



The Kentuckian

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Greetings from the Governor General

Happy Spring! We Kentuckians are so fortunate to have the beauty and variety of four very distinct seasons, but after a gorgeous but severe - and long - winter, Spring is especially welcome and appreciated this year.

We are planning our annual banquet for May 31st at the Pendennis Club in downtown Louisville, Kentucky. It is located near several



hotels, making it convenient for our out-of-town and out-of-state members. There are a lot of other nearby attractions, such as the many excellent museums and restaurants in the

downtown area, so join us this year and plan to stay a while and enjoy what Louisville has to offer. Our speaker for the banquet will be Mr. David Stuart, and we are looking forward to an enjoyable event. There is more about Mr. Stuart and the historic Ward Hall in this issue.

I hope you will enjoy the pictures from our Fall luncheon - is YOUR picture there? I wish all of you could have heard Treasurer General Stephen Collins' delightful talk on the two historic and fascinating Governors' Mansions in Frankfort. It was a very special event. I hope to see you on May 31st.

Lynn Shea, Governor General

First Families of Kentucky

Eighth Annual Banquet

Saturday the thirty-first of May

Two thousand and fourteen

Pendennis Club

218 West Muhammad Ali Boulevard

Louisville, Kentucky

Social hour at Six o'clock

Dinner at quarter past Seven

\$70.00 per person

White tie preferred

Black tie acceptable

Program by

Mr. David Stuart

"Ward Hall: A Family Story"

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Ward Hall

The First Families of Kentucky board has chosen Ward Hall as our second recipient for a \$500.00 donation. Ward Hall is located at 1782 Frankfort Road near Georgetown, Kentucky in Scott County.

In 1853, Junius Richard Ward built the Greek Revival mansion as a summer residence where his family could escape the hot Mississippi heat of their winter estate. The architect, Thomas Lewinski, made Ward Hall his finest residential design. The mansion was set on a foundation of coquina (coral and fossils), with large Corinthian columns, and stone window and door frames. Italian marble fireplaces, chandeliers, decorative walnut woodwork, frescoed ceilings and an elliptical staircase were all used to impress the viewer with its southern grandeur. A frequent visitor was the Louisville socialite and niece Sallie Ward.

Junius R. Ward was the grandson of the Scott County pioneers Col. Robert and Jemina Suggett Johnson. Ward's wife, Matilda, was the daughter of Capt. Willa Viley of Scott County. The Ward family saw their wealth reduced by the loss of slaves and the investment in Confederate bonds during the Civil War. The estate was sold in 1867.

A later owner of the estate, Col. Milt Hamilton, offered the mansion along with 250 acres and 50,000 dollars to the Kentucky Legislature for the location of the State Capitol. It was not accepted.

Mr. David Stuart serves as the chairman of *Ward Hall Preservation Foundation, Inc.* The Foundation members are dedicated to raising the funds necessary to restore the estate.

Ward Hall is listed on the National Register of Historical Places.

To see pictures of the mansion go to:
wardhall@wardhall.net

Our "Members Only" page contains the names of new members and also members who have passed away.

Lexington Country Club Luncheon



Speaker: Stephen Collins



Fay Charpentier-Ford



Jerry Ford (memorial flowers)



Jack & Nancye Early



Lucille Gray, Betty Rose, Ann Franklin



Nancy & Dick Lutz



Lynn Shea, Steve Collins, Gov. Martha Layne Collins



Jeanette Wortham



William C. Schrader, III



Sally Graul



George Meyers, Emily Utter, June Farris



Terri Pyles, Ann Roderick



Art & Jean Dietz



Lynn Shea, J. Murel Wheatley, Ron Shea



Lexington Country Club October 5, 2013



Ogden Lewis, Bob Wagel, Jamie Burroughs



Ken Bohn



Jane Wagel & Louise Lewis



Sallie Cheatham Smith



Walter & Waldean Hammons



"My Old Kentucky Home"
led by William A. Buckaway, Jr.

Rebecca Ruth Candy

Several people requested that I write these little "histories" for Bibb Salad, Kentucky Hot Brown, and Rebecca-Ruth Bourbon Ball Candies, for the Spring newsletter. Lynn Shea



In 1919, before women could vote, few women worked outside the home. Married women were not allowed to teach school; married women were expected to stay home and be full-time housewives and mothers. But there were two very adventurous, ambitious, and independent young women in Frankfort, Kentucky, who didn't fit into the accepted mold.

Ruth Hanly and Rebecca Gooch, two bored substitute school teachers in their mid-twenties, decided to do a very shocking and brave thing. Encouraged by the praise their gifts of candy received every Christmas season, they decided to co-found a candy enterprise. Without the support and encouragement of husbands, and much skepticism and mild ridicule of friends, they established Rebecca Ruth Candies.

The first hurdle was to find a suitable location. J.J. King, the owner of the Frankfort Hotel, came to the rescue. The bar-room at the hotel was closed due to prohibition, and was sitting idle, so the young women rented the space and began dipping chocolates. The business was an instant success, but on a rather small scale.

In 1924 Ruth married Douglass Booe and moved to Northern Kentucky, but the business continued. Three years later their only child was born. Their son was given the name John Charles Booe. Tragically, less than a year later, Douglass died as a result of injuries he had received in World War I, and the grieving widow and her son moved back to Frankfort.

A couple of years later her business partner, Rebecca Gooch, decided to marry and sold her half of the business to Ruth. Then the Great Depression hit, and the mail order business dropped off. With her characteristic determination, she used this time to experiment and develop new candies. The most famous and still hugely popular Ruth's Mint Kentucky Colonels came from this period.

More adversity was to strike again in 1933, when her home and factory just outside Frankfort, in the area known as Jett, was destroyed by fire. Ruth lost everything - her home, supplies, equipment and money. Only the huge marble slab on which she made her candy survived. Every bank in Frankfort rejected her request for a loan, but her determination and positive attitude kept her searching for a solution. Finally, a very kind and generous hotel housekeeper offered her a \$50 loan, and she was back in business. In 1936 the idea of mixing Kentucky Bourbon into her chocolate candy was casually suggested by another Frankfort friend, probably half in jest.

Ruth worked for two years to perfect the still secret process for blending the bourbon and candy. Bourbon Ball Candies immediately became hugely popular and sales boomed until the beginning of World War II. Now sugar, as well as many other things, was rationed, and Ruth couldn't get the amount she needed in her business. This time her many friends shared their rations with her so the business survived another huge obstacle.

Ruth Booe retired in 1964, and her son, John, took over the business. He is noted for bringing it

into the modern age without sacrificing their famous high quality, developing the business, and expanding their mail orders. Many new candies have been developed, and other liquors such as rum, scotch and cognac have been added as well.

Today Rebecca Ruth Candy enjoys worldwide popularity. In 1997 John sold the business to his son, Charles Booe, who is continuing to carry on this remarkable family tradition. Lynn Shea (with written permission of the Rebecca Ruth Candy Company)

Bibb Lettuce & Kentucky Hot Brown

Bibb lettuce, a delicious and delicate variety, was developed by Lt. John B. "Jack" Bibb, who fought in the War of 1812, and served in the Kentucky House of Representatives and the State Senate from 1827 until 1834. In 1845 he built his charming home, "Grey Gables", on Wapping Street in Frankfort. Being an amateur horticulturist, he developed this lettuce in his back yard garden, and generously shared the seeds with his friends and neighbors. It was not produced and sold commercially until 1935. It is the traditional salad for Derby Day brunches in the Commonwealth.

The Kentucky Hot Brown was created by Fred K. Schmidt, a chef at the Brown Hotel on Broadway in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1923, soon after the hotel opened. The original was an open-faced sandwich consisting of a slice of white toast covered with sliced roast turkey—rare at the time, as turkey was usually reserved for holiday feasts. Then it was heavily covered with Mornay sauce and a sprinkling of Parmesan cheese, and placed under the broiler until bubbly and lightly browned. Pimento and bacon strips were placed on top before serving. Today many variations can be found, and tomato slices usually replace the pimento used originally, but it is still a Kentucky favorite. It is a traditional dish at Derby time in Louisville, and throughout the state.

Morgan

Susannah Morgan Pryor, our 4th great-grandmother, was born June 10, 1765, near the Monongahela River. It has traditionally been passed down in our branch of the Morgan family that she was kin to Daniel Boone through his mother, Sarah Morgan Boone. It is thought, but not verified, that Susannah Morgan's father was Charles M. Morgan who, along with his wife, was killed by Indians around 1780. Susannah then went to live with a married sister in Bardstown, Kentucky.

Susannah's future husband, Simon Pryor, Sr. was born February 19, 1760 in Elizabeth Township, Essex County, New Jersey. He was the son of Andrew Pryor and Polly Marsh. Simon served in the American Revolution, where he joined the New Jersey Militia, in May, 1776. He was stationed in Elizabeth Township, New Jersey; marched from there through Pennsylvania and was at the Battle of Long Island, Battle of Monmouth, Battle of Springfield, and other skirmishes. He served in the Army for a total of five years. Simon Pryor, Sr. filed for and received a Veteran's Pension for his American Revolutionary service.

After the Revolutionary War ended, Simon Pryor, Sr. migrated to what is now Nelson County, Kentucky after being discharged in 1783. Bullitt County, where he later lived, was created from land given by Jefferson and Nelson Counties in 1796.

Susannah Morgan married Simon Pryor, Sr. on August 25, 1785, in Bardstown, Nelson County, Kentucky. The wedding took place near her sister's home. Her sister, Mary Morgan Barnett, was married to John Barnett, Sr. A wedding feast was held at the Barnett's home when the newly-married couple and their guests arrived there. The Pryors lived on the Barnett land for several months after their marriage. This information was verified in 1848 when Susannah filed for a Bounty Land Warrant from the Federal Government and her nephew, John Barnett, Jr., swore

an affidavit on her behalf. John Barnett, Jr. later moved to Grayson County, Kentucky, and his name was changed from Barnett to Burnett on their records for some reason.

Susannah and Simon Pryor had 13 children. They were all born in Bullitt County, Kentucky, but some later moved to the counties of Grayson and Meade in Kentucky. When Simon and Susannah Pryor moved to Grayson County, Kentucky, they lived on Little Clifty Creek. Simon and Susannah Pryor and Alexander and Mary Probus became four of the original founding members of the Concord Baptist Church when it was constituted in Grayson County in 1813.

Simon and Susannah Pryor children: Anne 1786-1789; John 1787-1801; Simon 1789-1818; Rachel 1791-1837; Mary 1792-1855; Moses 1794-1860; Sarah 1797-?; Samuel 1799-1799; Diadame 1800-1817; Charles 1802-1824; Hannah 1804-?; Andrew 1806-1856; David 1809-1855.

Our 3rd great-grandmother, Mary Pryor, daughter of Susannah, married Alexander Probus, in Bullitt County on March 8, 1809. Alexander Probus was from Washington County, Maryland and arrived in Bullitt County, Kentucky in 1807. He enlisted in the War of 1812 from Bullitt County, in the Kentucky Militia, after he and Mary married.

Simon Pryor, Sr. died at the age of 81 years in 1842. After his death, Susannah filed for a Revolutionary War Widow's Pension, which she began receiving in 1848. She was awarded Bounty Land from the Federal Government in 1855. According to the 1860 census, Susannah Morgan Pryor lived with her son, Moses, and his wife. Moses passed away in 1860, and Susannah continued to live with her daughter-in-law. Susannah passed away on December 22, 1861, age 96. Susannah lived through the Revolutionary War era, the War of 1812, and the first year of the Civil War. Most of the information came from the pages of Susannah's Bible.

Contributed by Betty Hester Miesner,

Alexander T. Probus, Myrna Hester Parsley, Donna H. Williamson, & Patricia C. Johnson.

Hazelriggs

The Hazelrigg family migrated from England to the Virginia Colony prior to 1700. Richard K. Hazelrigg died in Fredrick County, Virginia ca. 1762; his son James, moved his family from Prince William County, Virginia to Red Stone Old Fort, Pennsylvania in 1761. (The present site of Brownsville, Pennsylvania.) From there they moved to Washington County, Pennsylvania, where they were involved in the Washington County Border Warfare of 1782. James and his son, Joshua, were in Capt. William Leets' Company, 3th Battalion, Washington County Militia. His son, William, was in Capt. Abner Howell's Frontier Militia.

A deposition signed in 1831 by Elijah Hazelrigg in Bath County, Kentucky, and found in David Snowden's pension papers, states that he, Elijah, was the son of James and Elizabeth Hazelrigg, and brother of Nancy, who married David Snowden. It also stated that the Hazelrigg family moved from Pennsylvania to Kentucky in 1784 and settled along the Kentucky River in Fayette County. The Master Index of Virginia Surveys and Grants, compiled by Joan Brookes-Smith, shows that James had surveyed and was granted two parcels of land, one 300 acres, the other for 350 acres along the Kentucky River in Fayette County. William Hazelrigg held 750 acres, surveyed and granted at the same time, which adjoined James' property. Much of these holdings proved to be in Clark County when it was cut from Fayette County. On 13 November 1785 James and Elizabeth Hazelrigg were on the rolls of the Boone Creek Baptist Church. Sometime after this date Elizabeth must have died, for James married the widow, Lucy Fleming, on 30 October 1793.

The tax lists for 1792 of Clark County shows six Hazelrigg men. The children of James and Elizabeth were William, Sr., James, Jr., Joshua, Elijah, Nancy,

Polly, Elizabeth and Rebecca.

The family of David and Nancy Snowden moved from Pennsylvania to Kentucky in the spring of 1793 and purchased 100 acres adjacent to James' property. James, Sr. later moved to Bath County, where he died in 1818. His son, Joshua, settled his estate.

James Hazelrigg is my 4th great grandfather through his daughter, Nancy, who married David Snowden in Washington County, Pennsylvania in April 1782. David and Nancy Snowden sold their 100 acre farm adjacent to James' property (now a part of Clark County) on 8 February 1797 and purchased land in the extreme southeast corner of Clark County. This land is located in Estill County after it was cut from Clark County in 1808.

Leslie E. Black

Seay

Jacob Seay was born in 1758 in Amelia County, Virginia. He was the oldest of six sons born to Moses and Elizabeth Luck Seay. As a young man, Jacob joined the Virginia militia and served as a private under Captains Craddock and Booker for several months in 1778 during the Revolutionary War. In 1781, he served two years at "Point of Fork" on the James River where he was involved in the construction of public buildings for the army. He also took part in the campaign against the Shawnees, serving under Gen. George Rogers Clark. He received a grant of 1,000 acres of land in Nelson County, in the Kentucky country.

According to a journal kept by his brother, Jacob left Virginia to claim his land in "Kentuck" on the 27th of October 1787. His land was surveyed in 1788; his name appears on a tithable and tax list for residents of Nelson County, Virginia 1785-1791. His homestead was located in what is now Washington County about two miles outside Springfield between Bardstown Road and Cartwright Creek.

Jacob built a good house and with the help of slaves farmed the land. Jacob also worked as a gunsmith, his name appearing on a list, "Kentucky Gunmakers of the Muzzle Loading Era". He married Rebecca Davis Jenkins in Amelia County, Virginia in 1791 and they became the parents of eleven children.

Jacob Seay was prominent in the pioneer history of Washington County. He served as a member of the Washington County Court for many years. He was commissioned a justice-of-the-peace in 1795 by Isaac Shelby, Kentucky's first governor. In 1810, he was one of the justices appointed by the court to let bids for the construction of a new stone jail for the town of Springfield. As a commissioner in 1812, he supervised the letting of bids for a new courthouse in Springfield. The sum of the bid was \$8,400. Construction started in 1814, and in the fall of 1816 the justices moved in and officially declared the courthouse "accepted". It is the oldest courthouse still in use in the state of Kentucky.

In 1831, Jacob applied for a pension for his military service. His application was approved in 1833, and at the age of seventy-four he received a pension of \$20.88 per annum. Jacob always enjoyed good health and lived to be ninety-two years old. He and Rebecca, who died in 1846, were buried in the family cemetery near their old homestead. Nothing marks the burial place now of this Washington County pioneer; the markers have long since been destroyed.

Jacob Seay was the great grandfather of my paternal grandmother, Carrie Seay Cheser.

Lucy Cheser Jacobs

Please share your ancestor's Kentucky history by sending his/her story to *The Kentuckian*. Stories should be approximately 600 words or less. All stories will be edited for clarity and length. Copyright material must be accompanied by a signed release from publisher and author. Mail to the Editor at 600 Hatherleigh Lane, Louisville, KY, 40222.



Big Crossings

The Big Crossings area was settled in 1783 by Col. Robert Johnson and a small group from Bryant's Station. They built the first permanent settlement in Scott County. The area was named for the buffalo path that crossed North Elkhorn Creek.

Now called Great Crossings, it is located about two miles west of Georgetown, Kentucky.

Information: Kentucky Encyclopedia