, 2024 – Five Patriot Grave Marking – Lafayette Chapter – KYSSAR – Lexington Cemetery**

**Event Information, Registration, and Contact Information is being added to the Kentucky Society Website and Calendar. Please check back regularly.**

**Please visit:**

**[www.kyssar.org](http://www.kyssar.org)**

**Click On**

**BATTLE OF BLUE LICKS WEEKEND**

# Guest Column

## Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty" Speech



**Dr. John A. Ragosta**  
**Historian**  
**Center for Jefferson Studies**  
**Monticello**

Most Americans have heard of Patrick Henry, but he is remembered almost exclusively for seven words that he spoke at St. John's Church in Richmond Virginia on March 23, 1775: "give me liberty, or give me death."

That is unfortunate.

As is usually the case, context is crucial. Understanding Henry's hard-fought battle to prepare the colonies for a revolution that he saw as inevitable is important if we wish to understand the founding of our nation.

Perhaps even more important, in a popular modern reading, Henry's speech has been grossly misinterpreted as an anti-government tirade demanding individual liberty over everything else; it has become a battle cry for anti-

government extremists who refuse to accept government decisions with which they disagree (even elections). But Henry was no anarchist. He was well-aware of the first rule in a republic: The majority rules. Henry also lived by the equally-important second rule: The minority must accept the first rule.

\* \* \* \* \*

When Henry rose to make his most famous speech, it was almost four weeks before the Battle of Lexington and Concord. Henry understood, though, that the dispute with Britain over who would control America would come down to a fight. He rose to urge Virginia to arm. He warned that Britain planned to impose its will with force.

Are fleets and armies necessary to a work of love and reconciliation?... These are the implements of war and subjugation—the last arguments to which kings resort.

With no representation in Parliament and no political alternatives, colonists had few choices.

We have petitioned—we have remonstrated—we have supplicated.... Our petitions have been slighted.... In vain...may we indulge the fond hope of peace and reconciliation.... The war has actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle?... Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains, and slavery?

The vote was close, but Henry was successful. Virginia began to arm for the coming conflict. The "Trumpet of

# Guest Column

the American Revolution” became the first colonel in Virginia’s new military before he resigned in disgust when the political leadership slighted him. (When many of his men threatened to resign over the way he had been treated, Henry urged them to continue to support the cause.)

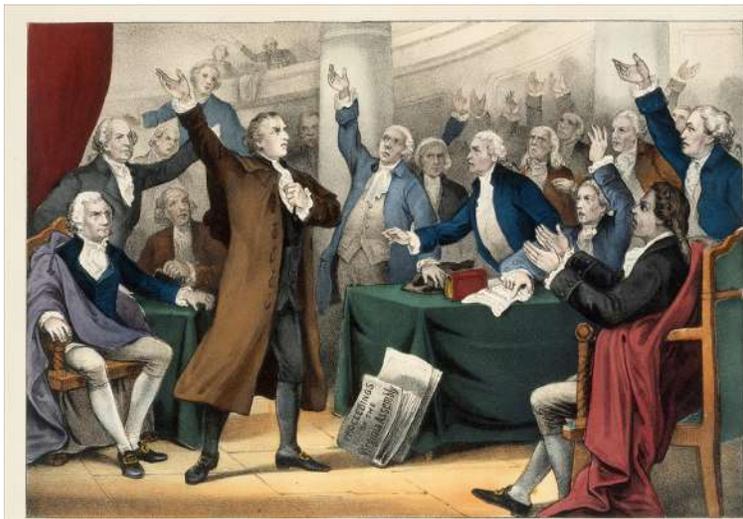
Perhaps that was just as well. As George Washington later wrote, Virginia “made a Capitol mistake when they took Henry out of the Senate to place him in the Field.” Henry became the first governor of the largest and wealthiest state. He played a critical role in getting supplies to Valley Forge, in warning General Washington of the Conway Cabal, in launching George Rogers Clark’s expedition to the old Northwest,...

It was after the war, though, that Henry made some of his most important and largely forgotten contributions.

As the new nation struggled with how to pay its bills and govern a vast and diverse people, Henry joined those who believed that the weak government created by the Articles of Confederation needed to be strengthened. But when the Constitution was released by the Philadelphia Convention (which Henry had declined to attend), he was deeply concerned that the proposed government would be too powerful and distant from the people.

Henry became the leading antifederalist, opposing ratification of the Constitution because of those fears. In many respects, he became the intellectual godfather of what would become the states’ rights movement.

Critically, though, when he lost, when the Constitution was ratified over his objection, he warned angry allies that they must accept the will of the majority. “The question had been fully discussed and settled, and that, as true and faithful republicans,... they should cherish [the Constitution], and give it fair play.” Henry was not abandoning the battle, but he understood that you had to act within the law. “I will be a peaceable citizen. My



**“GIVE ME LIBERTY, OR GIVE ME DEATH!”**

“GIVE ME LIBERTY, OR GIVE ME DEATH!” Patrick Henry delivering his great speech on the Rights of the Colonies before the Virginia Assembly convened at Richmond, March 23, 1775. Associated with the above document which became the war cry of the Revolution.

**Patrick Henry proclaiming "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death!" in a Currier & Ives hand-colored lithograph from 1876 (The Metropolitan Museum of Art)**

head, my hand, and my heart shall be at liberty to retrieve the loss of liberty, and to remove the defects of that system in a constitutional way.”

Most remarkably, when hyper-partisanship and a radical states’ rights agenda threatened to destroy the still-toddling nation in the 1790s, Henry came out of retirement, at Washington’s call, to defend the Constitution that he had opposed. Henry felt that many of his concerns had been shown to be true: The government had become more powerful than Americans had anticipated. The Alien and Sedition Acts were gross infringements of the people’s rights. But he also understood that if states tried simply to refuse to abide by federal law, “nullifying” federal laws

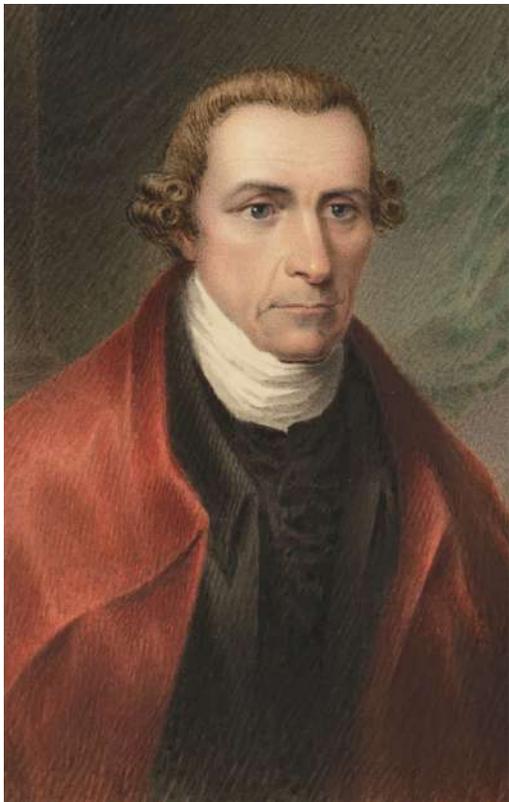
# Guest Column

with which they disagreed (as Thomas Jefferson initially suggested), there would be chaos. States would fight the federal government; states would fight states. As newspapers headlines across the country warned, “civil war” threatened.

Henry emphatically denounced such opposition to the federal government. He warned that if Americans could not abide by the Constitution that “we the people” had accepted – he had opposed it, but he had been in the minority – “you may bid adieu forever to representative government.” If people opposed the government through extra-legal means, he warned “you can never exchange the present government but for a monarchy.” Henry modeled what it meant to be a loyal opposition. The way to correct government missteps was clear: Go to the ballot box.

Henry’s words still speak great wisdom today. As he often noted, liberty is a great blessing. But in the end, he was a communitarian, a supporter of the nation and of democracy, even when he disagreed with the decisions that his co-citizens made. He was correct: The only alternative is a monarchy.

**Dr. John A. Ragosta, a historian at the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello, is author of *For the People, For the Country: Patrick Henry’s Final Political Battle* (2023).**



**Patrick Henry. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C**

## Patrick Henry

Patrick Henry, born in 1736, left an indelible mark on American history as a pivotal figure during the Revolutionary War. Renowned for his powerful oratory and steadfast commitment to independence, he gained prominence opposing the Stamp Act with impassioned speeches. His iconic 1775 address at the Virginia Convention, where he declared, "Give me liberty, or give me death!" solidified his reputation as the "Orator of the Revolution." Beyond rhetoric, Henry served as Virginia's first post-colonial Governor and played a crucial role in advocating for the inclusion of the Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution. Despite initial reservations about the Constitution, his influence persisted, shaping the anti-Federalist movement and contributing to the eventual adoption of the Bill of Rights in 1791.

Patrick Henry's legacy endures as a Founding Father whose convictions and eloquence helped define America's pursuit of liberty and self-governance. His contributions in the political arena, coupled with his powerful speeches, showcase a man whose impact on shaping the foundational principles of American democracy remains profound and lasting.

# State Society News

## America's 250 Report

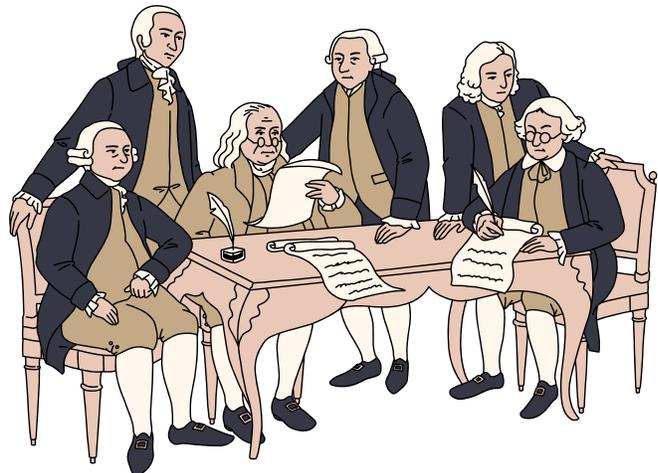


Our SAR 250 emblem adopted only a few short years ago, adorns our letterheads and flag. Now unfortunately, no longer does this emblem serves our mission. What is the mission I refer to? The mission to tell the stories of our forefathers that fought a decade for the right to establish upon this continent the greatest of all nations. To look upon our SAR 250 emblem as it is one would think we are only waiting for the arrival of July 4, 2026 and our celebration will be complete. The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution however is now looking at a much bigger picture. The War Years, a Decade for Freedom a time period from 1773 to 1783 two hundred fifty years from 2023 to 2033. Anniversaries of 250 years since all the world changing events of our American Revolution.

If you've read this far, you're possibly wondering what the solution is and this is where you can be the solution. The National 250 Committee is looking for ideas, altering our current 250 flag, allowing our 250 flag to be utilized until July of 2026 and then bringing forward another flag or simply replacing this flag now. Ideas to expand, refocus and ignite our Decade long Celebration is what we are urging you to consider. Be the individual to share with our National SAR 250 Committee, thoughts that promote "The War Years", "A Decade for Freedom". The effort can be a rework of our current emblem, or a new emblem, the possibilities are endless. Ideas can be emailed to me at [mcmurchiepatrick@gmail.com](mailto:mcmurchiepatrick@gmail.com) to be then forwarded to National.

When you start thinking about 2025 and your need for a calendar for the new year, here's a tip. Be on the lookout this fall for an SAR calendar that utilizes the photos from the Thomas J. Bond Photography Contest and will feature many dates from the war years 1773 to 1783. Profits from the sale of this calendar will benefit the work being done by the NSSAR 250 Committee.

*Compatriot Patrick McMurchie chairs the Kentucky Society's America 250th Committee. He is a resident of La Grange, Kentucky and serves as 1st Vice President of the Louisville Thruston Chapter.*



# State Society News

## Color Guard Report



I'm excited to share updates on the Kentucky Society's Color Guard, a group embodying the spirit of our organization. The Color Guard Training program has made significant strides, instilling pride and professionalism in its members.

### **Precision and Skill Mastery**

The Color Guard Training program has seen notable enhancements, ensuring members receive top-notch instruction to develop exceptional skills. From flag maneuvers to rifle drills, our Color Guard exemplifies precision and dedication.

Trainings were held on January 27 in Frankfort and February 10 in Middletown. Thirty-one compatriots (including one from the Tennessee Society) and three female volunteers attended the training. The morning sessions focused on non-firing flintlock drills and the afternoon session focused on general drills. Participants of the trainings received a Certificate of Completion at the Annual State Meeting.

### **Introducing the Kentucky Rifeman Pin**

**Patrick Wesolosky**

**Color Guard**

**Committee Chairman**

We're thrilled to introduce the Kentucky Rifeman Pin, honoring members who demonstrate exceptional proficiency in rifle handling. This pin not only acknowledges dedication but inspires others to reach their pinnacle performance.

It was decided that to qualify to purchase the pin, a Rifleman must 1) attend flintlock training and 2) be deemed proficient and safe after being reviewed at live fire training session. It was also decided that the pin could only be worn on a Color Guard outfit as a cockade. The Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter has stepped up to take over the production, sales, ordering, and distribution of the pins.

### **Flag Precedence Guide: Navigating Tradition with Pride**

In February, a Flag Precedence Guide was added to the color guard section of the KYSSAR website. This seven-page document was created to help chapters set up their color guard flags in a correct order based on historical information and modern flag code. If your chapter has flags that are not shown on guide, please reach out to Color Guard Commander Scott Giltner to have them added.

We take immense pride in our Color Guard members' achievements. Their dedication and hard work have not gone unnoticed, and we applaud each member for their commitment to excellence. Whether participating in community events or society gatherings, our Color Guard stands as a testament to our values.

# State Society News

## Color Guard Training



In recent Color Guard Training events in Frankfort and Middletown, Kentucky, groups of compatriots honed their skills to ensure they aptly represent the organization. This crucial training underscores the significance of precision and discipline in showcasing our shared heritage. By participating in such events, Color Guard members enhance their ability to respectfully present the colors during ceremonies, parades, and community gatherings, reinforcing the organization's commitment to preserving the spirit of the American Revolution.



# Information

## National Congress

The 134th Annual Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution will take place from July 10-16 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

The official hotel for the Congress is the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square. This landmark hotel is located in Downtown Lancaster and beautifully integrated with a world-class convention center.

Just steps away in Downtown Lancaster, guests can explore over 90 art galleries, a burgeoning food scene, shopping, and historic landmarks including one of the largest National Historic Register Districts in the country.

Visit the Pennsylvania Society's website at [www.passar.org](http://www.passar.org) to learn more about Lancaster and the Congress.



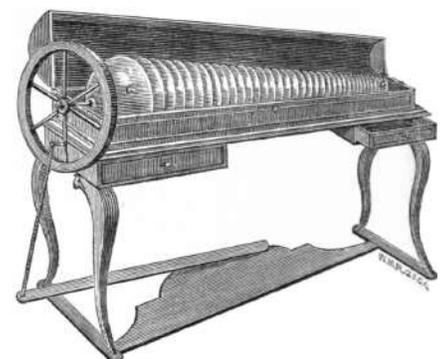
### DID YOU KNOW?



Benjamin Franklin's inventive spirit gave rise to the "glass armonica," an unusual creation designed to mimic the enchanting tones produced by wet fingers on glass rims. In 1761, he crafted the initial model with a London glass artisan, creating 37 glass orbs of varying sizes and pitches mounted on a spindle controlled by a foot pedal.

Operating the instrument involved moistening fingers, rotating the contraption, and gently touching the glass orbs to produce distinct tones. Over the 18th and early 19th centuries, the armonica gained popularity, leading to the manufacture of thousands. Renowned composers like Mozart, Beethoven, and Strauss contributed compositions for this unique instrument.

Reflecting on his creations, Franklin expressed a profound personal satisfaction with the glass armonica, deeming it among his most gratifying inventions.



# Service to Veterans News



***Richard L. Quire***  
***Major, U.S. Army (Ret)***  
***Committee Chairman***

## Service to Veterans Committee

Compatriot Kentuckians,

Memorial Day is just around the corner and it's not too late to host your own or participate in a local Memorial Day event in your area. Veteran Service Organizations in your area may have something planned and are always looking for other organizations to help out and participate. Even if only one or two of your chapter members are able to muster at a local war memorial, that is something. Honoring the American heroes that gave their last full measure is always a worthy cause and our country needs to be reminded of that sacrifice now more than ever. A country that doesn't commemorate their war dead, didn't deserve them. It doesn't have to be elaborate. It just needs to be from the heart. The first step is always the hardest.

If you recall from the USS Stark Memorial Report, there are numerous things that can be donated to the Veterans Hospitals across the Commonwealth such as magazines, books, clothing, and other items. Resolve now to begin a "drive" to collect these items from your chapter compatriots and local donors. Our veterans can always use some help and it is the least that we can do and would cost us little to nothing.

There are two honor flights scheduled thus far for Kentucky this year. Both are scheduled to depart and return from the Lexington Airport. The dates are May 18 and October 5. Be on the lookout for more information on these and other honor flights as they are added. It is a patriotic and heart warming opportunity to show our pride in our veterans and to say "thank you" in person.

Pro Patria!

*Richard*

## Kentucky's VA Hospitals



Souseley Campus  
2250 Leestown Road  
Lexington, KY 40511



Robley Rex Center  
800 Zorn Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40206

# Service to Veterans News



## Heroes Day at Keeneland

Heroes Day at Keeneland honors members of the military (active duty and veterans), first responders, healthcare workers and their families each spring and fall race meets.

On this day, heroes and their families receive free general admission, reserved grandstand seating, and access to the North Terrace family zone including activities and a complimentary meal provided by Marriott Griffin Gate this spring. Throughout the day there will be special programming on the track including a flag roll out and honoree recognitions in the Winner's Circle.

A POW-MIA Chair of Honor will be on display on the Paddock Apron to bring awareness to past and current POW-MIA military members through a partnership with The Rolling Thunder Kentucky Chapter 5.

Each hero is eligible to receive up to 6 complimentary tickets for this day. If you have questions, call (859) 288-4213.

## Officials Unveil VA Clinic

The recently unveiled VA Clinic at Fort Campbell represents a groundbreaking collaboration between the Department of Veterans Affairs (and the Department of Defense. Officials from both agencies introduced the state-of-the-art facility, marking a first-of-its-kind venture in the region. The clinic is designed to provide comprehensive healthcare services to veterans, showcasing a commitment to enhancing the overall well-being of those who have served in the armed forces.

Through this unique partnership, the VA and DoD aim to improve access to high-quality healthcare for veterans in the Kentucky and Tennessee area, demonstrating a collaborative effort to address the diverse healthcare needs of the veteran population. The facility is poised to play a crucial role in delivering specialized medical services and fostering a supportive environment for veterans, underscoring the government's dedication to enhancing veteran care through innovative and collaborative initiatives.



**The new VA Clinic will be located inside Blanchfield Army Community Hospital at Fort Campbell. The hospital was named for Col. Florence A. Blanchfield. She was the first woman to receive a Regular Army commission and was the first director with the title 'Chief of the Army Nurse Corps.**

# State Society News

## Scenes from Spring Leadership

The National Society's Spring Leadership meetings were held February 29-March 2 at the Brown Hotel in Louisville. A good number of compatriots from Kentucky were on hand, including those photographed below.



**L: President Elect Patrick Wesolosky and his wife, Marika.**



**R: Chris Canine, Jay Doss, Patrick Wesolosky, Steve Gahafer**



**Far Left: Former State President Tom Payne and his wife Caroline**



**Near Left: Former State President Steve Mallory and his wife Debbie**

**Near Right: Former State President Scott Giltner and Viren Lemmer of the Washington Society.**



**Far Right: Secretary Steve Vest and Marika Wesolosky**



# Across the Commonwealth

## Betsy Ross Flag Legislation

State Representative Jared Bauman (R-Louisville) is sponsoring House Bill 673 which focuses on the displaying of flags on personal property. The bill specifies that homeowners associations cannot prohibit the display of the American flag, any historic version of the American flag (including the Betsy Ross flag), and the Kentucky state flag. The bill underscores the importance of allowing residents to express their patriotism and historical appreciation by displaying these flags on their private property without facing restrictions from association rules.

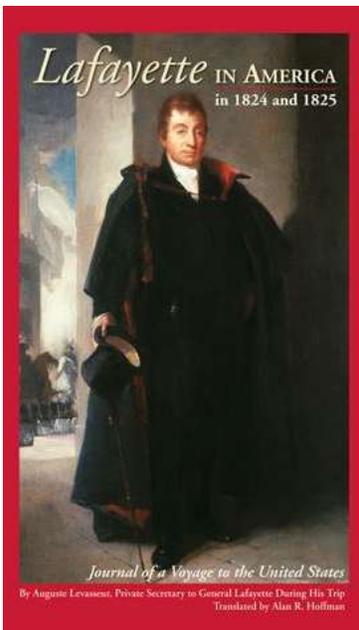


Rep. Jared Bauman

## Lafayette Lecture

The Filson Historical Society in Louisville, in conjunction with The American Friends of Lafayette, will be hosting an event with Alan R. Hoffman related to the Marquis de Lafayette's visit to the United States. The event will be at 6:00 pm EDT on April 4th. There is an online option as well. The event is free, but tickets are required. You can reserve your spot by going to [www.filsonhistorical.org](http://www.filsonhistorical.org) and clicking on events.

Alan R. Hoffman obtained his BA in history from Yale before earning a JD at Harvard Law School. He practiced law in Boston for 50 years. An avid reader of early American history, he "discovered" Lafayette in 2002 and spent two years – 2003 to 2005 – translating Auguste Levasseur's *Lafayette in America in 1824 and 1825*, the first-hand account of Lafayette's Farewell Tour of America written by his private secretary. This translation was published in 2006 and is in its third printing.



## Constitution Day Legislation

State Representative D.J. Johnson (R-Owensboro) sponsored House Resolution 85 recognizing September 17, 2024, as Constitution Day in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The resolution calls on Kentuckians to celebrate our representative republic system of government and the central contributions of the Constitution to the freedom Americans are privileged to enjoy.



Rep. D.J. Johnson



# Across the Commonwealth

## Restoring Honor: A Tale of Rediscovery and Redemption

Either by luck or divine providence, a flea market in Mount Sterling was the setting of a chance meeting that unraveled a story of honor, theft, and redemption, involving the vigilant efforts of Neal Salyers, a dedicated member of the Big Sandy Chapter.

The saga began when Howard Fortune, a familiar face at the Mount Sterling flea market, received an unexpected gift – an ornate, three-foot-long SAR grave marker. A former pawn shop worker, seeking appraisal, approached Howard with the artifact and inquired what it was worth. Quick-witted and aware of the gravity of the situation, Howard responded, "About two years in jail!" The man, startled, handed over the marker to Howard, who, recognizing its significance, reached out to his friend, compatriot Salyers, from Olive Hill. The next day, Howard shared that the same person had brought another marker, deepening the intrigue.

Neal, appointed over the Big Sandy Chapter's Graves Committee, took on the challenge of unraveling the mystery behind the markers. Neal, armed with determination, traveled to Mount Sterling to retrieve the markers and initiate the research process.

The first marker bore the inscription, "William Bodley, A Soldier of the Revolutionary War, Virginia State Troop." To Neal's surprise, William Bodley's resting place was not local, but discovered in Shelby, Ohio – a four-hour drive from Neal's home. Born on July 9, 1764, in New York, William had fought valiantly during the Revolutionary War, passing away on November 2, 1843, in Ohio.

The second marker presented a more common name, John Henry, adding a layer of complexity to Neal's investigation. Utilizing the information gathered on William Bodley from the Find a Grave website, Neal speculated that John Henry might be buried in the same cemetery. However, after some careful scrutiny, it was revealed that the John Henry in the Hazel Bush Cemetery wasn't the correct one. The true resting place of John Henry, born on July 4, 1759, and deceased on December 19, 1841, was found in the London Cemetery, only four miles away and also in Shelby.

With both markers identified and their rightful resting places established, Neal enlisted the help of his cousin, Mike Cline, a fellow SAR member. As he had plans to visit family in the area, Mike volunteered to



**Compatriot Mike Cline holding the two stolen markers**

# Across the Commonwealth

## Restoring Honor: A Tale of Rediscovery and Redemption

replace the markers. Mike's wife, Lois, intimately acquainted with the area, guided him to the respective cemeteries.

On a cold, windy afternoon, against the backdrop of Thanksgiving, Mike returned the markers to their rightful places, rekindling a connection between the past and the present. The unique tale concludes with a sense of satisfaction, as the stolen markers were restored to the Patriots, allowing them to rest a little easier, knowing that what was once dedicated to them had been rightfully returned. This remarkable story stands as a testament to the resilience of honor and the unwavering commitment of SAR members to uphold the legacy of those who fought for the birth of a nation.

The Kentucky Society extends heartfelt gratitude to compatriots Neal Salyers and Mike Cline for their unwavering dedication and exemplary efforts in restoring these stolen markers to their rightful places. Their commitment to upholding the honor and memory of Revolutionary War soldiers is truly commendable. It is through the diligence and passion of individuals like Neal and Mike that the SAR community continues to thrive, preserving the legacy of our nation's patriots. Their actions embody the core values of our organization, reinforcing the importance of honor, duty, and the enduring bond that connects us across generations. The Kentucky Society is immensely proud to have such dedicated members, and their contributions serve as an inspiration to us all. Thank you, compatriots Salyers and Cline, for ensuring that the flame of remembrance continues to burn bright.



**Compatriot Mike Cline at the grave of Private William Bodley, with his marker restored.**



**Compatriot Mike Cline at the grave of Soldier John Henry, with his marker restored.**



# Across the Nation

## Crispus Attucks Statue

Amidst a nationwide debate over the removal of statues, City Councilor Brian Worrell, inspired by the rich history of Crispus Attucks, is advocating for a new statue to honor this pivotal figure. Attucks, an African American and the first casualty of the American Revolution, symbolizes courage and the fight for freedom.

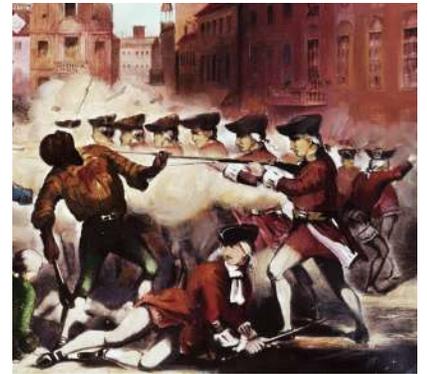
In a departure from the recent trend of statue removals, this initiative aims to celebrate a figure whose legacy represents resilience and the struggle for justice. The proposed Crispus Attucks statue would emphasize the importance of acknowledging diverse narratives in public spaces.

“It’s beyond time for Boston to recognize Crispus Attucks more formally,” Worrell said in a statement. “He was an accomplished sailor and advocate for human rights before he died. The world should know more of how Black Boston contributed to America’s history, and Crispus Attucks, as the first Patriot, is one of the finest examples of that.”

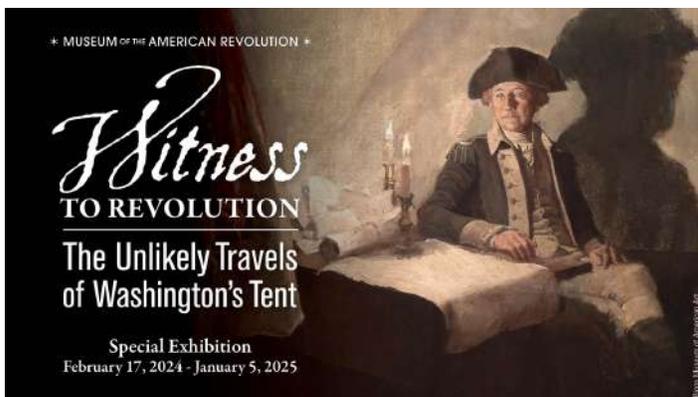
This effort aligns with a growing recognition of historical figures who have long been overlooked. As discussions around public monuments evolve, the call for a Crispus Attucks statue stands out, offering an opportunity to celebrate a crucial piece of America's past and promote a more inclusive and nuanced understanding of history.



**Brian Worrell**  
Boston City Councilor



**Crispus Attucks falling during the Boston Massacre**



## Witness to Revolution

From the Revolutionary War to the present day, generations of Americans and visitors from abroad have found inspiration in the presence of General George Washington’s headquarters tent. Today, this remarkable artifact is pitched in Philadelphia at the Museum of the American Revolution, where more than one million visitors since 2017 have learned about Washington’s leadership and America’s ongoing experiment in liberty, equality, and self-government through an immersive presentation.

Now open through Jan. 5, 2025, *Witness to Revolution: The Unlikely Travels of Washington’s Tent* greatly expands trings to life the stories of individuals from all walks of life who saved Washington’s tent from being lost over the generations and who ultimately fashioned this relic into a symbol of the fragile American republic.

# Across the Nation



**Central District**  
IN, KY, OH, WV



## *Annual Meeting*

**19 October 2024**

Lawrenceburg, IN

### Key Events

- Business Meeting
- Ladies Program
- Lunch
- Patriot Grave Marking (5 Patriots)
- Evening Dinner

Full Details & Reservation Information to follow. Keep up to date at the Central District Website: [WWW.CDSAR.ORG](http://WWW.CDSAR.ORG)

### **Dinner Guest Speaker** **Joshua Shepherd**



Joshua Shepherd, a sculptor, and freelance writer, has created over 20 public monuments. His articles, with a special focus on Revolutionary and frontier America, have appeared in publications including *MHQ: The Quarterly Journal of Military History*, *Military Heritage*, *Muzzle Blasts*, and *The Artilleryman*. He lives in rural Indiana with his wife and three children.

# Revolutionary Kentuckians

## GEORGE NICHOLAS

Delving into Kentucky's history, one name which stands out prominently is that of George Nicholas. A distinguished figure in the early years of our great nation, Nicholas played a crucial role in shaping the destiny of Kentucky and contributing to the foundation of the United States.

Born on December 29, 1754, in Williamsburg, Virginia, George Nicholas emerged from a lineage deeply committed to public service. His father, Robert Carter Nicholas, served in the House of Burgesses for the sixteen years leading up to the Revolution, instilling in young George a sense of duty and responsibility towards Virginia.

Nicholas's early education was both comprehensive and influential, setting the stage for his future endeavors. He attended the College of William and Mary, where he honed his intellect and developed a profound understanding of the principles that would guide his life – liberty, justice, and the pursuit of a better future for all.



**Portrait of George Nicholas**

The winds of revolution swept across the American colonies, and young Nicholas found himself drawn into the struggle for independence. He joined the Continental Army, fighting alongside patriots who sought to break free from British rule. Nicholas's dedication and military prowess quickly earned him the rank of Captain of the 2nd Virginia regiment in October 1775, was promoted to Major in the 10th Virginia regiment in November 1776, and Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Virginia regiment in September 1777.

Post-independence, George Nicholas turned his attention to the legal profession, recognizing the need for a strong legal foundation to support the fledgling nation. He embarked on a legal career, studying under the esteemed

George Wythe, one of the signatories of the Declaration of Independence.

*continued next page*

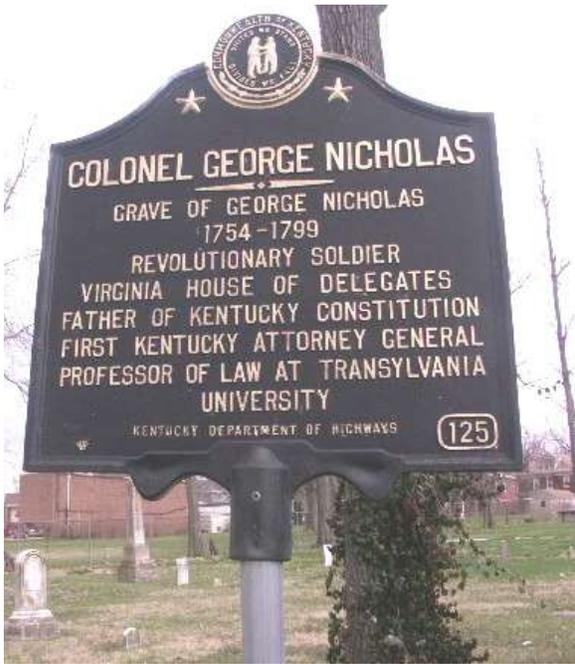


**Constitution Square Historic Site in downtown Danville, Kentucky. Site of the ten constitutional conventions that led to Kentucky's statehood.**

**George Nicholas helped draft the constitution of 1792, the first after Kentucky officially became a state.**

# Revolutionary Kentuckians

## GEORGE NICHOLAS *cont.*



**Historic marker located at the Old Episcopal Third Street Cemetery in Lexington where George Nicholas is buried.**

This apprenticeship not only deepened Nicholas's legal acumen but also solidified his commitment to the principles of the American Revolution. Additionally, Nicholas served for three terms in the Virginia House of Delegates, representing Albemarle County. He was one of the leading proponents of ratifying a federal constitution in 1788.

Nicholas's journey eventually led him to Kentucky, a frontier territory in need of visionary leaders to guide its development. He arrived in 1783 and quickly became an integral part of the community. His legal expertise and commitment to justice earned him widespread respect, positioning him as a key figure in the evolving landscape of the region. In 1789, President Washington appointed Nicholas as the first United States Attorney for the District of Kentucky.

One of Nicholas's most significant contributions was his role in the drafting of Kentucky's first constitution in 1792. As a delegate to the Kentucky Constitutional Convention, he played a pivotal role in shaping the state's fundamental laws, laying the groundwork for a government that would uphold the values of the American Revolution.

Following Kentucky's admission to the union, Nicholas would serve as the first Attorney General for the young Commonwealth. As a Federalist, he would serve in this capacity from 1792-1793, prior to the election of John Breckinridge.

Beyond his political achievements, Nicholas also played a crucial part in the establishment of Transylvania University, further emphasizing his dedication to education and enlightenment. His vision extended beyond the immediate needs of the community, reflecting a deep-seated belief in the power of knowledge to shape the future.

Tragically, George Nicholas's life was cut short in 1799 at age 45, leaving behind a legacy that would continue to influence generations to come. In addition to his wife, Mary, Nicholas was survived by six children, including son Robert Carter Nicholas who went on to serve as a U.S. Senator from Louisiana. George Nicholas was buried at Old Episcopal Third Street Cemetery in Lexington. Both Nicholas County and Nicholasville are named in his honor.

George Nicholas's contributions to the legal and political foundations of Kentucky, coupled with his unwavering commitment to the ideals of the American Revolution, make him a figure worth remembering and honoring.

# Affiliated Organizations

## C.A.R.



**Meeting of the Jack Jouett Chapter**

The members of the Kentucky Society of the Children of the American Revolution have just wrapped up their C.A.R. reporting year on Feb. 29, 2024 and now they are ready for the 89th annual Kentucky State Conference on Mar. 15-16 in Elizabethtown. The conference will feature board meetings, business session with election, tour of the Hardin County History Museum, banquet with Kentucky Chautauqua performance of Abraham Lincoln, and swim party! We look forward to hearing from KYSSAR State President Steve McCain who will be in attendance.

State President Leah Emberton is pleased to have raised over \$2,500 to pay toward a Lafayette Trail marker. Any extra funds raised for the project will be used to purchase children's

children's books about Lafayette to place in libraries around the Commonwealth. Thank you to all SAR members who have supported this project.

Coming up on April 5th is C.A.R.'s Annual Day of Service in honor of the founding day for the Children of the American Revolution. Members are encouraged to volunteer in their communities. Our current National Project is raising funds that will be used as mini-grants to local societies in which the societies may apply and then in turn, donate this money back to local non-profits. The focus of the volunteer work is on agriculture, natural resources, conservation type projects. A couple of the societies, Jack Jouett and Limestone, have collected or purchased food to donate to local food banks.



**Right: Shopping for food to be donated to a local food bank for the Annual Day of Service**

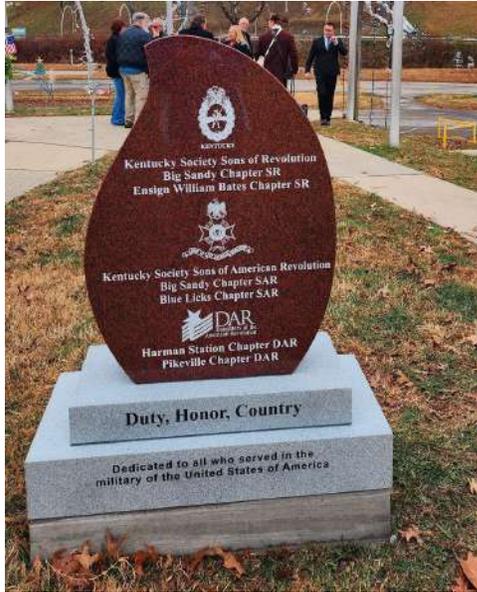
**Below: C.A.R. members delivering food to a local food bank.**



There are 15 C.A.R. chapters across Kentucky, as well as throughout the nation. Know someone under the age of 22 who would be interested in joining? Visit [www.nscar.org](http://www.nscar.org)!

# Chapter News

## BIG SANDY



On February 17, the Big Sandy Chapter participated in a dedication ceremony for a Purple Heart Monument.

The monument is located in Archer Park in Prestonsburg, Kentucky.

## COLONEL DANIEL BOONE



The Colonel Daniel Boone Chapter participated in the Colonial Days at Robert B. Turner Elementary in Anderson County. Pictured are State President Elect **Patrick Wesolosky** and Vice President **Richard Quire** presenting the Great Settlement Area map to Mrs. Sarah Wallace, 5th grade teacher.

SAR compatriots were able to explain how the proclamations of King George III impacted the “subjects” of the Virginia colony and the frustrations of the colonists that contributed to the start of the American Revolution.

## COLONEL JAMES HARROD

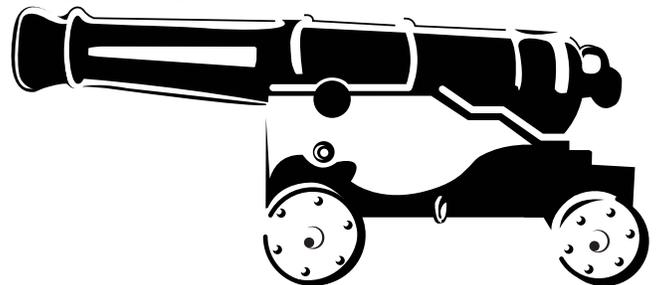


The Colonel James Harrod Chapter, the newest chapter in the state, met in February and elected its officers for 2024.

## COLONEL STEPHEN TRIGG



In honor of President Washington's birthday, the Colonel Stephen Trigg Chapter presented the John L. Street Library in Cadiz, Kentucky with a new Washington biography.



# Chapter News

## GENERAL RICHARD BUTLER



On February 6, members of the General Richard Butler Chapter presented a certificate to the Boys and Girls Club of Butler County recognizing them for the proper display of the American flag. Pictured is Derrick Deen, teen director of the Boys and Girls Club receiving the certificate from Chapter President **Donnie Webster**.

## GOVERNOR ISAAC SHELBY

On January 27, the Isaac Shelby Chapter participated in the wreath retirement at Zachary Taylor National Cemetery in Louisville. Pictured below are left to right: **Chris Canine, Andrew Giltner, Scott Giltner and Jon Canine**.

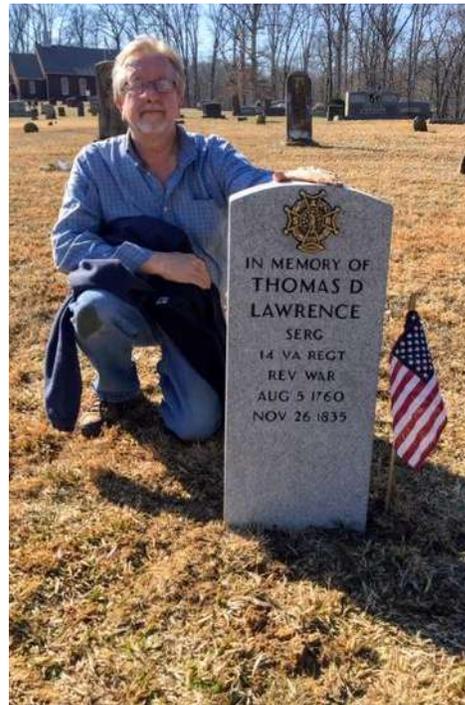


## LAFAYETTE



Earlier this month the Lafayette Chapter's Color Guard was asked to present the colors at the Central Kentucky Chapter of National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals Conference. Pictured left to right are compatriots **Patrick Wesolosky, Joe Clancy** (partially hidden behind the Kentucky flag), **Nick Blevins** and **Steve Gahafer**.

## LIEUTENANT ROBERT MOSELEY



Compatriot Gary Tunget took advantage of the unseasonably warm weather in February to set a VA marker for his 4th great-grandfather, Sgt. Thomas D. Lawrence, who is buried in the Sandy Creek Cemetery in Butler County.

# Chapter News

## LOUISVILLE THRUSTON



The Louisville Thruston Chapter recently had a meeting featuring a talk and demonstration of artifacts by Compatriot **Dr. Mel Hankla**.

Dr. Hankla, seen here receiving a certificate from Chapter President Mike King, is a retired professor and collector of items from the colonial and revolutionary eras, with expertise on the Kentucky Long Rifle.

## SIMON KENTON

On February 9th, in North Bend Ohio, the Simon Kenton chapter participated in the March to President William Henry Harrison's Tomb parade and ceremony. Wreaths were presented by Chapter President **Pat Berry**, Past VPG **Jesse Moore** and Kentucky Society President Elect **Steve McCain**. Other Simon Kenton compatriots participating were **Tom Geimeier**, **Jerry Messer** and **Jeff Steele**.



## KEYHOLES TO HISTORY



## SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The National Society has released a new *Keyholes to History* podcast. The topic is Mary Patton, a heroine of the American Revolution who supplied gunpowder to the Overmountain Men in 1780. You can find this and all episodes at [education.sar.org](http://education.sar.org).



Have news  
to share?

Send information and  
photos to  
[tommydruen@gmail.com](mailto:tommydruen@gmail.com)

# State Society News

## Battle of Blue Licks Memorial Ceremony



The Gov. Isaac Shelby Chapter  
Kentucky Society

Sons of the American Revolution  
invites you to attend the Memorial Service for the  
**242<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Blue Licks**

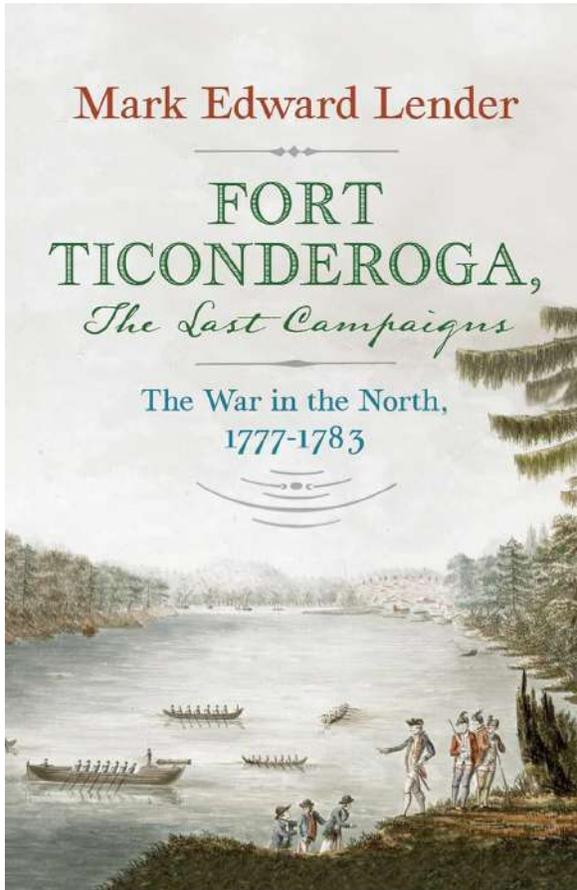
Saturday, 17 August, 2024 @ 10 a.m. EDT  
Blue Licks Battlefield State Park  
10299 Maysville Road, Carlisle, KY  
(*Color Guard muster at 9:00 a.m.*)

Join us in this National Color Guard  
event by presenting a wreath, carrying  
your state flag or participating in the  
flintlock gun salute.

Contact Scott Giltner – [stgilt@earthlink.net](mailto:stgilt@earthlink.net) to register.



# Bookshelf



## **FORT TICONDEROGA - THE LAST CAMPAIGNS** ***THE WAR IN THE NORTH, 1777-1783***

by Mark Edward Lender (Westholme), 248 pgs  
\$30.00 hardcover, \$22.99 ebook

During the War for Independence, Fort Ticonderoga's guns, sited critically between Lakes Champlain and George, dominated communications in upstate New York that were vital to both the British and American war efforts. In the public mind Ticonderoga was the "American Gibraltar" or the "Key to the Continent," and patriots considered holding the fort essential to the success of the Revolutionary cause. Ticonderoga was a primary target in British Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's 1777 campaign to crush American resistance in the north and end the rebellion in a decisive stroke. American efforts to defend the fort in June against overwhelming odds entailed political and military intrigue, bungling, heroism, and ultimately a narrow escape for the Continental and provincial forces under Major General Arthur St. Clair. The loss of Ticonderoga stunned patriot morale and ignited one of the greatest political firestorms of the war.

But the fortunes of war turned. Two months later, the rebels mounted a sensational counter-attack on Ticonderoga that had major implications for Burgoyne's eventual defeat at Saratoga in October. Yet Saratoga brought no peace, and Ticonderoga would be central to additional military and political maneuverings—many of them known only to specialist historians—that would keep the region on edge until the end of the war in 1783.

Based on new archival research and taking advantage of the latest scholarship, *Fort Ticonderoga* highlights the strategic importance of the fort as British, American, and regional forces (including those of an independent Vermont Republic) fought for control of the northern front at a critical point in the war. The book tells the Ticonderoga story in all of its complexity and drama, correcting misconceptions embedded in many previous accounts, and sheds vital new light on this key chapter in America's struggle for independence.

### **About the Author**

Mark Edward Lender is the author of American Revolutionary era books and articles and can be found at [MarkEdwardLender.com](http://MarkEdwardLender.com). His writings have won awards for history, writing, and research. He was a finalist for The George Washington Prize, from Mount Vernon and Washington College, with Garry Wheeler Stone, for *Fatal Sunday: George Washington, the Monmouth Campaign, and the Politics of Battle*, 2017. Lender has a Ph.D. in American History from Rutgers University. He is Professor Emeritus of History at Kean University, from which he retired as Vice President for Academic Affairs in 2011.



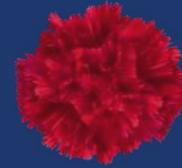
# Memoriam

Immediately prior to the Spring Meeting in Burlington, Kentucky, the Kentucky Society held a memorial service for our compatriots who had departed these earthly bounds over the course of the past year.

Reverend Donald Drewry, State Society Chaplain, led the service which included scripture, prayer and the solemn peel of a bell as each member's name was read.



## *In Remembrance*

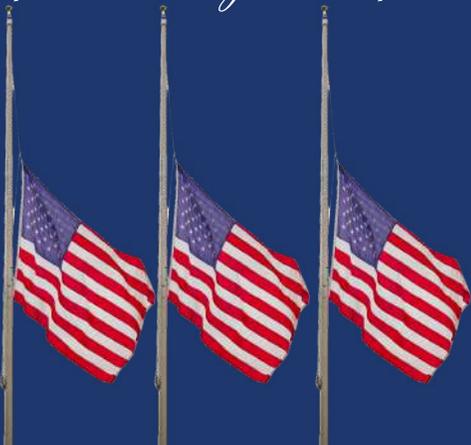


David Robert Allen  
Barry Basil Billings  
Peter M. Bramble, Jr.  
James Sanford Cambron  
John Ray Conley  
Terry Anderson Conrad  
Billy Edward Courts  
Alfred Perkins Cravens

Carl Morton Graves  
David Franklin Hampton  
John Richard Hardin, Jr.  
James Emerson Hough  
Richard Neil Hutchinson  
James Paul Ison  
Chandler Rexford Layne  
David Richard Leslie  
Kenneth Craig McDaniel

Barry Gibson Powell  
William Moss Redmond, Jr.  
James Stilmon Richardson  
Richard Ace Spencer  
Doughlas Graham Tucker  
Robert Patrick Waldon  
Paul Baker Whitty  
Benjamin Saffarrans Wood III

*As we remember our fellow compatriots, let us so live that when we are called to that final summons, we may depart this life in the grace of God.*



Pictured is Past State President Tom Geimeier, who rang the final bell of remembrance for each of our deceased compatriots.



# Event Calendar

## MARCH 16

Blue Licks Battle Tour  
10:00 AM EDT  
Blue Licks Battlefield State Park  
10299 Maysville Road  
Carlisle, Kentucky

## MARCH 23

DAR State Meeting  
6:00 PM EDT  
Hilton Lexington Downtown  
369 West Vine  
Lexington, Kentucky

## APRIL 10

Simon Kenton Chapter Meeting  
6:30 PM EDT  
Boone County Library  
1786 Burlington Pike  
Burlington, Kentucky

## APRIL 13

8th Annual Patriots Day Commemoration  
2:00 PM CDT  
Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West  
6817 Fort Campbell Boulevard  
Hopkinsville, Kentucky

## APRIL 14

Multiple Patriot Grave Marking  
12:00 PM EST  
Corn Creek Baptist Church  
2054 Milton-Bedford Pike  
Milton, Kentucky

## APRIL 20

Elias Lovelace Grave Marking  
1:00 PM CDT  
Lovelaceville Cemetery  
Highway 1367  
Lovelaceville, Kentucky

## APRIL 20

James Shaw Grave Marking  
2:00 PM EDT  
Stephens Farm Cemetery  
8420 Amy Lou Drive  
Alexandria, Kentucky

## MAY 11

William DeCoursey Grave Marking  
2:00 PM EDT  
Concord Cemetery  
2224 Concord Fairhaven Road  
Eaton, Ohio

## MAY 18

Fort Jefferson Plaque Dedication  
10:00 AM CDT  
Fort Jefferson Hill Park  
CS-1016  
Wickliffe, Kentucky

## JUNE 2

John Smoot Patriot Grave Marking  
3:00 PM EDT  
Shively-Smoot Cemetery  
4107 Dixie Highway  
Shively, Kentucky

## JUNE 8

Harrodsburg 250th Anniversary  
8:00 AM EDT  
Old Fort Harrod State Park  
100 South College Street  
Harrodsburg, Kentucky

## JUNE 8

Five Patriot Grave Marking  
9:30 AM EDT  
Old Fort Harrod State Park  
100 South College Street  
Harrodsburg, Kentucky

## JULY 10-16

134th Annual Congress  
All Day  
Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square  
25 South Queen Street  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

## NOVEMBER 2

Chichester Matthews Grave Marking  
2:00 PM EST  
Sand Run Baptist Church Cemetery  
1327 North Bend Road  
Hebron, Kentucky

