



# LAFAYETTE CHAPTER NEWS



Sons of the American Revolution

*"It is the pride of my heart to have been one of the earliest adopted sons of America." - Marquis de Lafayette*



## President's Point of View

Steve Gahafer, Chapter President



Welcome to 2025 fellow Compatriots,

I hope this first newsletter of the year finds you and your families doing well. I would like to start out by thinking our Immediate Past President Patrick Wesolosky a great job he did as our chapter President the past two years. HUZZAH for Patrick.

This coming year is going to be a busy one. Lexington is celebrating the 250th year of it's founding after the battles at Lexington & Concord. We do not know exactly what date Lexington was founded on, so instead of just one day, weekend or month, the city is celebrating the entire year with each month dedicated to a special theme.

We are also planning a few things for Lexington's 250th anniversary as well. We have ordered a 250th Memorial Bench that will be placed in McConnell Springs Park later this year. I am in the process of meeting with city officials to determine the placement and hopefully can nail down a dedication date. We also have several grave markings in the works and will announce them as they get confirmed.

## Chapter Officers

PRESIDENT - STEVE GAHAFER  
SAGAHAFA [AT] GMAIL.COM

PRESIDENT-ELECT - TIM WISNER  
TLWISNER [AT] OUTLOOK.COM

VICE-PRESIDENT - THOMAS HAYDEN  
TGHAYDEN [AT] GMAIL.COM

SECRETARY - TOMMY DRUEN  
DRUEN2004 [AT] YAHOO.COM

TREASURER - DENNIS WELLS  
DWW001 [AT] AOL.COM

REGISTRAR - THOMAS HAYDEN  
TGHAYDEN [AT] GMAIL.COM

HISTORIAN - KEVIN TUDOR  
JKEVINTUDOR [AT] GMAIL.COM

GENEALOGIST - DOUG TATTERSHALL  
DTATTERSHALL [AT] GMAIL.COM

SURGEON - DR. BILLY FORBESS  
BAFII [AT] AOL.COM

CHANCELLOR - SAM BURCHETT  
SPBURCHETT [AT] GMAIL.COM

CHAPLAIN - NICK BLEVINS  
NICKBLEY1959 [AT] GMAIL.COM

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## Revolutionary Art

*Battle of Nassau*  
by V. Zveg



This painting depicts Continental Sailors and Marines landing on New Providence Island, Bahamas, on 3 March 1776. Their initial objective, Fort Montagu, is in the left distance.

Close off shore are the small vessels used to transport the landing force to the vicinity of the beach. They are (from left to right): two captured sloops, schooner Wasp and sloop Providence.

The other ships of the American squadron are visible in the distance.

## President's Point of View (cont.)

We also have our Lafayette Tour Dinner on Friday, May 16th at the Embassy Suites. This will be a night that you will not want miss as we celebrate the 200 year return of the Marquis de LaFayette.

The Board of Managers recently approved the budget for 2025. The good news the chapter is great financial shape thanks to the past stewardship of the chapter. We have some extra expenses this year with the Lexington 250th celebration, LaFayette tour, and we had a lot of expenses with our youth awards, that make the budget look a little rough. If anyone would like to adopt one of youth awards, donate to the color guard or the SAR bench, anything will help.

I look forward to a busy next couple of years with Lexington 250th and the nation's 250th next year as your President. If there is anything I can ever do feel free to reach out to me

In patriotism and service,

*Steve*



## New Members



The following members have had their applications approved and are now officially members of the Lafayette Chapter!

- Jesse Horn (Willisburg)
- Thomas A. Humphries (Farragut, TN)
- Jeffery R. Humphries (Lexington)
- William J. Williams (Richmond)
- Samuel E. Humphries (Lexington)
- Jeffrey L. Williamson (Lexington)
- Samuel E. Humphries, Jr. (Lexington)
- Cooper M. Young (Bowling Green)

## December Meeting



*Rear Admiral William VanMeter Alford, U.S. Navy (Ret.), who formerly served as Chief of Staff for the United States Pacific Command between August 2004 and September 2007, spoke about Pearl Harbor. Alford is a native and current resident of Lexington.*

The Lafayette Chapter convened its final meeting of the year on December 7, 2024, at Sullivan University in Lexington. With a strong attendance of members and guests, the meeting reflected on the chapter's successes and welcomed new compatriots.

The highlight of the meeting was a keynote address by Rear Admiral Van Alford, who spoke on leadership, service, and the lasting importance of honoring those who have sacrificed for the nation. He shared anecdotes from his military career and emphasized the connection between military service and the values upheld by the SAR. His tribute to the veterans of Pearl Harbor resonated deeply with attendees, reinforcing the significance of patriotism and civic duty.

A highlight of the meeting was the induction of six new members, each honoring the legacy of their Revolutionary War ancestors. The newly inducted members and their patriot ancestors are as follows:

- Sam Burchett, descended from Private Burwell Burchett of the Virginia Continental Line.
- Thomas Crowl, descended from Private Thomas C. Frederick, who served in the Pennsylvania State Militia.
- Larry Deener, descended from William Carlile, a soldier under General George Rogers Clark.
- Charles Gorton, descended from Sergeant Joseph Gorton, who served in the Connecticut 4th Battalion.
- Jeffrey Williamson, descended from Private Anthony Owsley, who served under Generals Benjamin Logan and George Rogers Clark.
- Bobby Woods, descended from Daniel Boone, who served in the Virginia Militia.

During the business session, President Wesolosky reflected on his tenure as chapter president, expressing gratitude for the progress made over the past two years. He announced several Lafayette compatriots were nominated for leadership positions within the Kentucky Society, including his own nomination for State President.

President-Elect Gahafer provided an update on the Wreaths Across America initiative, noting that the chapter sold 1,092 wreaths this year. Thanks to a \$1,700 allocation from the Lexington City Council, the chapter aims to fully cover the stones at Lexington Cemetery in 2025.

Treasurer Dennis Wells reported that the chapter remains in strong financial standing, with over \$17,000 in assets and all obligations met. Registrar Hayden shared that the chapter processed 21 membership applications in 2024, with 14 approved and seven pending. Chancellor Burchett announced that he is reviewing chapter bylaws for potential updates to be presented in March.

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*President Patrick Wesolosky presented his wife, Marika, with Lydia Darragh Medal in recognition for the tireless hours and dedication she has offered to the Lafayette Chapter.*

## December Meeting

Other key items approved by the chapter were a \$680 allocation for the purchase of wreaths for next year's Wreaths Across America ceremony and a \$500 donation to Military Missions for care packages.

The meeting had a prolific awards presentation recognizing chapter members and community partners. Among the honorees were Winfrey Adkins, who received the Fire Safety Commendation Medal, and State Society President Steve McCain, who received a Certificate of Appreciation. Several members were honored for milestone anniversaries, with special recognition given to James White, who celebrated 60 years of SAR membership.

The chapter held elections for officers for the 2025 calendar year. Those nominated were unopposed and elected by acclamation. The list of the chapter's 2025 officers are:



*Chapter President Steve Gahafer is adorned with the President's Ribbon and Medal by his wife, Shannon.*

President - Steve Gahafer  
President-Elect - Tim Wisner  
Vice-President - Thomas Hayden  
Secretary - Tommy Druen  
Treasurer - Dennis Wells  
Registrar - Thomas Hayden  
Historian - Kevin Tudor  
Genealogist - Doug Tattershall  
Surgeon - Dr. Billy Forbess  
Chancellor - Sam Burchett  
Chaplain - Nick Blevins

Following the election, the new officers were administered the oath of office. The gavel was presented to President Gahafer who made brief remarks about the importance of the Sons of the American Revolution and his vision for the future.

With a full year of achievements behind them, the Lafayette Chapter looks forward to continuing its mission of honoring our ancestors and what they achieved, promoting patriotism, and educating the public about the American Revolution and how it impacts our society still today.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 10, where members will reconvene to continue their dedication to the society's principles.



*Immediate Past President Patrick Wesolosky stands to the side of Kentucky Society President Steve McCain as he administers the oath of office to the newly elected 2025 officers of the Lafayette Chapter.*

## Wreaths Across America

On December 14, 2024, the Lafayette Chapter proudly organized and participated in the annual Wreaths Across America Day at Lexington National Cemetery. This solemn event, dedicated to honoring the memory of our nation's veterans, saw hundreds of volunteers come together to lay wreaths on the graves of approximately 1,500 servicemen and women interred at the cemetery.

Wreaths Across America, a national nonprofit organization, helps place wreaths each December to remember and honor veterans by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at over 4,600 locations across the United States and abroad. The initiative aims to ensure that the sacrifices of our military heroes are never forgotten, fostering a sense of gratitude and remembrance among communities nationwide.

The Lafayette Chapter has been an active participant in this noble cause, reflecting its commitment to preserving the legacy of those who fought for America's independence and subsequent freedom.

The ceremony commenced with a poignant address by one of our newest compatriots, Retired General Charles Gorton, who underscored the unity and diversity of the nation. He remarked, "Today, we remember that we are one nation under one flag. By holding this ceremony, we honor those who served and those who still serve, willing to risk their lives so that we can live in a free society made up of many people, many races, and many walks of life."



*A view of the graves of veterans at the Lexington National Cemetery after being adorned with the wreaths.*

Volunteers from various backgrounds participated in the wreath-laying, each driven by a personal connection or a profound respect for the sacrifices made by the armed forces. Tim Brown, SAR National Trustee and Lafayette Chapter member, articulated the deeper meaning behind the wreaths, describing them as "symbols of gratitude and reverence." He further elaborated that each biography "speaks to the enduring legacy of those who answered the call to defend the freedoms we cherish."

The success of Wreaths Across America relies heavily on the generosity of sponsors and the dedication of volunteers. Each wreath is sponsored, ensuring that every veteran's grave receives a tribute. The Lafayette Chapter has been instrumental in rallying community support for this cause. Immediate Past President Patrick Wesolosky expressed gratitude towards the Lexington community, stating, "Every grave is going to have a wreath, and that is just because the community of Lexington has bought into it. They support us, and we could not be more thankful."

Looking ahead, the Lafayette Chapter is already preparing for the next Wreaths Across America Day, scheduled for December 13, 2025, at 12:00 pm. The chapter aims to continue its mission of honoring veterans by laying remembrance wreaths on the graves of the nation's fallen heroes. They encourage community members to participate by sponsoring wreaths, volunteering during the ceremony, or simply attending to pay their respects.

The Lafayette Chapter's involvement in Wreaths Across America exemplifies its dedication to the SAR's overarching mission: to remember the fallen, honor those who serve, and teach future generations the value of freedom. Through such initiatives, the chapter ensures that the legacy of America's veterans continues to inspire and educate, fostering a profound appreciation for the liberties enjoyed today.

## Activities

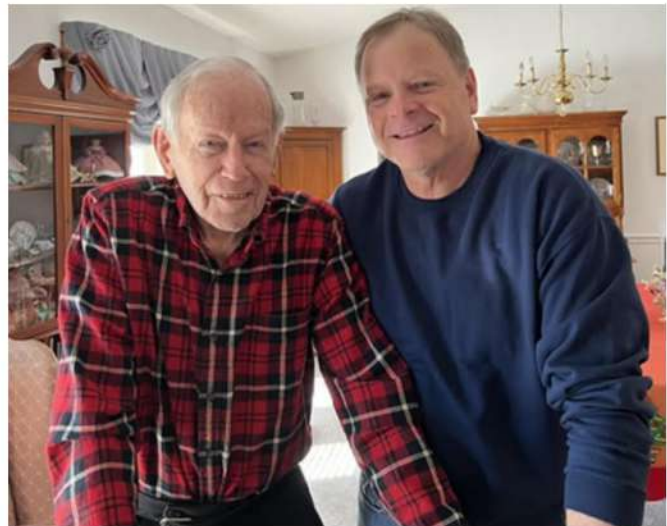


On February 18th, President Steve Gahafer and President-Elect Tim Wisner visited Military Missions and presented them with a \$500 donation from the Lafayette Chapter.

Military Missions is a Lexington-based nonprofit that sends care packages to military personnel who are deployed to foreign territory. It is a way to share a touch of home and remind them they are appreciated.

On January 4th, former Chapter President and current National Trustee Tim Brown visited compatriot Lucien Rice, a member of the Lafayette Chapter. It was Compatriot Rice's 90th birthday!

Compatriot Rice has been a member of the Lafayette Chapter since 2000 and previously served as the Chapter Vice-President in 2014.



On February 6th, President Steve Gahafer and Immediate Past President Patrick Wesolosky assisted the Colonel Daniel Boone Chapter in presenting the colors at the Kentucky National Board Teachers Induction Ceremony.

National Board Certification is a voluntary, advanced teaching credential that signifies a teacher has met high national standards for teaching practice, considered the most respected professional certification in K-12 education, and is administered by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. It involves a rigorous process where teachers demonstrate their advanced knowledge and skills through multiple components, including classroom observations and portfolio submissions, to achieve certification in their chosen teaching area.

## Fire Safety Commendation Medal Presentation

Two of Versailles' most dedicated public servants, Winfrey Adkins and William Phelps, were honored on December 19th by the Lafayette Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. During the Versailles Fire Department's annual holiday dinner, the two retired volunteer firefighters received the Fire Safety Commendation Medal in recognition of their exceptional contributions to fire safety and decades of service to the Versailles community.

Winfrey Adkins began his career with the Versailles Fire Department in 1962 and has served in nearly every capacity, including Deputy Chief, a position he held for 35 years. Now serving as Safety Officer, Adkins has been instrumental in the department's transformation from a one-truck operation to a modern fire service with three stations and a fleet of advanced vehicles and equipment. He is particularly proud to have inspired his son, Jim Adkins, who has served the department for 30 years and is now a Battalion Chief.

William Phelps joined the Versailles Fire Department in 1965 and has also served in numerous roles, including Assistant Chief and department historian. Known for his ability to mentor younger firefighters, Phelps has combined his extensive firefighting experience with a passion for guiding others. Today, he continues his service as Safety Officer, ensuring the safety of firefighters during emergency operations.

"These men represent the best of public service," said Patrick Wesolosky, Immediate Past President of the Lafayette Chapter. "Their commitment to protecting the citizens of Versailles and their leadership within the fire department have left an enduring legacy."

"Winfrey Adkins and William Phelps have not only fought fires but also helped build the framework for the Versailles Fire Department as we know it today," added Wesolosky. "Their dedication, mentorship, and passion for safety are unmatched."

The Fire Safety Commendation Medal is awarded to individuals who demonstrate exceptional contributions to fire safety and public service. This recognition highlights the significant role fire professionals play in protecting lives and property



L-R: Immediate Past President Wesolosky, Winfrey Adkins and William Phelps

### DID YOU KNOW?

The first volunteer fire department in the American Colonies was the Union Fire Company, established in 1736, in Philadelphia. It was organized by Benjamin Franklin.



## Treasurer's Report



Dennis Wells  
Lafayette Chapter Treasurer

As we enter 2025, our Chapter remains in a strong financial position. During the February Board of Governors meeting, we conducted a thorough review of our budget in relation to the Chapter's planned activities for the year. Given that 2025 marks both Lexington 2025 and Lafayette's tour of Lexington, we anticipate increased spending to support several key initiatives.

The primary areas of increased expenditures include enhanced support for Wreaths Across America at the Lexington Cemetery, expanded youth education efforts focusing on essays, posters, and brochures about Lafayette, an investment in new flags and poles for our Color Guard, continued support for Military Missions, the placement of a decorative bench at McConnell's Spring Park, and funding for Lafayette-related activities and the accompanying dinner.

The Board of Governors unanimously agreed that this is an important year for our Chapter to step up and support these special initiatives. However, to accomplish this, we anticipate the need to draw modestly from our savings. While our financial position remains strong, we must ensure that these commitments do not impact our long-term stability.

To that end, we invite our members who may feel financially able to consider sponsoring an activity. Contributions of \$50, \$100, or \$200 toward programs such as Wreaths Across America, youth education, Color Guard equipment, or the SAR bench at McConnell's Spring Park would make a substantial impact. If each member sponsors even one initiative, we can fully fund these projects while maintaining our fiscal strength.

Your support will allow us to honor our Chapter's legacy, invest in community engagement, and ensure a meaningful celebration of Lafayette's contributions. Please consider how you can help make 2025 a memorable and impactful year for our Chapter.



**50%  
OFF**

**APPLICATION FEES**

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FOR NEW MEMBER AND NEW JR. MEMBER APPLICATIONS **ONLY**.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED OR POSTMARKED ON THEIR WAY TO NATIONAL IN THE MONTH OF APRIL.

**SAR.ORG/HOW-TO-APPLY**

Family Plan applications beyond the initial app, 1-24 Established Lineage, Memorial, or Supplementals do not qualify for the discount.

The SAR logo features a stylized eagle with wings spread, perched on a banner that reads "SAR" in large, bold letters. Below "SAR" is the text "SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION" in a smaller font.

Know someone interested in joining the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR)? There's no better time than now to get started on their journey!

For the entire month of April, the National Society is offering an incredible 50% discount on application fees for both new members and new junior members.

This limited-time offer provides a significant savings opportunity for those eager to connect with their Revolutionary War ancestry and become part of this distinguished organization.

Don't miss out—this special discount is only available through the end of April! Act now and help someone take the first step toward membership in the SAR today.



## Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony

Following the Spring Leadership meetings, there will be a Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony honoring Captain John Armstrong in Charlestown, Indiana. Charlestown borders the Ohio River and only 18 miles from downtown Louisville.

Born in New Jersey on April 20, 1755, John Armstrong grew up in Pennsylvania. He joined the Continental Army in 1776, serving under George Washington.

While in the Revolutionary War, Armstrong survived several historic battles, including Stoney Point, Monmouth and the Battle of Yorktown. He also made the famous Christmas Day crossing of the Delaware River.

Armstrong achieved the rank of Captain in the Continental Army, later earning the rank of Colonel in the Ohio Militia. During his military career, he would come in contact with such patriots as Anthony Wayne, Marquis de Lafayette and George Rogers Clark.

Following disbandment of the Continental Army in 1784, Armstrong joined the First U.S. Regiment, where he secretly explored land west of the Mississippi. His travels took him no further than the St. Louis area, but the mission laid the foundation for future discoveries. In many ways, his excursion across the Mississippi was the precursor of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Armstrong later commanded Fort Pitt in Pennsylvania and Fort Finney, a Jeffersonville stronghold located near the current site of the Kennedy Bridge. In 1791, he survived in St. Clair's defeat, the largest Indian massacre in the United States.

After living much of his later life in Ohio, Armstrong returned to Clark County in 1814 to the farm he had established 18 years before. On Feb. 4, 1816, he died on the property where a 10-foot obelisk still marks his grave.

**Captain John Armstrong**  
Grave Marking

**MARCH 2, 2025**  
**10:00 A.M.**

Join us for a grave marking honoring Captain John Armstrong. This second son of a Pennsylvania farmer, who started his career as a private, distinguished himself and concluded the Revolutionary War as a commissioned officer. Armstrong ultimately served more than 16 years in the US military. This event is hosted by the Indiana Society.

Transportation will be provided from Charlestown Town Square (815 Short Street, Charlestown, IN 47111) to the grave site. Color Guard Muster is at 9:00 a.m. at the grave site. Roundtrip shuttles will begin at 8:45 a.m. and the last shuttle for on-time arrival departs at 9:45 a.m.

For more information, scan the QR code above. For additional questions, please email [zdistel@sar.org](mailto:zdistel@sar.org) or [vinkjacob@gmail.com](mailto:vinkjacob@gmail.com).

## Kentucky Society Spring Meeting

**March 8th  
2025**

10:00am to 4:00pm



**Sullivan  
University**

3101 Bardstown Rd,  
Louisville, KY 40205

# Kentucky Society Annual Spring Meeting

- **10:00 to 10:30** - Socialize and Coffee
- **10:30 to 12:00** - State Level Student Presentations and Awards - Oration, Essay, JROTC, Eagle Scout, Poster, Brochure - The NEW Educational Student Video Contest!
- **12:00 to 1:00**—State Luncheon - RSVP below

*Pasta with Red Sauce & Italian Sausage, Pasta with Cream Sauce & Chicken, Salad, Bread, Dessert, and drinks. (Pay early \$15 per person (due by 3/4) - Pay day of \$20 )  
Mail checks to KYSSAR c/o Doug Collins at 7004 Shallow Lake Rd Prospect, Ky. 40059*

- **1:00 to 3:00**—State business and 2025/2026 Officer Elections
- **3:00 to 4:00** KYSSAR Awards and Recognition and Officer Installations

*Scan the QR code to the right or click the link below to Sign Up and RSVP for lunch! It will be great to see you there!!*

<https://forms.gle/rnizGgmtpJLMj396>



***Come out and Represent Your Chapter, Support the Local Youth Award Winners, and the Kentucky Society!!!***

## Revolutionary Kentuckians

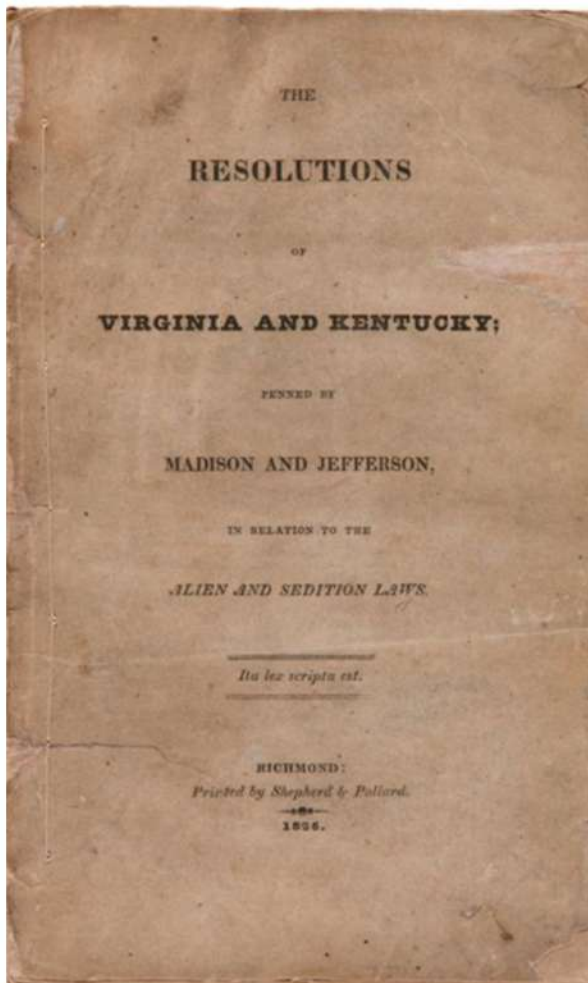
John Breckinridge was a towering figure in early American history, blending military service, legal acumen, and political leadership. A veteran of the American Revolution, he later played a pivotal role in shaping Kentucky's legal and political landscape. His influence extended to national affairs, most notably through his authorship of the Kentucky Resolutions, which became a foundational document in the states' rights debates of the early 19th century.

Born on December 2, 1760, in Augusta County, Virginia, John Breckinridge came of age during a period of profound upheaval. His family, of Scottish-Irish descent, was part of the wave of settlers who sought opportunity in the western frontier of colonial America. As the American Revolution erupted, Breckinridge, like many young men of his generation, took up arms in the struggle for independence. In 1780, he served under Major-General Nathanael Greene during the Virginia Campaign. In 1785, he was presented with the rank of Major by Patrick Henry.

Following the war, Breckinridge pursued legal studies, gaining admission to the Virginia bar in 1785. His legal practice flourished, and he quickly gained recognition for his intellect and skill. Yet, his ambitions extended beyond the courtroom. In the late 1780s, he served in the Virginia House of Delegates, demonstrating a keen understanding of legislative processes and governance. His experience in Virginia would serve him well as he prepared for a move that would define his legacy.



Colonel James Morrison



Copy of the Kentucky Resolutions, which were in reaction to the Alien and Sedition Acts

In 1793, Breckinridge relocated to Kentucky, a region that had recently attained statehood. Kentucky, with its burgeoning population and uncharted political future, provided an ideal environment for an ambitious lawyer and statesman. He settled near Lexington and quickly became involved in local governance, serving in the Kentucky House of Representatives from 1797 to 1801. His prominence grew as he became a key advocate for a strong state government while maintaining allegiance to the broader principles of the federal system.

Breckinridge's most enduring contribution to American political thought came in 1798, when he authored the Kentucky Resolutions. These resolutions, passed by the Kentucky legislature, were a response to the Alien and Sedition Acts enacted by the administration of President John Adams. Breckinridge, working in concert with Thomas Jefferson, argued that the federal government had overstepped its constitutional authority and that states retained the right to nullify unconstitutional laws. While the doctrine of nullification would later be invoked in more contentious circumstances, the Kentucky Resolutions played a significant role in shaping the ongoing debate over federal versus state power.

Building on his legislative success, Breckinridge was elected to the United States Senate in 1801, where he served until 1805. In the Senate, he was a staunch supporter of the Jeffersonian vision of government, advocating for limited federal authority and territorial expansion. His legal expertise made him a valuable voice in national policymaking, and he was instrumental in securing the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. This acquisition, which doubled the size of the United States, aligned with Breckinridge's vision of a prosperous, agrarian republic stretching across the continent.

## Revolutionary Kentuckians

In 1805, President Thomas Jefferson appointed Breckinridge as the Attorney General of the United States. In this role, he worked to solidify the legal foundations of the young nation, ensuring that Jeffersonian principles of governance were upheld in the judicial sphere. His tenure, however, was cut short by his untimely death in 1806 at the age of 46.

Despite his early passing, Breckinridge left an indelible mark on Kentucky and the nation. His family continued his legacy, with later generations playing significant roles in American politics. His grandson, John C. Breckinridge, became Vice President of the United States and later served as a Confederate general during the Civil War, a stark contrast to his grandfather's national vision.



*John Breckinridge's grave at the Lexington Cemetery*

Today, John Breckinridge's lies near that of his family in the Lexington Cemetery. Breckinridge County was named in his honor.



## Two Lights for Tomorrow



**TWO LIGHTS  
FOR TOMORROW**



On April 18-19, the Kentucky Historical Society and America250KY will participate in a nationwide time of service – Two Lights for Tomorrow. Commemorating Paul Revere's famous ride of April 18 and 19, 1775, it is a celebratory event and time of service that will lead up to the 250th birthday of the United States of America on July 4, 2026.

In Kentucky, Two Lights for Tomorrow will also be commemorating the Virginia ride of Jack Jouett, known as the Paul Revere of the South. Jouett's famous 40-mile ride on June 3 and 4, 1781—when Kentucky was still part of Virginia--prevented British troops from capturing then-governor Thomas Jefferson and the Virginia General Assembly. Jouett's actions saved four signers of the Declaration of Independence, including the future president, Jefferson.

On April 18, join the Kentucky Historical Society and America250KY as two lights are displayed at the Old State Capitol as a reminder of the light shining out of the darkness of the Old North Church during Paul Revere's ride and of Jack Jouett's 40-mile ride to warn the Virginia General Assembly. The lights are a reminder of the call to service both Revere and Jouett felt toward their fellow citizens and how their actions still matter today as we work together toward a "more perfect union."

On April 18 -19, from 10 am to 5 pm, America250KY will be collecting food pantry donations at the Kentucky Historical Society in the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History building. The most needed item is always canned meat. Other helpful items are spaghetti sauce, spaghetti or pasta, canned soup, boxed instant oatmeal, canned fruit, vegetables, and beans.

Can't make it to Frankfort? Seek a way to serve others in your own community whether it is volunteering to clean up a local park, cemetery, or historic site, participating in a local food drive, or writing a thank you letter to someone in your community. Together, we can all find a way to meet the needs of our communities.

The Kentucky Historical Society and America250KY encourage you to send photographs and descriptions of your service projects and Two Lights for Tomorrow displays to [America250KY@ky.gov](mailto:America250KY@ky.gov), or tag America 250KY on Facebook to share your service with others!



## Event

Locust Grove will be hosting a lecture entitled "Lafayette: America's Young Hero and the Battle of Brandywine."

Author and journalist Bruce Mowday will talk about Lafayette's departure from France as a 19-year-old untried general, his relationship with George Washington and support of American freedom and his return in 1824 and 1825 as America's guest.

The event will be at 1:00 PM on April 2 at Locust Grove in Louisville. Admission is \$6 for members, and \$8 for non-members.

## Did you know?

Danville has revolutionary roots.



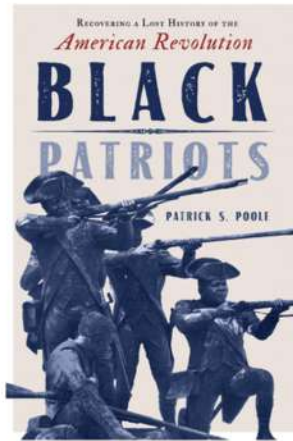
Walker Daniel was born in Virginia, where he was a classmate of George Rogers Clark. As a young man, he pursued a legal career and represented Halifax County in the Virginia legislature. During the Revolutionary War, Daniel attained the rank of Major and was under the command of Colonel William Washington. There are also indications that he was a member of Clark's Illinois Regiment.

Around 1781, Daniel moved to Kentucky, where he laid out the town of Danville. He worked as both a surveyor and an attorney. By 1792, he had established himself as a leading figure in Kentucky's legal system and was appointed the state's first Attorney General.

Tragically, Daniel's promising career was cut short when he was ambushed and killed by Native Americans while traveling to visit his brother, Robert Daniel, at Bullitt's Lick.

## Recommended Reading

Black Patriots fought for American independence from the first shots fired at Lexington and Concord. Dozens stood their ground at Bunker Hill, where Salem Poor and Peter Salem earned recognition for their bravery. They played a crucial role in aiding Washington's army, helping it escape a British trap on Long Island and later securing key victories at Trenton, Princeton, and Saratoga. As the war shifted south, they fought on the frontier and in backcountry battles, helping push the British toward their final stand at Yorktown.



This book by Patrick S. Poole is the often-overlooked story of the Black Patriots who helped secure America's freedom while fighting for their own.

*Penman of the Founding* is available at Joseph-Beth, Barnes and Noble or online at amazon.com.

## From the Archives

"The [Lafayette] chapter assisted in two stops of the Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit in Lexington, Ky.

The exhibit, [photo to the left], housed in a portable building, visited Southland Christian Church and the nearby Cabela's Outfitters in the city's Hamburg neighborhood.



- SAR Magazine, Winter 2020

## Calendar of Events

*Full calendar at [lexsar.org](http://lexsar.org)*

### March 8

Kentucky Society Spring Meeting  
10:00 AM EST  
Sullivan University  
3101 Bardstown Road  
Louisville, Kentucky

### March 10

Lafayette Chapter Spring Meeting  
5:30 PM EST  
Bluegrass FOP Lodge  
1097 Duval Street  
Lexington, Kentucky

### March 15

Color Guard Training  
9:30 AM EST  
Middletown United Methodist Church  
11902 Old Shelbyville Road  
Louisville, Kentucky

### May 10

Honor Flight Kentucky  
Time TBA  
Blue Grass Airport  
4000 Terminal Drive  
Lexington, Kentucky

### May 16

Lafayette Celebration Dinner  
6:00 PM EDT  
Embassy Suites  
1801 Newtown Pike  
Lexington, Kentucky

### May 17

Lafayette Ball  
Time TBA  
Old State Capitol  
100 West Broadway Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky

### June 7

Boonesborough 250th Anniversary  
All Day  
Fort Boonesborough State Park  
4375 Boonesboro Road  
Richmond, Kentucky

### June 9

Lafayette Chapter Summer Meeting  
6:00 PM EDT  
Bluegrass FOP Lodge  
1097 Duval Street  
Lexington, Kentucky

### June 14

Five Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony  
8:00 AM EDT  
Old Fort Harrod State Park  
100 South College Street  
Harrodsburg, Kentucky



# 135th Annual Congress

July 12–July 18, 2025  
Uncasville, Connecticut

## Happy SAR Anniversary!

March 1 - Robert W. Hughes

March 3 - Matthew B. DeMarcus

March 5 - Thomas B. Stephens

March 12 - Theodore R. Kuster  
Joseph B. Nicholson

March 13 - John S. Douglas

March 31 - Billy E. Webb

April 4 - Gregory A. Hodge

April 6 - James R. Martin

April 7 - Justin T. Renner

April 14 - Charles L. Slayton

April 20 - Ricky L. Thomas

April 21 - Jeffery R. Morgan  
Aiyub Palmer

April 27 - Robert M. Weekley

April 28 - Thomas G. Hayden

May 6 - James O. Evans

May 7 - Aaron G. Lawson

May 13 - Christian L. Nicholson  
Colin D. Nicholson

May 14 - Stephen P. Brown, Jr.  
Jon H. Hughes

May 19 - William A. Druen

May 20 - Robert P. Damron  
Robert R. Damron

May 31 - William R. Curd