



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



Greetings Compatriots,

The past few months have been a whirlwind of activity for the Lafayette Chapter, and the pace shows no signs of slowing down. Most recently, we had the great honor of participating in the bicentennial commemoration of General Marquis de Lafayette's historic return to Central Kentucky. The weeklong series of events began in the Louisville-New Albany area, where a full day of celebrations paid tribute to the General's arrival.

The week culminated in a remarkable sign dedication ceremony at Gratz Park in Lexington, held exactly 200 years to the day from Lafayette's 1825 visit. This event was followed by a spectacular dinner at the Embassy Suites Hotel, which served as the grand finale of the commemorative week. Past President Dale Henley devoted more than two years to organizing this occasion, and his efforts resulted in an unforgettable evening. In attendance were not just one, but two direct descendants of General Lafayette, along with numerous descendants of Revolutionary War officers and soldiers who served alongside him. As an added surprise, a costumed reenactor portraying Lafayette brought history vividly to life. With nearly 300 attendees, the evening truly was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Chapter Officers

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Revolutionary Art

Washington and Lafayette at Mount Vernon,
by Rossiter & Mignot



This painting General Lafayette visiting General Washington at Mount Vernon in 1784, soon after the Treaty of Paris became effective.

The work was painted by American artists Thomas Prichard Rossiter and Louis Rémy Mignot. It was completed in 1859.

The original version is today held in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

President's Point of View (cont.)

On May 31st, we were proud to dedicate our SAR 250th Anniversary commemorative bench at McConnell Springs Park—the historic birthplace of Lexington. If you haven't yet visited, I encourage you to stop by and view the bench along with the park's other exhibits. It is truly one of Lexington's hidden gems.

Looking ahead, we have a full calendar of upcoming events, including the celebration of Lexington's 250th anniversary and the National SAR Color Guard event at Blue Licks on August 16th, followed by a five-patriot grave marking on August 17th. Please visit our website and events calendar regularly to stay informed. We hope to see you at these meaningful gatherings as we continue to honor the legacy of our patriot ancestors.

In patriotism and service,

Steve



Website Improvements

The Lafayette Chapter's website has recently undergone some changes. The website, www.lexsar.org is more aesthetically pleasing and user-friendly. Among the information available on the site is a calendar of events that is kept up-to-date.

Special gratitude goes to Chapter President-Elect Tim Wisner, who took on this project and has worked tirelessly to ensure the website is useful and easy to navigate.

Members who have information that should be included on the website are encouraged to contact President-Elect Wisner.



Spring Meeting

The Lafayette Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution convened its first meeting of the year on March 10th at the Bluegrass Fraternal Order of Police Lodge in Lexington. The evening served as both a formal business gathering and a celebration of the chapter's commitment to patriotic service, youth recognition, and community engagement.

President Steve Gahafer opened the meeting by welcoming members and introducing guests. With the national and chapter colors already posted, Chaplain Nick Blevins offered the invocation, after which members enjoyed dinner and fellowship in a spirit of camaraderie.

Following the meal, President Gahafer called the group to order for the business portion of the meeting. National Trustee Tim Brown and Kentucky Society President Patrick Wesolosky, both members of the Lafayette Chapter, led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and SAR Pledge respectively.

The meeting began with the presentation of youth awards—one of the chapter's most celebrated traditions. Cadet Mia Rose, a student at Henry Clay High School, was recognized as the Lafayette Chapter's JROTC award recipient. Notably, she also earned first place in the Kentucky Society's statewide competition. Cadet Rose delivered her winning essay, reflecting on how JROTC has shaped her as a citizen, before receiving both the chapter and state medals from President Gahafer and President Wesolosky, respectively.

Next was Jack Gill of Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, who similarly distinguished himself as the chapter and state winner in the SAR essay contest. His compelling essay on the Marquis de Lafayette's contributions to American independence underscored the enduring relevance of Revolutionary ideals.

Trustee Brown then announced that the Central District meeting, which includes Kentucky, will be held on November 1st at Spindletop Hall in Lexington. Preceding the meeting, a grave-marking ceremony honoring five Revolutionary War patriots will take place at Bethel Presbyterian Church. He encouraged all chapter members to participate in both events.

A motion to approve the minutes of the December chapter meeting and February Board of Managers meeting was made by Trustee Brown and seconded by President-Elect Tim Wisner. The motion carried unanimously.

During officer reports, President Gahafer provided an update on the chapter's 250th anniversary commemorative bench, which is to be installed at McConnell Springs. Details of the unveiling will be announced once final arrangements are made. He also reported that the chapter had achieved a 92% membership renewal rate for 2025, a figure notably higher than the state average and a point of pride for the chapter.

In keeping with the SAR's mission of honoring veterans, President Gahafer presented a chapter donation in February to Military Missions, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting active-duty military personnel.

Registrar Thomas Hayden reported that three new member applications are currently in progress, with two nearing final approval. Genealogist Doug Tattershall remarked on the improved efficiency of the SAR's updated online application system. Chaplain Blevins shared that the chapter is producing personalized notecards for use in corresponding with members during times of illness or bereavement, reflecting a continued emphasis on fraternal care.

In new business, the membership approved the proposed budget for 2025. Compatriot Billy Webb reported positive engagement from area JROTC programs regarding participation in upcoming award ceremonies. Compatriot John Buckler spoke about the 250th anniversary ceremonies at Fort Boonesborough and requested the chapter provide a color guard.



Chapter President Steve Gahafer leading the meeting.

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Spring Meeting



The meeting also featured a meaningful pinning ceremony for four new members:

- Compatriot Randolph Wilson, pinned by Jill Wilson, descended from Sgt. John Alexander of Lee's Legion.
- Compatriot Bill Williams, pinned by President-Elect Wisner, descended from Josiah Jackson, a Revolutionary War wagoner.
- Compatriot David Gahafer, pinned by Vickie Gahafer, descended from Larkin Sandidge of the Virginia Militia.
- Compatriot Jesse Horn, pinned by Vickie Gahafer, descended from Elizabeth Horn, who petitioned the government for patriotic service during the Revolution.

In a special moment of recognition, President Wesolosky presented the Silver Henry Knox Medal and certificate to President Gahafer. President Gahafer, in turn, awarded certificates of appreciation to Compatriots Billy Webb and Doug Tattershall for their first year of service as committee chairs, and presented the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal to Kevin Tudor in recognition of his two years of dedicated service as chapter historian.

The meeting concluded with the SAR Recessional led by Compatriot Webb and a closing benediction from Chaplain Blevins.



NSSAR Partnership

The National Society of the SAR recently announced a new partnership with Church Hill Classics, a trusted leader in premium custom framing. Through this collaboration, members of the Sons of the American Revolution now have the opportunity to display their SAR membership certificates in an elegant and dignified manner that reflects the pride and heritage of our organization.

Each frame is handcrafted and tailored exclusively for SAR members, incorporating official branding and high-quality materials that highlight the significance of your

membership. Whether displayed in your home, office, or study, these frames offer a distinguished way to honor your lineage and celebrate your commitment to preserving the legacy of our Revolutionary ancestors.

With multiple styles and finishes available, members can choose the perfect design to complement their personal taste while maintaining the historical integrity of the certificate itself. These frames not only serve as a visual reminder of your patriotic heritage but also make thoughtful gifts for newly inducted compatriots or long-time members.

We encourage all members to take advantage of this unique opportunity to preserve and present their SAR membership certificates with the craftsmanship and respect they deserve.

Lafayette Dinner

On the evening of May 16th, the Lafayette Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution hosted a memorable and dignified commemorative dinner marking the 200th anniversary of General Marquis de Lafayette's return tour of the United States—specifically celebrating his historic 1825 stop in Lexington. Held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, the event welcomed a distinguished and enthusiastic crowd of more than 300 attendees, making it one of the most well-attended historical gatherings in Kentucky.

The evening's program featured a variety of meaningful tributes that reflected the deep historical ties between the United States and France, as well as Lafayette's enduring legacy as a hero of both nations. The event began with stirring renditions of patriotic songs of the United States and France, performed with fervor and heartfelt appreciation. This set a reverent tone for the evening as guests reflected on Lafayette's role in securing American independence and fostering Franco-American friendship.

A particular highlight of the evening was the appearance of a Lafayette reenactor, who offered a spirited and historically grounded portrayal of the General, delivering a speech in full character that brought 19th-century history vividly to life. His performance helped transport attendees back to that remarkable era when Lafayette toured the young nation he had helped to liberate.

Adding further personal and historical resonance were remarks from four descendants of individuals who had been present during Lafayette's original 1825 visit to Lexington. Their reflections helped bridge the centuries, reminding all in attendance of the living legacy of that momentous occasion.

Representing the modern-day bond between France and the United States, a member of the French consulate's office delivered remarks that celebrated Lafayette's life and contributions while affirming the continuing friendship



Replica of the cake served at Lafayette's visit to Lexington in 1825



Compatriot Len Beverley poses with General Lafayette following his inspection of the Color Guard

between our two nations. Their presence added a note of official international recognition to the evening's significance.

The most anticipated moment of the evening came with the arrival of Madame Sabine Renault-Sablionière, the seventh great-granddaughter of General Lafayette. Madame Renault-Sablionière offered heartfelt and eloquent reflections on her esteemed ancestor and spoke movingly about his wife, Adrienne de Noailles Lafayette, whose strength and sacrifice were instrumental in supporting her husband's mission. Madame Renault-Sablionière has written a book on Adrienne, shedding light on this often-overlooked figure in revolutionary history.

In recognition of the significance of their attendance and the ongoing connection between France and Kentucky, both Madame Renault-Sablionière and the consular representative received gifts of appreciation. These tokens were presented jointly by the Lafayette Chapter, local Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) chapters, and the Honorable Linda Gorton, Mayor of Lexington.

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Lafayette Dinner

In a particularly meaningful gesture, Mayor Gorton awarded each guest a ceremonial key to the city. Madame Renault-Sablionière was also honored with a certificate naming her a Kentucky Colonel—the Commonwealth’s highest title of honor—symbolizing both respect and friendship.

The event was an overwhelming success by every measure, combining historical reverence with modern-day fellowship. While many chapter members contributed time and effort to bring this evening to fruition, special recognition is owed to former Chapter President Dale Henley. A longtime admirer of General Lafayette, Dale spearheaded the planning and organization of the event, beginning more than two years ago. His passion for history, meticulous attention to detail, and unwavering dedication were critical in making the bicentennial celebration not only possible but extraordinary. The entire chapter owes him a deep debt of gratitude.

This remarkable evening served as a fitting tribute to a man whose courage, vision, and enduring spirit continue to inspire generations across two continents. It also reflected the mission of the Sons of the American Revolution: to preserve the memory of those who secured our independence and to foster appreciation of our shared heritage.



L-R: Chapter President Steve Gahafer, Madame Sabine Renault-Sablionière, her niece and Kentucky Society President Patrick Wesolosky



Past President Henley, who organized the event, leads the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.



President Steve Gahafer welcomes everyone on behalf of the Lafayette Chapter.

Activities



On March 29th, members of the Lafayette Chapter served as the Color Guard for the Kentucky Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution's state banquet, which was held in Lexington.



In his current role as President of the Kentucky Society of the Sons of the Revolution, Patrick Wesolosky spoke at the DAR's state conference.

His remarks were not only an update of information from the Kentucky Society, but demonstrated a willingness to find ways to partner with the DAR during the 250th celebration of our nation.

President Wesolosky is a member of the Lafayette Chapter and our immediate past president.



Commemorations of 250th anniversary of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, the first of the American Revolution, were held this past April 19th at the respective towns in Massachusetts.

Lafayette Chapter's immediate past president, Patrick Wesolosky, was part of the Kentucky contingent at these commemorations.

Here he is pictured with John Dodd, former President General of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Fort Boonesborough 250th Anniversary

This June will present an exciting opportunity of a historic event celebrating the 250th anniversary of the founding of Boonesborough. This one-day event, which will take place at Fort Boonesborough State Park, promises to be a memorable occasion filled with historical presentations, family-friendly activities, and a strong sense of Kentucky heritage.

The celebration will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a formal SAR flag presentation, setting the tone for a day of reflection and commemoration. At 10:00 a.m., renowned historian and author Randell Jones—an expert on Daniel Boone—will give a keynote address about the legendary pioneer's life and his pivotal role in Kentucky's settlement.

Following Jones's remarks, archaeologist Nancy O'Malley will speak at 11:00 a.m. about the original Boonesborough fort site. Drawing from her archaeological work, O'Malley will offer fascinating insights into what has been uncovered through excavations at the site and how these findings contribute to our understanding of early frontier life.

At approximately 12:00 noon, attendees will witness a remarkable moment as a group of hikers completes a 200-mile journey along the historic Boone Trace, beginning in Kingsport, Tennessee, and ending at the original fort site. Their arrival will serve as a powerful tribute to the determination and spirit of Kentucky's early settlers.

In addition to the scheduled speakers and presentations, the event will feature period vendors, historical displays, children's activities, and a free shuttle ride to the replica fort. Attendees will also have the opportunity to purchase commemorative books, T-shirts, and souvenirs.

Sponsored by the Fort Boonesborough Foundation, Fort Boonesborough State Park, and the Society of Boonesborough, this event offers a unique opportunity to engage with Kentucky's rich frontier past. The Lafayette Chapter encourages all members and their families to attend and be part of this landmark celebration.

250th Anniversary of the Settling of Kentucky

June 7-8 2025

Founding of Fort Boonesborough 1775 - 2025

**Free Event to be held along the Kentucky River
near the original fort site**

Daily portrayals of Boonesborough "Firsts"
Demonstrations, Speakers, Authors, Book Signings
Period Vendors & Period Music

**Under The
DIVINE ELM**

**AMERICA
250
KENTUCKY**

Shuttles to the Fort with Regular Admission

Fort Boonesborough State Park
4375 Boonesboro Rd. Richmond, KY 40475

Facebook - Fort Boonesborough Foundation
www.fortboonesboroughfoundation.org www.fortboonesboroughlivinghistory.org

Sponsored in part by
**FORT
BOONESBOROUGH
foundation**



Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony

5 Patriot Grave Marking Service

For

Captain James Ray
Private Mark McGohon
Private Hugh Wilson (KIA-Fort Harrod)

Private Lewis Rose
Mr. Garret Terhune

Hosted by the
Colonel James Harrod Chapter
Kentucky SAR

*Please bring
a lawn chair!*

*Please bring
a lawn chair!*

Date:

June 14, 2025

9:00 AM Eastern / 8:00 AM Color Guard Muster

Event Address:

DAR/Pioneer Cemetery at Old Fort Harrod

100 S. College St. Harrodsburg, KY 40330

(GPS Coordinates: 37.762320,-84.847640)

Please register your attendance NLT June 7, 2025 through the below QR Code or at the following website: <https://forms.gle/3X5BfcQuAXUtjXU29>



Youth Awards



Each year the Lafayette Chapter participates in the youth awards sponsored by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. This year we were proud to have participants in the poster, brochure, oration, essay and ROTC categories.

The purpose of these awards is multifaceted. It helps bring attention to the SAR, teach more about the American Revolution and inspire the next generation to not only know the history of the founding of our nation, but to encourage them to be engaged and active citizens themselves!

Left: Jack Gill, a student at Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School, was the winner of the essay contest. As the subject of his essay was the Marquis de Lafayette, Jack read his essay at the Lafayette Dinner.



Compatriot Billy Webb represented the Lafayette Chapter at multiple locations this spring, presenting ROTC awards. Pictured above, left to right, is Compatriot Webb, a Navy veteran himself, with students at Eastern Kentucky University, Henry Clay High School and George Rogers Clark High School.



Chapter Secretary Tommy Druen is pictured above presenting the awards to: Julia Druen, winner of the Elementary School Poster contest, Mark Reinhardt, winner of the Sgt. Moses Adams Middle School Brochure contest, and Luke Griesser, winner of the Joseph Rumbaugh Oration contest.

Revolutionary Kentuckians

In the history of Kentucky's earliest days, few figures loom as large—and as tragically—as Colonel John Hardin. A soldier, scout, and frontier diplomat, Hardin embodied the restless spirit of early Kentuckians. He was a man molded by war and wilderness, a Virginian by birth and a Kentuckian by destiny, whose life serves as a microcosm of the perils and promise of the Revolutionary era.

Born in Fauquier County, Virginia in 1753, John Hardin came of age during the tumult of frontier warfare, learning to fight alongside settlers as they often opposed Native Americans. Though he received no formal military training, he exhibited a natural acumen for leadership and a fierce sense of duty that would carry him from militia service to national renown.

At age 21, Hardin joined a militia company for what would be termed Lord Dunmore's War. The company entered Ohio and destroyed several native villages along the Muskingum River. Hardin took part in this expedition as a private in a company from Monongalia County led by Captain Zackquill Morgan. On August 2, Hardin was wounded in a skirmish at Snake's Town. A musket ball "penetrated his thigh and lodged near his groin." The musket ball remained in him for the rest of his life. While recovering from the wound, he is said to have accompanied Lord Dunmore's subsequent expedition while on crutches.



Colonel John Hardin

During the Revolutionary War, John Hardin held the rank of second lieutenant in the 8th Pennsylvania Regiment. He was selected for an elite unit of sharpshooters known as the Provisional Rifle Corps—often referred to as "Morgan's Rifles"—under the command of Colonel Daniel Morgan. In this capacity, Hardin saw action at the pivotal Battles of Saratoga, where his service contributed to one of the most significant American victories of the war. His involvement in that campaign is recognized today with a commemorative marker at Saratoga National Historical Park.

Following the conclusion of the war, in 1786, Hardin relocated with his family to a sizable tract of land in what was then Washington County, Virginia—an area that would later become part of Washington County, Kentucky. There, he established a homestead, raising crops and livestock while expanding his landholdings over time. The Hardins also affiliated themselves with the local Methodist congregation.



Daniel Morgan, in white, surrounded by his riflemen at Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga

Though known for his dedication to settlement and agriculture, Hardin continued to serve in the militia and took part in several violent encounters with Native American communities. In the same year he settled in Kentucky, Hardin led a militia assault on a Piankashaw village near present-day Vincennes, Indiana—a group that had previously maintained friendly relations with the Americans during the Revolution. Later, in August of 1789, he commanded another expedition to the area near Terre Haute, launching an attack on a small Shawnee group that included women and children.

Revolutionary Kentuckians

Although Hardin publicly displayed the results of his raid upon his return through Vincennes, the local U.S. military commander, Major Jean François Hamtramck, expressed grave concern, warning that such provocations would likely disrupt the fragile peace he had negotiated with the Wabash tribes. Hardin's return to Kentucky was marked by the grim display of twelve scalps taken during the mission.

John Hardin's military involvement did not end with the close of the American Revolution. As tensions with Native American tribes escalated on the western frontier, Hardin remained an active participant in the evolving conflict known as the Northwest Indian War. One of the earliest and most significant of these engagements occurred in 1790, when Hardin commanded a detachment of Kentucky militiamen in what came to be called the Battle of Heller's Corner, also referred to by many as "Hardin's Defeat." The expedition ended in disaster. His troops were ambushed and decisively routed by Native forces under the leadership of the Miami war chief Mihšihkinaahkwa, better known as Little Turtle. This defeat marked the beginning of a series of American military failures in the region and demonstrated the formidable resistance posed by the Native confederacy. The losses suffered under Hardin's command would be echoed in the catastrophic defeat of General Arthur St. Clair the following year, underscoring the harsh realities of frontier warfare and the underestimation of Native military capabilities by U.S. forces.



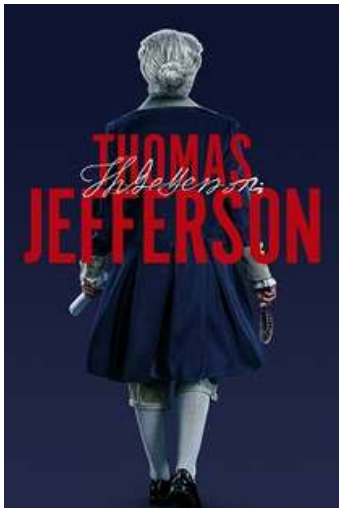
Colonel John Hardin's Grave at Grove Hill Cemetery in Shelby County

Despite this setback, Hardin remained a key figure in frontier military operations. In 1791, he led another mounted force—this time comprised of approximately sixty militiamen—on a campaign targeting the Kickapoo tribe. His men attacked and destroyed a significant Kickapoo village located near the mouth of Big Pine Creek, in what is now western Indiana.

In the spring of 1792, Hardin was chosen for a far different kind of mission—one that required diplomacy rather than arms. General James Wilkinson, seeking to establish peace and secure the frontier through negotiation, selected Hardin to act as an envoy to several Native groups residing along the Sandusky River in northern Ohio. The objective was to deliver terms of peace on behalf of the federal government and to assess the prospects of a negotiated settlement.

Hardin traveled northward with a small party, including a servant named Freeman and a Native guide. Along the way, the group encountered a contingent of Shawnee who professed peaceful intentions and offered to accompany them. Trusting, Hardin accepted their escort. However, the situation took a fatal turn. One night, while Hardin and Freeman were asleep, their Shawnee turned on them. Both Hardin and his servant were killed—likely as a warning to American authorities and a repudiation of any overtures for peace seen as insincere or coercive. Remarkably, the guide survived the incident and was later able to report the details of the betrayal.

Colonel John Hardin was buried at Grove Hill Cemetery, located in Shelbyville, Kentucky. Counties in Kentucky, Ohio and Illinois would be named in his honor



Television

The History Channel recently released a six-part miniseries that chronicles the life of Thomas Jefferson and his amazing career that culminated in serving as our nation's third president.

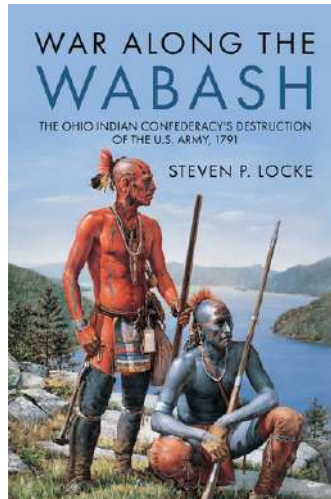
The miniseries can be found streaming on multiple sources. It is also able to be viewed on The History Channel's website at www.history.com.

Recommended Reading

On November 4, 1791, Native American forces dealt the U.S. Army its greatest defeat at the Battle of the Wabash, repelling an invasion led by Arthur St. Clair. Tasked with building forts and subduing the Ohio Indian Confederacy, St. Clair faced recruitment, supply, and leadership challenges. His army's collapse prompted bitter blame and led Congress to authorize a regular army.

Drawing on 30 years of research, this book places the battle within broader struggles over land, debt, and sovereignty, revealing how Native resistance reshaped U.S. military policy and exposed the fragility of the young republic.

War Along the Wabash is available at Joseph-Beth, Barnes and Noble or online at amazon.com.



Did you know?

Kentucky was the first to honor Lafayette?



Few people can claim more places named in their honor than the Marquis de Lafayette. Seventeen states that have a county named in his honor, either Lafayette or Fayette. And, currently, the U.S. Postal service recognizes 74 communities with Lafayette's name or a derivative thereof.

However, Fayette County, Kentucky was the first to be named after the famed general.

In 1780, the Virginia General Assembly divided then Kentucky County into three counties: Jefferson, Lincoln and Fayette. This was more than a full year before the British surrender at Yorktown.

In 1792, Kentucky became its own state, yet the county names were retained. Though its boundaries would shrink through the years, Fayette County, Kentucky holds the distinction of being the first place named for the Marquis de Lafayette in the United States.

**FUN
FACT**

Lafayette Proposed Invading Canada

After learning Nova Scotia was considering declaring independence as well, General Lafayette proposed invading there with French soldiers. General Washington rejected the idea, fearing the French would want to Nova Scotia and all of Canada for itself following the war.



In Memoriam

Russell F. Tucker

September 25, 1946 – May 7, 2025



Compatriot Russell F. Tucker was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War and served as a navigator on C130 turboprop military transport aircraft.

He established roots in Lexington, Kentucky after being welcomed by John Stewart and his family; working on John's family's horse farm. He attended the University of Kentucky where he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity and graduated with a Bachelor of Agriculture Degree.

Russ began his career as an insurance agent with State Farm 49 years ago where he made many lifelong friends and served the community of Lexington.

He started his journey in the Catholic faith going through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults program at Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary. He was very active with the Catholic Diocese of Lexington and was integral in starting what would be the Cliffview Retreat Center.

Russ was recently inducted into the Sons of the American Revolution and volunteered in many capacities for the Boy Scouts of America, Sierra Club, Kappa Sigma, Bluegrass State Games, Kentucky Three Day Event at the Kentucky Horse Park and many more. Russ just enjoyed meeting new people.

He took up diving and joined the Bluegrass Dive Club with his wife Maryanne. They traveled the world exploring the animals and landscape of the ocean. Within the last year he began attending the Pisgah Presbyterian Church making new friends and connecting with old ones. He was set to take an Honor Flight to our nation's capital, but God had other plans for a much more honorable flight.

Russ was a big presence that was never without something to say. He loved his family and friends fiercely and will be remembered fondly by all who knew him.

Russ was preceded in death by his parents, Thurman "Red" and Evelyn Tucker. He is survived by his brother Kenneth (Diane) Tucker, his wife, Maryanne O'Canna, former wife, Jane Tucker and their children, Elizabeth (David) Hobbs, Jennifer (Brian) Nelson and Matthew Tucker; grandchildren, Whitney and Ben Hobbs, Harper and Emma Nelson, Mariah & Lucas Tucker.

A Funeral Mass of Christian Burial was held at Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Lexington. Russ was laid to rest, with military honors at Camp Nelson National Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to Sons of the American Revolution, 800 West Main St., Louisville, KY 40202-2619 or to the Honor Flight Kentucky, P.O. Box 25025, Lexington, KY 40524.

*Fear not death; for the sooner we die,
the longer shall we be immortal.
~ Benjamin Franklin*

Calendar of Events

Full calendar at lexsar.org

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
Sullivan University
2355 Harrodsburg Road
Lexington, Kentucky

June 14

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

June 21

Ruddles Station Massacre Anniversary
9:00 AM EDT
Old Lair Road
Cynthiana, Kentucky

June 21

Robinson Grave Marking Ceremony
1:00 PM EDT
Robinson Cemetery
1201 Stringtown Webber Road
Corinth, Kentucky

July 4

Lex 250 Independence Day Parade
11:00 AM EDT
Corner of Short St. and Elm Tree Ln.
Lexington, Kentucky

August 16

Battle of Blue Licks Memorial
8:30 AM EDT
Blue Licks Battlefield State Park
10299 Maysville Road
Carlisle, Kentucky

September 8

Lafayette Chapter Fall Meeting
5:00 PM EDT
Bluegrass FOP Lodge
1097 Duval Street
Lexington, Kentucky

October 4

Five Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony
Time TBA
New Providence Cemetery
490 Providence Road
Harrodsburg, Kentucky



135th Annual Congress

July 12–July 18, 2025
Uncasville, Connecticut

Happy SAR Anniversary!

June 5 - Michael J. Kennedy
Grant A. Kirk

June 8 - Jarrod J. Beck

June 10 - Glenn A. Hudson

June 12 - Charles O. Landon
James R. Landon
John G. Landon

June 14 - Ridge A. Stokes

June 16 - Gordon J. Krist

June 18 - Terry D. Rothgeb

June 20 - Joseph R. Jones, II

June 21 - Michael L. Clancy
Thomas Crowl

June 22 - Joseph L. Clancy

June 24 - John D. Walker

June 25 - John W. Lancaster

June 28 - Jimmie A. Jackson

June 30 - Henry M. Chilton

July 1 - William C. Thornbury

July 2 - John B. Hawkins

July 6 - William D. Newsome

July 10 - William G. Thames

July 14 - Andrew F. Seybert

July 16 - Charles C. Hay, III
Timothy L. Wisner

July 17 - William D. Gahafer

July 19 - Hugh A. Moran

July 28 - John D. Nicholson

July 29 - David W. Hayes

July 31 - Marvin H. Graves
Henry B. Graves

August 2 - Don D. Adams

August 5 - Sam P. Burchett

August 11 - Leonard B. Beverley

August 12 - Larry C. Deener

August 24 - Charles E. Darnell

August 25 - Thomas D. Johnson

August 27 - Douglas P. Graves

August 28 - Emery A. Wilson

August 30 - William R. Thames