

April 2021



Lafayette Chapter News

Established March 1960

Lafayette Chapter

Kentucky Society

Sons of the American Revolution

Officers

President:

Dale Henley

President-Elect:

Patrick Wesolosky

Vice President:

Steve Gahafer

Secretary:

Don Adams

Treasurer:

Greg Landon

Registrar:

John Thomas Buckler

Surgeon:

Emery Wilson M.D.

Historian:

Joe Clancy

Chaplain:

Ted Kuster

Eagle Scout Award Chair:

Dr. Michael Krause

ROTC / Jr. ROTC Chair:

Mike Sullivan

Color Guard Commander:

Mike Sullivan

Newsletter Editor:

Joe Clancy
clancyjx@aol.com

Board of Managers Meeting

The Board of Manager (BOM) was held on Saturday, February 27th at the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) building, Lexington, KY. Because of COVID we practiced social distancing and pictures were made individually. This was the first in-person meeting since the COVID pandemic started in March 2020.



Top Row, (L-R): Greg Landon, Steve Gahafer, Patrick Wesolosky, Joe Clancy.

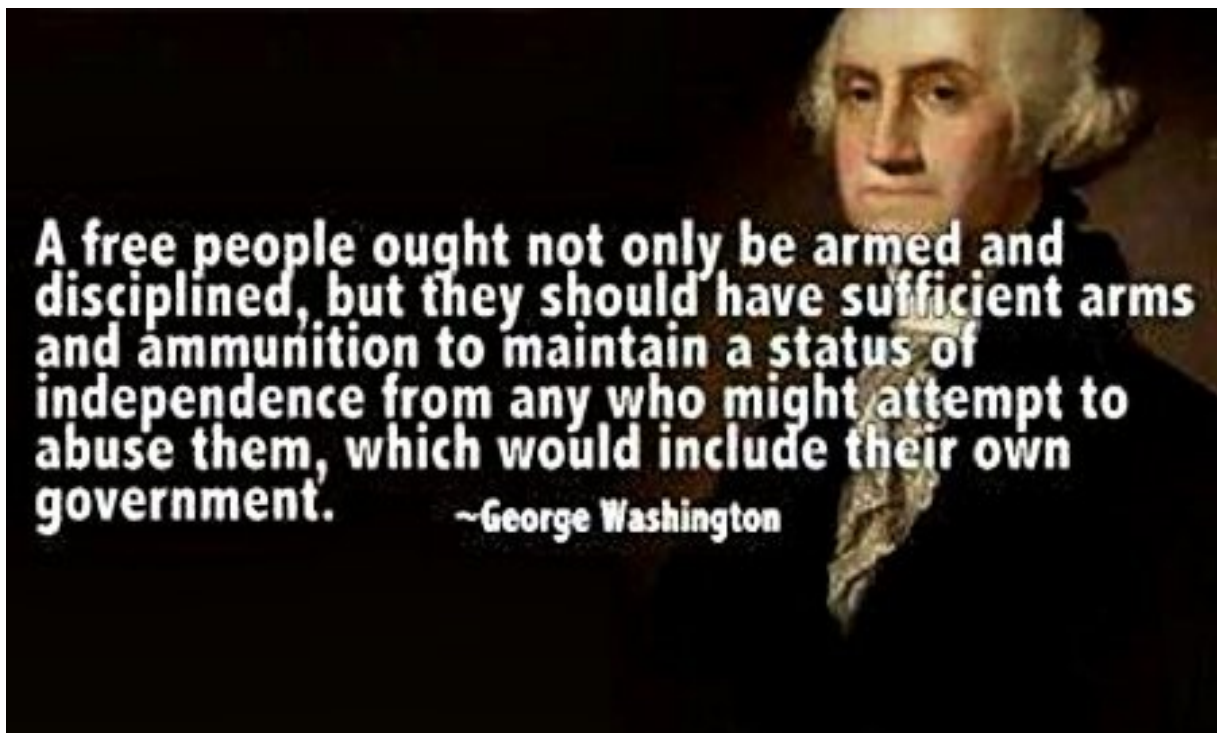
Bottom Row: (L-R): Emery Wilson, John Buckler, Mike Sullivan, Dale Henley.

George Washington was born on February 11, 1732, according to the Julian calendar. When the Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1752, he chose to celebrate his birthday on February 22nd, the equivalent date in the new calendar.



During the BOM meeting, the Lafayette Chapter participated in the **245th Commemoration of the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge**, a virtual National SAR event on 02/27/2021. The American forces defeated the British. The victory ended British authority in North Carolina and provided an important boost to Patriot morale.

Patrick Wesolosky and Steve Gahafer in period dress, coordinated the event via Zoom. President Dale Henley presented the Lafayette Chapter Wreath.



Honoring Revolutionary War Patriots

Compatriots ,

Most of you are aware that some of the Lafayette Chapter members have made it their mission to locate, repair and clean patriots graves in and around central Kentucky.

As you will read of John Buckler's experience, it is not as easy as you might think.

John Buckler wanted to share his experiences finding and cleaning these grave sites. Thanks John for sharing .

Compatriots from the Lafayette Chapter began locating sites, obtaining permission from landowners, and cleaning gravesites and headstones, if any can be located in large and small cemeteries and graveyards in central Kentucky. During this search for Patriot's graves we encountered two landowners who still live on land once owned by their Patriot ancestors. We visited the first of these two properties on June 30, 2020. Met by descendant Andy Wilson, we were led to the gravesite of his ancestor, Alijah Woods. According to the family headstone, Alijah was born in 1740 in Morristown, New Jersey and served in the militia under Captain William Hogan. This militia was responsible for defending Bryan Station in what was Fayette County, Virginia (now Fayette County, Kentucky,) between the years 1780 and 1782.

Andy's Wilson's family own this and other properties of historical significance in Jessamine County, Kentucky. They are well respected throughout their town and in the central Kentucky Farming community. One of their properties is near Woods Road, (Alijah Woods) which is adjacent to the Wilson farms, so in addition to having led us to Alijah Wood's gravesite , Andy met us in early August and escorted us to the grave of another Patriot of which he was aware. This was the grave of Patriot George Cleveland, 1757-1850. We are researching more information about Patriot Cleveland, but we were glad to be able to have had the opportunity to honor another Patriot. After quite some detective work and many telephone conversations, a volunteer from the Madison county Historical Society was able to speak with Mrs. Betsy Burch, wife of a former Lafa-

yette Chapter President. Mrs. Burch put is in contact with Mr. William (or as Mrs. Burch called her cousin, “Billy Glenn”) Turpin. Mr. Turpin and his son Scott own and operate several farms in Madison County, Kentucky. Mr. Turpin is a retired public school-agriculture teacher. On July 18, 2020 we met Mr. Turpin and his son and were granted access to the farm where their ancestor, Conrad Cornelison is buried along with other family members. Tucked away in a corner of their property, with a subdivision and an industrial area looming, this is one of the cemeteries in the Richmond area containing graves with the Cornelison name. Conrad Cornelison was born on May 28, 1763 in Loudoun, Virginia and moved to Rowan, North Carolina as a child. (sarpatriots.sar.org biography) In September 1779, at the age of 16, Conrad Cornelison joined the fight for America’s independence as a private in Colonel Hampton’s North Carolina Regiment. Discharged in March, 1781, Conrad served again under Peter Hendrick until the close of the war. By 1792 Conrad had moved his family to Kentucky where the Cornelison family name is still prominent. On that day we were privileged to visit the resting place of, as our SAR pledge says, a “hero” of the American Revolution., where



Pictures by John Buckler

we preliminarily cleaned the headstone and monument, and promised to return when the weather was cooler in order to do a more thorough cleaning of the cemetery, less encumbered by the overgrowth of weeds, etc. We were honored to speak with Mrs. Burch, and to meet Andy Wilson and Mr. Turpin and his son Scott, to pay our respects to those Patriots who still have family living on land they owned and upon which they are buried. Lafayette and Governor Isaac Shelby Chapter members have been involved in searching to find those graves and document their locations. We have been able to do so even during this pandemic, staying healthy and observing social distancing and wearing masks where appropriate. We have located and documented over one hundred Patriot graves in central Kentucky- and the search continues. I am a member of the Lafayette and Governor Isaac Shelby Chapters of the Kentucky Society Sons of the American Revolution. A retired postal employee and a multi-generational farmer and Kentuckian I live in Berea, Kentucky with my wife Lorna, member of Berea Laurel-Ridges and Trabue chapters DAR.

John Buckler



LAFAYETTE CHAPTER AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS PRESENTATION

December 5, 2020



Patrick Wesolosky—Military Service Medal, presented by President Dale Henley.



Steve Gahafer— Law Enforcement Commendation Medal, presented by President Dale Henley and Past President Tim Brown.

Awards and Medals



Patrick Wesolosky– Bronze Roger Sherman Medal, Presented by President Dale Henley and Past President Tim Brown.



Joe Clancy- Bronze Roger Sherman Medal, Presented by President Dale Henley and Past president Tim Brown.

Awards and Medals



Steve Gahafer– Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. Presented by President Dale Henley and Past President Tim Brown.



John Buckler– Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. Presented by President Dale Henley and Past President Tim Brown.



Emery Wilson M.D.—Bronze Good Citizenship medal. Presented by President Dale Henley and Past president Tim Brown.

Awards and Medals



President Dale Henley—Chapter Meritorious Service Medal. Presented by Past President Tim Brown.



Greg Landon— Chapter Meritorious Service Medal. Presented by President Dale Henley and Past President Tim Brown.

Awards and Medals



Past President Tim Brown – Past Chapter President’s Pin. Presented by President Dale Henley.

Also receiving Awards but not present:

James O. Evans – 50-Year Membership Certificate.

Nick Blevins — Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.

Ted Kuster – Chapter Meritorious Service Medal.

Don Adams – Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service.

Gordon Krist – Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service.

Lafayette Chapter KYSSAR New Compatriot Rosette Pinning Ceremony Bethel Presbyterian Church March 27, 2021



Dale Henley, President Lafayette Chapter welcomes Guests and Compatriots.



Presentation of Colors



**Nick Blevins, Senior Elder
Presents history of Bethel Presbyterian Church.**

Pinning of New Compatriots



Stephen Brown is pinned by Past President Tim Brown.



Mike Flynn is pinned by Past President Tim Brown.



Kevin Tudor is pinned by Past President Tim Brown.



Nick Blevins is pinned by Past President Tim Brown.



Newly pinned Lafayette Chapter Compatriots **Stephen Brown, Kevin Tudor, Mike Flynn and Nick Blevins** with Immediate Past President **Tim Brown**.



First in person meeting for Lafayette Chapter in over a year.

State Society Meeting Awards

(Awarded At State Meeting and presented at Lafayette Chapter Meeting)



Tim Brown, Past President,
Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.



Patrick Wesolosky President– Elect,
Certificate of Appreciation, Zoom Con-
ference Coordinator and Meritorious
Service Medal.



Steve Gahafer-Vice-President
Certificate of Appreciation,



Dale Henley-President, Patriot Award.

Gordon Krist– Thomas J. Lyne Award for
Individual Sponsoring Most Members.
(no Picture)

Honoring Revolutionary War Veterans at Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery



End of Newsletter...